

# PIRSA

## **Annual Report on PIRSA's Service Delivery on the Cost Recovery Agreement for the Marine Scalefish and Vongole Fishery**

2019-20



Government  
of South Australia

Department of Primary  
Industries and Regions

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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](mailto: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 a stock assessment of South Australia's Snapper fishery which included results of a fishery-independent spawning biomass and integrated stock assessment models.	August 2019
SLA	Delivered stock assessment report that assessed general performance indicators against reference points and provided stock status for numerous species.	April 2020
SLA	Provided presentations to industry and PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture on the status of each permitted Marine Scalefish Fishery (MSF) species reported in the 2018 stock assessment.	30 June 2020
SLA	Delivered report providing estimates of Vongole biomass in a risk-analysis framework.	June 2020
SLA	Provided presentations on Vongole report to PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture and industry.	June 2020
SLA	Collected, collated and stored all key commercial fishery information necessary to assess the MSF and Vongole fisheries.	Ongoing
SLA	Collected, collated, stored and analysed data from market sampling to generate size and age structures for the primary finfish species.	Ongoing
SLA	Delivered presentations to PIRSA and industry in support of the Snapper stock assessment report, Vongole harvestable biomass report, and an annual update for strategic, collaborative projects including MSF Reform, Garfish stock status, and 'lesser-known' species.	Ongoing
SLA	Provided verbal and written advice to PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture as requested. These included Advice Notes in relation to (1) TAC setting for Snapper in the South east (September 2019); (2) King George Whiting spawning dynamics (March 2020); (3) Status of Kingfish in South Australia (January 2020); (4) Garfish management arrangements (April 2020); and (5) Boat limits for Southern Bluefin Tuna (May 2020).	Ongoing
SLA	Provided verbal and written advice to PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture on MSF.	Ongoing
PIRSA	Provided verbal and written advice to PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture on Vongole, particularly with respect to quota carry-over from the 2019/20 financial year.	May 2020
PIRSA	Supported the development of e-Catch reporting requirements.	Ongoing
FRDC	Completed FRDC project 2015/018 "Do commercial fishery data reflect stock status in South Australia's Southern Garfish fisheries?".	August 2019
FRDC	Attended the national Snapper workshop and presented on South Australian Snapper stocks.	December 2019
FRDC	Continued FRDC project 2017/014 "Informing the structural reform of South Australia's Marine Scalefish Fishery".	Ongoing

FRDC	Continued FRDC project 2018/035 “Fisheries biology of Western Australian salmon: improving our understanding of population dynamics in South Australia to enable quantitative stock assessments and improved fisheries management”.	Ongoing
FRDC	Continued FRDC project 2017/023 “ESD risk assessment for lesser-known species to facilitate structural reform of South Australia’s commercial Marine Scalefish fishery”.	Ongoing
FRDC	Continued FRDC project 2018/055 “Developing a positive cultural attitude towards the capture and release of sharks and rays”. Report on the National Workshop delivered.	Ongoing
FRDC	Commenced FRDC project 2019/046 “Cost-effective, non-destructive solutions to developing a pre-recruit index for Snapper”.	Ongoing
FRDC	Commenced FRDC project 2019/044 “Quantifying post-release survival and movement of Snapper ( <i>Chrysophrys auratus</i> ): Informing strategies to engage the fishing community in practices to enhance the sustainability of an important multi-sector fishery”.	Ongoing

# Policy and Management Program

## Marine Scalefish Fishery

	<b>Deliverables</b>
1.	<p>Development and implementation of 2020 Snapper management arrangements including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Establishing the Snapper Management Advisory Committee (MAC)</li><li>• Providing executive support to two meetings of the Snapper MAC</li><li>• Preparation of communique and advice to the Minister</li><li>• Implementation of total allowable catch</li><li>• Implementation of total allowable commercial catch and total allowable recreational catch</li><li>• Development of catch and disposal records</li><li>• Development of prior reporting call flows</li><li>• Preparation of Section 79 notices and other instruments to implement management arrangements across the State</li><li>• Preparing communications for a range of stakeholders and delivery</li></ul>
2.	<p>Development and implementation of Garfish management arrangements including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Preparation of advice to the Minister</li><li>• Preparation of Section 79 notices</li><li>• Review of size limits</li><li>• Review of hauling net closures</li><li>• Preparing communications for a range of stakeholders and delivery</li></ul>
3.	<p>Reviewed and removed King George Whiting spawning spatial closure (including preparation of advice and relevant communications material developed and delivered) to support sustainable management of the King George Whiting population.</p>
4	<p>Development and implementation of the Reevesby Island management arrangements (including preparation of advice and relevant communications material developed and delivered) for 2019/20.</p>
5.	<p>Reviewed and co-ordinated updates to the MSF Operator User Guide.</p>
6.	<p>Reviewed Giant Australian Cuttlefish management arrangements in the northern Spencer Gulf including preparation of advice and relevant communication material to support the removal of the spatial closures previously in place.</p>
7.	<p>Prepared advice and numerous correspondence for the Executive Director on issues related to the MSF.</p>
8.	<p>Participation and co-ordination of a three day national Snapper Workshop liaising with FRDC, Australian Fisheries Management Forum and various stakeholders to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• identify key issues and challenges for Snapper, review Snapper research and critique jurisdictional management arrangements;</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• explore a national approach to collaborate and manage cross-jurisdictional Snapper stocks;</li> <li>• explore and develop a set of national R&amp;D priorities for Snapper that address the challenges being faced;</li> <li>• develop a tool kit to support fishery managers to recover depleted Snapper stocks.</li> </ul>
9.	Prepared for, participated in and followed up on actions related to the cost recovery process for the MSF.
10.	Attended to numerous general correspondence and enquiries relevant to the MSF.
11.	Met with the MSF Executive Officer bi-monthly and ad hoc to discuss ongoing and emerging issues to further the development of co-management arrangements.
12.	Provided advice to the Minister in relation to the management of MSF and responded to approximately 88 letters/emails from stakeholders.
13.	Communicated on fisheries management issues to key stakeholder groups and the broader community.
14.	Communicated with a range of fishers in the industry through face to face discussion, emails and phone calls.
15.	Reviewed and provided comments on the BDO Econsearch 'Economic Indicators for South Australian Marine Scalefish Fishery 2017/18' report.
16.	Reviewed and provided comment on the Steer, M.A., Fowler, A.J., McGarvey, R., Feenstra, J., Smart, J., Rogers, P.J., Earl, J., Beckmann, C., Drew, M. and Matthews, J. (2018). <i>Assessment of the South Australian Marine Scalefish Fishery in 2017</i> . Report to PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture. South Australian Research and Development Institute (Aquatic Sciences), Adelaide. SARDI Publication No. F2017/000427-2. SARDI Research Report Series No. 1002. 230pp.
17.	Developed and maintained day-to-day productive working relationships and outcomes through cooperative management and collaboration with stakeholders as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attended MSFMAG meetings</li> <li>• Attended a MSFNA meeting to discuss management of Garfish</li> <li>• Provided updated information on the MSF in the annual report for the Department of the Environment and Energy</li> <li>• Continued development with industry and finalised the FRDC research project: Community Supported Fisheries</li> </ul>
18.	Reviewed and coordinated a range of initiatives including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Established the Lesser Known Species reference Group</li> <li>• Coordinated, participated and supported 2 meetings and a workshop for the Lesser Known Species Reference Group and associated campaign</li> <li>• Attended meetings at SARDI to support FRDC WA Salmon project.</li> </ul>
19.	Led, coordinated and supported the MSF Reform including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supported the CMSFRAC in developing, consulting on and finalising recommendations to the Minister</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developed materials released in 2020/21 implementing recommendations from the MSF Reform, including zoning, quota management, licence surrender and preparation for changes to regulation</li> </ul>
20.	Provided MSF information for the annual report to the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment.
21.	Implemented revised licence conditions for school and gummy shark.
22.	Supported research project to assess gear types and research needs for the octopus fishery.

## Vongole

1.	Coordinated a meeting of licence holders to seek advice on the setting of the Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC) for the respective zones of the Vongole Fishery (Port River, Coffin Bay and West Coast).
2.	Provided advice to the Executive Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture on the setting of the TACC for the 2020/21 season.
3.	Coordinated a meeting of licence holders on 25 September 2019 to seek advice on changing the quota monitoring system in the fishery to a system decrementing factory weight from quota allocations.
4.	Developed a proposal for industry consideration on decrementing factory weight from quota allocations (June 2019).
5.	Provided advice to the Minister in relation to the management of the Vongole Fishery and Ministerial correspondence.
6.	Met with a number of Vongole quota entitlement holders to discuss management of the Vongole Fishery (4 meetings).
7.	Attended to general correspondence and enquiries relevant to the Vongole Fishery.

# Legislation Program

	<b>Deliverables</b>
1.	<p>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.</p>
2.	<p>Input into policy documentation and arrangements and responses to industry correspondence, as necessary.</p>
3.	<p>Coordinated applications for Ministerial exemptions under Part 10 and Permits under Part 7 of the Act.</p>
4.	<p>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.</p>

# Leasing and Licensing Program

	<b>Deliverables</b>
1.	<p>Issued annual fee invoicing packs for all 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 and posted updated invoices each quarter</li> </ul>
2.	<p>Monitored payment plans for 27 licence holders that requested alternate payment arrangements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creation of 27 individual payment plans</li> <li>• Liaised with Shared Services SA to allocate payments against invoices</li> </ul>
3.	<p>Set up of the new Vongole Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC) into PIIMS for the new quota season:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Printed and posted updated registrations and entitlements certificates to all 11 Vongole quota holders.</li> </ul>
4.	<p>Generated final quota balance statements and posted to all Vongole quota 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>○ 2 entitlement over-catch adjustments made.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Generated and posted updated registration and entitlements certificates.</li> </ul>
5.	<p>Data entry of 411 Vongole CDRs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data entry check of each CDR entered.</li> <li>• Manual filing and archiving of all 411 CDR documents.</li> </ul>
6.	Issuing of 8 Vongole CDR books into PIIMS and packing and posting to licence holders.
7.	Generated 12 monthly quota status reports for industry on catch status and CDRs received.
8.	Generated 12 monthly reports for industry on licence transfers and amalgamations completed.
9.	<p>System maintenance including auditing user access and system testing after any system update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 71 quota balance statements requested via the online system.</li> </ul>

10.	Regularly provided copies of CDR documentation to compliance for quota audit checks.
11.	<p>Processed 88 licensing and quota applications and liaised with government stakeholders to verify the credentials of fishers as required.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 46 vary boat applications</li> <li>• 6 licence transfer applications</li> <li>• 21 vary master applications</li> <li>• 11 quota transfer applications</li> <li>• 4 add/remove third party interest applications</li> </ul>
12.	Generated reports on licencing and catch information for compliance or fishery management purposes as requested.
13.	Send 14 Notice to Fishers to all 307 Marine Scalefish licence holders.
14.	Issued and posted out renewed Certificate of Consent for replacement masters on 84 licences.
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

	<b>Deliverables</b>
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 the annual report 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, co-management services agreements, 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

	<b>Deliverables</b>
	<p>The coordination of compliance outputs is guided by a fishery specific compliance plan which was initially developed in consultation with the Marine Scalefish Fishery (MSF) and Vongole 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 Marine Scalefish Fishery (MSF) and Vongole 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 Marine Scalefish Fishery (MSF) and Vongole Fishery Compliance Reports are produced annually and forwarded to the Executive Officer, Marine Fishers Association.</p>



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