

PIRSA

Cost Recovery Implementation Statement for the Vongole Fishery

1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023



Government
of South Australia
Department of Primary
Industries and Regions

Cost Recovery Implementation Statement

Information current as of February 2022
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Introduction

Wild catch commercial fisheries in South Australia are managed in accordance with the Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) Cost Recovery Policy. This policy requires commercial fishery licence fees to fund services related to commercial fisheries management costs. PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture continue to manage the process of consulting with service providers and relevant industry associations to establish fishery-based management programs, which form the basis of annual licence fees.

For each sector, the program required to manage the fishery has the following components:

- Assessment and Research Services.
- Fisheries Management Services.
- Compliance Services, including communication, enforcement and monitoring activities.
- Support Services, including Legislation, Licensing and Business Services (Directorate).

This documentation provides a framework to assist in establishing appropriate research, policy, compliance and support services to manage a fishery.

For further information relating to Cost Recovery Reviews, Policy and Framework, they can be found at https://www.pir.sa.gov.au/fishing/commercial_fishing/pirsa_services_to_fisheries_industry

Consistent with Principle 7 of the PIRSA Cost Recovery Policy, an annual schedule of meetings for stakeholder engagement and support for the cost recovery process in relation to commercial fisheries is outlined below:

Annual schedule of meetings		
Date	Activity	Parties
Sept/Oct	Review long-term objectives for fishery and update if necessary. Identify priority outcomes for upcoming financial year.	PIRSA and industry association
October	Develop policy, research and compliance work programs in readiness for discussions (fisheries managers with industry) in November.	PIRSA
November	Discuss proposed programs with relevant industry associations and reach agreement on programs for the upcoming period. Industry associations to consult with wider industry.	PIRSA and industry association
February	Formal meetings with industry associations to finalise work programs and summarise costs.	PIRSA and industry association
March	Submit proposed licence fees to Minister. Prepare Ministerial Notice briefing to vary and prescribe lease and licence fees for the next financial year.	PIRSA and government agencies
June	Invoices sent for annual licence fees.	PIRSA

* Dates above are indicative only and may vary due to unforeseen circumstances that may arise throughout any year. ** If a four-year agreement has been adopted, the Cost Recovery Implementation Agreement (CRIA) will determine that an annual meeting will occur to enable annual stakeholder engagement.

Summary Table (Vongole Fishery)

2021-22 (\$)	PROGRAM AREA	2022-23 (\$)	COMMENTS	DAYS	FTE
RESEARCH COSTS					
25,900	Stock Assessment and Monitoring	25,201	West Coast – remaining program costs split over 2021/22 and 2022/23 at industry request \$18,352 Coffin Bay – remaining program costs split over 2021/22 and 2022/23 at industry request \$6,849		
1,766	Economic Assessment	1,819	As per contracted services 2022-23		
38,610	Fisheries Management	39,375	Same level of service as previous year	45	0.23
4,620	Legislation	4,710	Same level of service as previous year	5	0.03
9,300	Licensing	9,480	Same level of service as previous year	10	0.05
1,706	Directorate	1,740	Same level of service as previous year	2	0.01
47,538	Compliance	48,488	Same level of service as previous year	38	0.19
9,328	Quota Monitoring	9,515	Same level of service as previous year	11	0.06
2,509	FRDC	2,578	Funding based on 0.25% of rolling three year average GVP		
141,277	TOTAL	142,906			

Licence Fees 2022-23 (\$)	
Base Fee	2,135
Section Bank Quota Unit Fee	-
Coffin Bay Quota Unit Fee	67.00
West Coast Quota Unit Fee	50.50
<i>Licence Fees 2021-22 (\$)</i>	
<i>Base Fee</i>	<i>2,093</i>
<i>Section Bank Quota Unit Fee</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>Coffin Bay Quota Unit Fee</i>	<i>67.00</i>
<i>West Coast Quota Unit Fee</i>	<i>49.25</i>

Program Daily Charge Out Rate 2022-23

	DAILY RATE (\$)					
	Compliance	Quota	Directorate	Legislation	Licensing	Fisheries Management
Total Employee Expenses	653	432	636	734	513	634
Total Operating Expenses	325	128	92	66	129	100
Deprecation and Capital Costs	70	0	0	0	0	141
Total Other Expenses*	227	305	141	141	305	141
TOTAL DAILY RATE	1276	865	870	942	948	875

Please Note: All dollar values have been rounded to the nearest dollar figure.

* Other expenses includes ICT, finance, human resources, WHS, accommodation, insurance and other costs incurred corporately in providing services to divisions, apportioned across PIRSA using a range of cost drivers such as number of logons, headcount, volume data and other workload indicators, in accordance with PIRSA's cost recovery policy.

Fishery Management Objectives (Vongole)

Long term objectives	Outcomes	Fisheries Management	Compliance	Assessment and Research	Leasing and Licensing
Ensure the Cockle and Vongole resource is harvested sustainably. Optimal utilisation and equitable distribution of the Cockle and Vongole resource.	Determine annual TACCs for Vongole quota zones according to biomass estimates. Review status of Port River closure. Support research and development for Port River stock enhancement project.	Recommend annual TACCs for quota zones, in consultation with industry. Apply Vongole Harvest Strategy in Management Plan for the Marine Scalefish Fishery. Review status of Port River closure with industry and SARDI. Review regularity and spatial extent of Vongole biomass surveys. Apply the new fishery specific Vongole regulations. Assess the effectiveness of the new factory weight management arrangements for the fishery. Consider and apply if appropriate quota carry over arrangements.	Implement compliance program, informed by risk assessment. Provide compliance advice for the implementation of new managements arrangements for the Cockle and Vongole Fishery. Monitor the effectiveness of the new factory weight management arrangements (ability to maintain the integrity of the quota monitoring systems).	Provide scientific advice to support Harvest Strategy, underpinned by biomass estimates. Consult with fishers on Stock Assessment survey design.	Provide ongoing support for licensing quota and transfer queries.
Minimise impacts on the ecosystem	Address recommendations and conditions from DotE under EPBC Act accreditation.	Prepare EPBC Act reassessment report.	Provide support with investigation of fish kills, as required.	Provide scientific advice and aid in investigation of fish kills.	

Long objectives	term	Outcomes	Fisheries Management	Compliance	Assessment and Research	Leasing and Licensing
		Reassessment of the fishery before expiry.	Address DotE conditions and recommendations. Provide management advice on fish kills, as required.			
Cost effective and participative management of the Cockle and Vongole Fishery.		Support co-management of the fishery.	Maintain regular communication with South Australian Vongole Fishermen's Association and be accessible to all licence holders Provide management advice, where necessary, throughout the licensing year. Consult with licence holders on the setting of the TACCs for the subsequent season.	Maintain regular communication with industry representatives. Provide compliance advice, where necessary, throughout the licensing year.	Maintain regular communication with industry representatives. Provide scientific advice, where necessary, throughout the licensing year.	

Fisheries Management Program

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Program summary

The Fisheries Management Unit of PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture undertakes activities such as day-to-day management, long-term planning and policy development for South Australian commercial, recreational and Aboriginal traditional fisheries.

The Fisheries Management unit has the following core functions:

- Administer the *Fisheries Management Act 2007* and regulations.
- Day-to-day management of fisheries resources, to ensure catch and effort levels are commensurate with resource sustainability.
- Develop and implement Management Plans, including Harvest Strategy development and ESD risk assessment, in accordance with the *Fisheries Management Act 2007*.
- Provide advice to the Executive Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture, Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development and Chief Executive on matters relating to fisheries.
- Represent the Executive Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture on committees and other forums on matters related to the administration of the *Fisheries Management Act 2007*.
- Develop over-arching policy frameworks to support fisheries management.
- Build and maintain relationships with key stakeholders, with a particular focus on the commercial and recreational fishing sectors.
- Progress Australian Government recommendations under EPBC Act (1999) assessment.

Objectives

To provide day-to-day fisheries management services to the Vongole Fishery to government and industry, as well as advice and facilitation of fisheries management issues, through the Fisheries Management Program.

Program strategies and supporting actions and initiatives

Program delivery

1. Participate and facilitate in inter and intra-departmental meetings and workshops on issues relevant to fisheries management.

2. 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.
3. Liaise within PIRSA, with other government agencies and with industry representatives in implementing decisions relevant to fisheries management.
4. 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.
5. Coordinate consultation with fishery stakeholders through established co-management processes.
6. Participate in industry liaison in the field and on vessels to strengthen fishery management knowledge and understanding, and develop rapport with licence holders and divers.
7. Participate in industry development initiatives related to fisheries management.
8. Attending to general correspondence and enquiries relevant to fisheries.
9. Provide advice to the Minister in relation to the management of fisheries and Ministerial correspondence.
10. Communicate on fisheries management issues to key stakeholder groups and the broader community.

Anticipated outcomes

1. Prepare day-to-day necessary legislative instruments and/or advice required for the management of the Vongole Fishery (regulations, catch limits, closure notices, licence conditions, Ministerial exemptions etc.).
2. Ensure the effective application of the new regulations for the Vongole Fishery.
3. Prepare policies to support fisheries management.
4. Prepare regular fisheries status reports.
5. Develop and maintain day-to-day productive working relationships and outcomes through cooperative management and collaboration with stakeholders.
6. Deliver quality and timely responses to correspondence.
7. Further the development of co-management arrangements.

Performance indicators

1. Strong industry and government involvement in co-management relationship and adherence to formally agreed co-management arrangements.
2. Australian Government recommendations met in relation to EPBC assessment.
3. Setting of TACCs for zones of the Vongole Fishery.

Program effort allocation

The table below includes an abbreviated suite of core activities and initiatives used to manage risks and reflect the anticipated split of effort and associated costs.

Activity	Days	FTE	Cost (\$)
Fisheries Management	45	0.23	39,375

Please Note: All dollar values have been rounded to the nearest dollar figure.

	Deliverables	Due date
1.	Liaise within the Fisheries and Aquaculture Division, with SARDI Aquatic Sciences, other parts of PIRSA, other State and Commonwealth agencies and local government on matters relevant to fisheries management as required.	Ongoing
2.	Liaise within PIRSA, with other government agencies and with industry representatives in implementing decisions relevant to fisheries management.	Ongoing
3.	For Vongole TACC setting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TACC Meeting 	Mid May 2023
4.	Commence review and development of the Vongole Management Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support review of research program for Vongole 	July 2022
5.	Participate in industry liaison in the field and on vessels to strengthen fishery management knowledge and understanding and develop rapport with licence holders.	Ongoing
6.	Attend to general correspondence and enquiries relevant to the Vongole Fishery.	Ongoing
7.	Provide advice to Minister in relation to the management of fisheries and Ministerial correspondence.	Ongoing
8.	Communicate on fisheries management issues to key stakeholder groups and the broader community.	Ongoing

Legal Services Program

Program Manager:

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Program summary

PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture Directorate provides legal services to the Executive Director and all other members of the Division, in particular the policy group, on a daily basis. Among other things these services include strategic advice and problem-solving, review of draft documentation and correspondence, statutory interpretation and the provision of general advice and statutory interpretation, in consultation with the Crown Solicitor's Office where necessary, regarding any legal issues relating to proposed actions and the implementation or administration of Vongole fisheries management and regulatory arrangements through existing legislative frameworks and licence conditions. Consideration is also given to the impacts and effects of other related legislation if and when required.

Objectives

To provide legal services supporting the implementation of necessary, appropriate and effective statutory and administrative changes to government administration of all fishery sectors, as well as strategic advice and facilitation of related policy development, legislative and regulatory issues, through the Legal Services Program.

Program strategies and supporting actions and initiatives

Program effort allocation

The table below includes an abbreviated suite of core activities and initiatives used to manage risks and reflect the anticipated split of effort and associated costs.

Activity	Days	FTE	Cost (\$)
Legislation	5	0.03	4,710

Please Note: All dollar values have been rounded to the nearest dollar figure.

Anticipated outcomes

	Deliverables	Due date
1.	Co-ordinate and review 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 require the drafting of Cabinet submissions and supporting documentation, including the preparation of drafting instructions, for consideration by Cabinet. This service includes co-ordinating and review 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 are accurately described, drafted and scrutinised before being implemented.	Ongoing
2.	Review licensing arrangements required on an as needs basis to lawfully implement approved fishery management policy and measures within the limitations of the Act. The service includes working with the Licensing program (part of Leasing and Licensing) and policy program to ensure licence conditions are effective and where necessary to implement efficient administrative systems and finalise forms and instruments that are legally sound.	Ongoing
3.	Problem solve and review policy developments together with the provision and co-ordination of legal advisory services in liaison with the Crown Solicitor's office relating to and 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.	Ongoing
4.	Coordinate applications for Ministerial exemptions under Part 10 Division 1 and Permits under Part 7 Division 2 of the Act and review draft notices.	Ongoing
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, to implement 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, implementation of closures).	Ongoing
6.	Support compliance for statutory interpretation, problem solving and correspondence advice (per above).	Ongoing

Leasing and Licensing Program

Program Manager:

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Program summary

The Fisheries Leasing and Licensing unit of PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture is responsible for the management of licensing and quota monitoring services.

This business unit provides a range of services related to the timely processing and management of information leading to the issue of licences and other reporting services.

The unit administers a licensing call centre for licence inquiries and other administrative services. The success of these functions is based on maintaining the Primary Industries Information Management System (PIIMS) database.

Objectives

To provide leasing and licensing services to government and industry through the Leasing and Licensing Program.

Program strategies and supporting actions and initiatives

Anticipated outcomes

1. Issue licences to licence holders in an accurate and timely manner.
2. Provide accurate and timely information related to licences.
3. Provide reports as required.
4. Provide fee relief as a result of the Snapper closure.

Program effort allocation

The table below includes an abbreviated suite of core activities and initiatives used to manage risks and reflect the anticipated split of effort and associated costs.

Activity	Days	FTE	Cost (\$)
Leasing and Licensing	10	0.05	9,480
Quota Monitoring	11	0.06	9,515

Please Note: All dollar values have been rounded to the nearest dollar figure.

	Deliverables	Due date
	Services to directly support the fishery	
1.	Issue and maintain fishery licences.	Ongoing
2.	Database management for licences and licence holder information.	Ongoing
3.	Manage changes to licences as part of the MSF reform management arrangements, including new licence fees and arrangements for the Vongole Fishery to be established as a stand-alone fishery separate from the MSF.	Ongoing
4.	Collect licence fees and associated payments.	Ongoing
5.	Compose and send quarterly instalment notices.	Ongoing
6.	Record and track unpaid invoices.	Ongoing
7.	Compose and send late payment instalment notices for unpaid quarterly instalments.	Ongoing
8.	Draft and issue notices to fishers.	Ongoing
9.	Process 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 and quota, application for licence transfers, boat and master changes, gear enquiries and fishing regulations.	Ongoing
10.	Regularly update information about licence holders.	Ongoing
11.	Research and prepare documents for public record.	Ongoing
12.	Liaise with government stakeholders to verify the credentials of fishers.	Ongoing
13.	Liaise with PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture, SARDI Aquatic Sciences, Crown Solicitors and other state and local agencies on matters relevant to the fishery.	Ongoing
14.	Draft and update licence conditions over the duration of the licensing year as determined by the Executive Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture.	Ongoing
15.	Provide information to licence holders relating to the requirements pursuant to licence administration.	Ongoing
16.	Manage calls from fishers regarding late payment notices, fees and general enquiries about their licences.	Ongoing
17.	Provide support regarding an increased frequency of last minute administrative enquiries from fishers e.g., master changes, boat variations and quota transfers, as well as provide advice and support to fishers on licence information, to complete the required forms.	Ongoing

	Services to support fisheries management	
1.	Participate in inter and intra departmental meetings and workshops on issues relevant to the fishing industry.	Ongoing
2.	Liaise with relevant staff within PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture in implementing decisions relevant to the fishery.	Ongoing
3.	Interrogate the PIIMS database to extract information for other stakeholders to use in preparing reports.	Ongoing
4.	Prepare reports requested by internal and external customers including maintenance of a public register of licence holders.	Ongoing
5.	Liaise with information technology providers to maintain PIIMS and administer licensing requests.	Ongoing
6.	Generate quota management reports to update stakeholders on varying Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC) returns and end of season quota holdings.	Ongoing

Directorate Program

Program Manager:

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Program summary

Business Strategy, within the Directorate Unit of PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture, provides a range of services to support fisheries management. These include coordinating the cost recovery process and establishing agreements with service providers; coordinating program provider reports; administering external contracts and agreements; and providing audit, financial and human resource functions.

Objectives

To provide support services to government and industry, as well as advice and facilitation of corporate related policy and management issues, through the Directorate Program that incorporates the Fisheries and Aquaculture Business Strategy unit.

Program strategies and supporting actions and initiatives

Program effort allocation

The table below includes an abbreviated suite of core activities and initiatives used to manage risks and reflect the anticipated split of effort and associated costs.

Activity	Days	FTE	Cost (\$)
Directorate	2	0.01	1,740

Please Note: All dollar values have been rounded to the nearest dollar figure.

Anticipated outcomes

	Deliverables	Due date
1.	Coordinate and facilitate cost recovery processes and program agreements, including liaising with program providers, managers and financial services as required.	Ongoing
2.	Meet with industry on matters relating to cost recovery, licence setting and related policy issues.	Ongoing
3.	Develop and review cost recovery policy, processes and program agreements.	Ongoing
4.	Manage major service providers' contractual agreements, and co-management services contractual agreements with industry associations.	Ongoing
5.	Project manage and administer 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.	Ongoing
6.	Provide advice on procurement and invoicing requirements.	Ongoing
7.	Consult 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.	Ongoing
8.	Ongoing review, development and documentation of the cost recovery model, framework, processes and roles.	Ongoing
9.	Meet agreed timeframes on management and administration of external contractual services.	Ongoing
10.	Appropriate management of industry funds and services.	Ongoing
11.	Provide an Annual Report on PIRSA's service delivery on the cost recovery agreement to the Executive Officer.	September

Fisheries Compliance Operations Program

Vongole Fishery

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Program summary

PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture teams coordinate compliance activities (outputs) to build awareness and behavioural outcomes that have a long term beneficial impact in the Vongole Fishery. The objective of the compliance activities (outputs) is to minimise the risks to aquatic resource sustainability, resource allocation and access rights and ultimately commercial economic viability.

The coordination of the compliance outputs is guided by an industry specific compliance plan which was developed in consultation with Industry. These outputs are aimed at educating fishers, deterring opportunistic and financially motivated crimes, enforce the rules and regulations and reducing overall compliance risks to resource sustainability.

Legislative and regulatory framework

Fisheries Management Act 2007

Fisheries Management (Fish Processors) Regulations 2017

Fisheries Management (General) Regulations 2007 Schedule 2

Fisheries Management (Demerit Points) Regulations 2017

*** Fisheries Management (Marine Scalefish Fisheries) Regulations 2017*

Marine Scalefish Management Fishery Plan

*** Standalone Vongole Regulations intended from July 1, 2022.*

Program effort, funding and resources

The level of effort required to deliver the compliance program in accordance with the dedicated plan is reviewed annually taking into account:

- previous effort required to deliver established programs developed over last 10 years.
- the identified risks to the fishery and any associated changes.

- shifts or changes to the fishery management.
- changes to fishing practices.
- additional pressures or influences on fishers or the fishery.
- intelligence holdings.
- trends or change behaviours that required monitoring and/or investigation.
- cost effectiveness and identified efficiencies.
- any other relevant information required to deliver an effective compliance program to monitor and enforce the rules and regulations for each fishery.

PIRSA has continually reviewed the Vongole fishery compliance program, gaining efficiencies through data driven and targeted operations and re-directing compliance effort where necessary to address current and emerging issues and risks.

The following table includes the number of days predicted to reflect the anticipated split of effort and associated costs to deliver the compliance outputs for 2002/23.

Compliance Outputs	Days	FTE	Cost (\$)
Education Awareness	7	0.03	8,932
Effective Deterrence, Monitoring and Surveillance	26	0.13	33,176
Enforcement	5	0.03	6,380
TOTAL OFFICER DAYS	38	0.19	48,488

Please Note; to comply with Work Health and Safety obligations and evidentiary requirements, operational activities are generally required to be undertaken by a minimum of two (2) officers at any time.

IT systems, technology and data

Fisheries and Aquaculture Compliance Operations are supported by a number of electronic systems which continue to be refined to allow optimum delivery of information in a reliable and timely way. Some of the key systems that assist to drive the compliance outputs include:

- IBase and Analyst Notebooks (Intelligence system).
- FACT (Fisheries and Aquaculture Information Collection Tool).
- Timewise (Effort Reporting Tool).
- Evidence.com (Video Evidence Collection Tool).
- PIIMS (Primary Industries Information Management System – Quota and Licence Information).
- eCatch.
- eBrief (prosecutions system).
- Commercial Fishing Application.

Delivery outputs

The coordination of compliance outputs is guided by an industry specific compliance plan which was developed in consultation with the Vongole Industry. The plan ensures compliance effort is intelligence driven, efficient, and cost effective and outcome focused. The compliance plan comprises three core outputs (Education and Awareness, Effective Deterrence and Appropriate 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 risks to the sustainable harvest of Vongole. The combination of strategies, actions, and initiatives are critical to focus the primary compliance effort to manage the risks and achieve targeted outcomes. The details are identified herein.

Intelligence

- Information collection.
- Analysis and testing of information voracity.
- Provide recommendations for targeted operations.
- Develop strategic assessments.

Education and awareness

- Conduct pre-season education meetings and participate in industry days.
- Provide electronic distribution of educational material to fishers and licence holders at the start of the season.
- Ensure all interested parties understand their respective obligations and the compliance focus for the coming season.
- Develop Industry communication and relationship programs to facilitate discussion of topics such as compliance inspection outcomes and issues impacting the Vongole Fishery.
- Ongoing one on one education during inspections.

Effective deterrence, monitoring and surveillance

- Ensure all aspects of the Quota Management System are monitored such as prior reporting and chain of custody requirements in catch disposal records (CDR) including auditing.
- Ensure all aspects of commercial fishing activities are monitored such as inspections of catch at sea, when landed, in transit and at change of ownership in fish processing premises.
- Conduct intelligence driven operations that give rise to appropriate enforcement action.
- Respond to reported incidents/issues.
- Communicate activities in formal reporting.

Enforcement

- Investigate reports of non-compliance and where appropriate take action.
- Issue expiations, cautions and court enforced actions.
- Communicate enforcement outcomes in formal reporting.
- Service of suspension.

Risk assessment and management (work priorities)

PIRSA use information obtained from intelligence, monitoring, surveillance and enforcement processes to assess compliance and sustainability risks to the fishery. This subsequently informs work priorities for service delivery. The priorities are prone to change during the fishing season however the following are currently relevant to the Vongole Fishery.

1. Quota Management System Integrity.
2. Fishing Outside Quota Zones.
3. Fishing Within Areas Closed to Quota Fishing.
4. Taking Undersize.
5. Illegal Unreported Unregulated Take.

Anticipated outcomes

PIRSA will assess the efficacy of the compliance program by evaluating particular outcomes. The outcomes will be in the form of stakeholder awareness, behaviour and impact. Evaluating these outcomes will support decision making and progress towards a common view of a mature fishery and ultimately co-management.

Awareness

Awareness is a short-term outcome that is necessary to minimise the requirement of enforcement activities. Awareness constitutes an improved community and stakeholder attitude towards compliance, an improved understanding of legislation and regulation, improved stakeholder buy-in and participation and community support for offence detection. The attributes for each are articulated herein.

Improved community and stakeholder attitude

- Confidence in Compliance ability to use statutory and discretionary powers appropriately.
- Understanding of the public value of compliance.
- Comprehension of services delivered by compliance against the objects of the Act.
- Confidence in Compliance ability to sustain resource allocation equity amongst direct resource users.

Improved understanding of legislation and regulation

- Understanding fishing obligations.
- Legislation and regulation is considered simple and fair to follow.

Improved stakeholder buy-in and participation

- Actively engage with compliance in development of risk assessments, reporting frameworks and reviewing rules.
- Collaborative problem-solving.

Community support for offence detection and sanctions

- Actively provide relevant information.
- Industry driven initiatives and evidence of self-regulation.

Behaviour

Successful outcomes and long-term sustainable fisheries are ultimately driven by behavior that is in the interest of sustainability, ongoing economic viability and public value. The behavioural outcomes that are important to PIRSA include stewardship, voluntary compliance and proactive approaches to compliance issues. The attributes for each are articulated herein.

Stewardship

Stewardship is the aggregation of a number of actions and behaviours where industry is entrusted with the management of the Vongole resource and the associated compliance of its members within the regulatory and legislative input constraints.

Some of the behaviours of stewardship include:

- An acceptance of change from traditional approaches and attitudes to strong partnerships between government, industry and key stakeholder groups.
- An established mutual trust and respect between government, industry and key stakeholders.
- An alignment of values that gives rise to industry and PIRSA communicating the same message focusing on the sustainability of the aquatic resource and associated ongoing economic viability as the primary drivers.
- PIRSA compliance appears seamless to industry. Inputs and outputs are shared. Joint investigations and national problem-solving actions are taken by all, collectively and with representative groups engaged in partnership.
- Minimal conflict exists with other stakeholder groups or industry has clear mechanisms or a demonstrated capacity to address the conflict.

Voluntary compliant behaviour

- All appropriate attempts to understand and adhere to rules and regulations are made by industry.

- PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture compliance is contacted when industry is unable to meet regulatory requirements so an alternative legal solution can be arranged.
- Industry members report other commercial fishers who fail to meet regulatory requirements.

Proactive approaches to compliance issues (incl. participation in governance process)

- Use established industry structures to collaborate on compliance issues to deliver the shared objective of sustainability and public value.
- Actively participate and respond to compliance issues.
- Highlight deficiencies in compliance programs and suggest improvements.
- Influence other industry participants to promote voluntary compliance.

Impact

The awareness and behavior changes will lead to a longer term impact that is reflected in economic and ecological sustainability, broad confidence in the allocation of Vongole between user groups, a confidence in the ability of PIRSA to manage Vongole resources and an industry that is free from the influence of serious and organised crime. The attributes for each impact is articulated herein.

Ecological and economic sustainability of aquatic resources

- SARDI stock status assessments reflect an ecological sustainability.
- Industry reflect economic sustainability.

Confidence and equity in resource allocation and access

- Recreational, commercial and Aboriginal fishing stakeholders are confident that the division of Vongole resources is fair and equitable.
- Investment support continues for ecologically and economically sustainable harvest of Vongole.

Reduced opportunity for recidivist offenders and Serious Organised Crime to exploit aquatic resources

- Regulators, law enforcement and industry have closed opportunities for Serious Organised Crime to participate in the Vongole industry.

Confidence in management of aquatic resources

- Positive public perception in the management of Vongole stocks.
- Positive consumer perception for commercially harvested Vongole.
- An absence of adverse industry publicity.

Deliverables

In line with the annual performance report the compliance deliverables will be presented separately.

Stock Assessment and Monitoring Program

Vongole Fishery (Coffin Bay)

Fisheries and Aquaculture Contact Person:

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1. Project details

1.1 Title

South Australian Mud Cackle (Vongole) Fishery (Coffin Bay)

1.2 Subcontractor/Collaborator

Marine Fishers Association

1.3 Timeframe

Commencement Date: 1 July 2019

Completion Date: 30 June 2023

1.4 Summary

The Vongole research program provides survey-based estimates of Vongole biomass in South Australia.

This is the third Project Scope developed specifically for the Coffin Bay Zone of the South Australian Vongole Fishery but the first four-year Project Scope for this zone. Previously, main fishing grounds were sampled annually on a rotational (i.e. tri-ennial) basis. Based on work undertaken in 2018, the sampling protocol in this SLA has been changed such that all transects in Coffin Bay will be sampled biennially (i.e. sampling of Coffin Bay in 2020/21 and 2022/23). As stock status is determined from survey estimates of biomass and population length-frequency, status will not be assigned for years where fishery-independent sampling is not completed (i.e. 2019/20 and 2021/22).

The primary outcomes are Advice Notes on harvestable biomass in a risk-analysis framework, and stock status in May 2021 and a stock status and biomass report due 15 May 2022.

2. Project description

2.1 Background

There are two primary components to the research provided by SARDI Aquatic Sciences to PIRSA in support of the Vongole Fishery. These are:

- (1) Conduct fisher-based surveys to determine the biomass of Vongole on the key fishing grounds of the Port River, Coffin Bay and the West Coast; and;
- (2) Provide a summary report that presents estimates of Vongole biomass in a risk-analysis framework and estimates of size at maturity.

2.2 Need

This project addresses the need for biomass estimates and associated scientific information to support sustainable utilisation of Vongole in SA.

2.3 Objectives

- 2.3.1 Review 2009/10, 2011/12, 2013/14, 2015/16 and triennial (2016/17 to 2018/19) sampling designs and implement an industry-based survey of Vongole populations on commercially important fishing grounds in the Coffin Bay fishing zone;
- 2.3.2 Determine estimates of the harvestable biomass of Vongole in 2020/21 and 2022/23 from the areas sampled;
- 2.3.3 Provide PIRSA with biomass estimates in a risk analysis framework; and
- 2.3.4 Provide PIRSA with scientific advice to support the sustainable management of the South Australian Vongole Fishery, including TACC setting.

2.4 Methods

- 2.4.1 Work with Vongole fishers from the Coffin Bay fishing zone to review the 2009/10, 2011/12, 2013/14, 2015/16 and triennial (2016/17 to 2018/19) sampling design, incorporating changes to important commercial fishing grounds;
- 2.4.2 Re-map the commercial fishing grounds and sampling locations into a GIS layer;
- 2.4.3 Undertake a transect-based method, to obtain representative data on the biomass of Vongole across those fishing grounds. Biennial sampling across the principal Coffin Bay fishing grounds (i.e. Point Longnose, Oyster Farms, Little Douglas, and Long Beach with sampling in 2020/21 and 2022/23)
- 2.4.4 Apply a multi-level bootstrap analysis to determine estimates of Vongole biomass in a risk-analysis framework; and
- 2.4.5 Document and interpret the research findings in a report.

3. Deliverables

The key deliverables of the 2022/23 Vongole (Coffin Bay) assessment and monitoring program are tabulated below; additional work related to the core program is also identified:

Funding Source	Deliverable	Due Date
This SLA	Work with PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture and industry to review the survey design	30 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)	30 June 2023

3.1 Service Provided:

3.1.1 *Survey estimates of biomass*

- Review the commercially important fishing grounds.
- Review (and amend as required) the 2009/10, 2011/12, 2013/14, 2015/16 and triennial (2016/17 to 2020/21) surveys to estimate Vongole biomass.
- Provide estimates of current biomass to PIRSA following surveys in 2020/21 and 2021/22.

3.1.2 *Data analysis*

- Apply a multi-level bootstrap model to provide estimates of Vongole biomass for the Coffin Bay fishing zone.

3.1.3 *Management and quality assurance of research data*

- Provide effective storage and management of research data.
- Develop and implement a formal quality assurance program.

3.1.4 *Analysis and Interpretation*

- Interpret the results of the research program in a report.

3.1.5 *Project management*

- Ongoing supervision of projects.
- Management of deliverables.
- Quality control.
- Liaise with PIRSA, industry, on matters relevant to the fishery.
- Participate in industry development initiatives.

- Development and implementation of new projects and collaboration on proposed/existing projects.
- Update relevant chapter in status report for SA fisheries.

3.2 Outcomes:

The principal outcome will be scientific advice to support sustainable management of the SA Vongole Fishery.

3.3. Outputs and extension:

The principal output is a report providing estimates of Vongole biomass in a risk-analysis framework by 15 May 2022. An additional output is an Advice Notes on harvestable biomass in a risk-analysis framework in May 2021.

4. Funding arrangements

4.1 Project Costing Policy

This Research Project Scope and Costing has been costed at a Discounted rate.

4.2 Project Cost

Financial Year	Total Funded by Licence Holders \$ (GST N/A)	Total SARDI In-kind \$ (GST N/A)	Total Program Cost (\$) No GST
2019/20	\$0	\$0	\$0
2020/21	\$26,350	\$5,518	\$31,868
2021/22	\$14,049	\$2,899	\$16,948
2022/23	\$13,351	\$2,826	\$16,177
TOTAL PROJECT (over 4 financial years)	\$53,750	\$11,243	\$64,993

4.3 Milestone and payment schedule

Date	Milestone	Payment (\$) Ex GST
31 December 2019	First Half Payment 2019/20 SLA	\$0
31 May 2020	Second Half Payment 2019/20 SLA	\$0
31 December 2020	First Half Payment 2020/21 SLA	\$13,175
30 March 2021	Biomass surveys completed	
15 May 2021	Advice Note – biomass and status	
31 May 2021	Second Half Payment 2020/21 SLA	\$13,175
31 December 2021	Payment 2021/22 SLA	\$27,400
30 March 2022	Biomass surveys completed	
15 May 2022	Stock status and biomass report	
31 December 2022	First Half Payment 2022/23 SLA	\$0
31 May 2023	Second Half Payment 2022/23 SLA	\$0
SUBTOTAL		\$53,750
GST		NO GST
TOTAL COST		\$53,750

5. Project staff

Staff	2019/20 FTE	2020/21 FTE	2021/22 FTE	2022/23 FTE
Research Scientist	0	0.04	0.04	0
Senior Research Officers	0	0.08	0.08	0
TOTAL	0.00	0.12	0.12	0.00

6. Project cost summary

Cost	Detail	2019/20 Total (\$) Ex GST	2020/21 Total (\$) Ex GST	2021/22 Total (\$) Ex GST	2022/23 Total (\$) Ex GST
Salaries (FTE)		0	0.14	.07	0.07
Salaries (\$)		0	13,952	7,507	7,064
Operating (\$)					
Logbook program (\$)					
Payment to industry for surveys (\$)		0	1,500	750	750
Fieldwork (\$)		0	1,100	550	550
Laboratory (\$)		0	50	25	25
Travel (\$)					
Office & communication (\$)		0	200	100	100
Capital equipment (\$)					
SARDI overhead (\$)		0	9,548	5,117	4,862
SARDI inkind (\$)		0	5,518	2,899	2,826
Total Cost (\$)		0	31,868	16,948	16,177
Revenue – PRICE					
PIRSA F&A (\$)	86%	0	26,350	14,049	13,351
Total Revenue (\$)		0	26,350	14,049	13,351
SARDI Investment (\$)	14%	0	5,518	2,899	2,826

*Note the stock status and biomass report was scheduled to occur in the 2022/23 financial year however, industry had requested these costs of \$28,098 be split over the 2021/22 and 2022/23 financial years as per Summary Table above. Note, the program costs have been reviewed and reduced by \$698 in 2022/23 (e.g. \$14,049 - \$698 = \$13,351).

Logbook Program - Entry, validation, management and reporting of data

Payment to industry for surveys - Direct costs of using industry vessels and staff to undertake surveys

Fieldwork - Fieldwork costs including vessels, travel and OHS requirements

Laboratory - Costs for processing samples

Travel - Costs for attending meetings with industry, PIRSA F&A and stakeholders

Office and communication - Stationery, communications and publications

SARDI Overhead - Indirect costs that cannot be directly attributed to a specific business activity, product, or service

SARDI in kind – SARDI investment through supporting costs for specific equipment, capital depreciation, infrastructure and research facilities

Stock Assessment and Monitoring Program

Vongole Fishery (West Coast)

Fisheries and Aquaculture Contact Person:

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SARDI Contact Person:

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Project details

.1 Title

South Australian Mud Cackle (Vongole) Fishery (West Coast)

1.2 Subcontractor/Collaborator

Marine Fishers Association

1.3 Timeframe

Commencement Date: 1 July 2019

Completion Date: 30 June 2023

1.4 Summary

The Vongole research program provides survey-based estimates of Vongole biomass in South Australia.

This is the third Project Scope developed specifically for the West Coast Zone of the South Australian Vongole Fishery but the first four-year Project Scope for this Zone. To minimise costs, this scope of work undertakes sampling and analysis across the three spatial units of the West Coast fishery (i.e. Venus Bay, Streaky Bay and Smoky Bay) on a tri-ennial basis (i.e. all three units sampled in 2021/22). As stock status is determined from survey estimates of biomass and population length-frequency, status will not be assigned for years where fishery-independent sampling is not completed (i.e. 2019/20, 2020/21, or 2022/23).

The primary outcome is a report due 15 May 2022 that provides estimates of Vongole biomass for each fishing zone in a risk-analysis framework.

2. Project description

2.1 Background

There are two primary components to the research provided by SARDI Aquatic Sciences to PIRSA in support of the Vongole Fishery. These are:

- (1) Conduct fisher-based surveys to determine the biomass of Vongole on the key fishing grounds of the Port River, Coffin Bay and the West Coast; and;
- (2) Provide a summary report that presents estimates of Vongole biomass in a risk-analysis framework and estimates of size at maturity.

2.2 Need

This project addresses the need for biomass estimates and associated scientific information to support sustainable utilisation of Vongole in SA.

2.3 Objectives

- 2.3.1 Review 2009/10, 2011/12, 2013/14, 2015/16 and triennial (2016/17 to 2018/19) sampling designs and implement an industry-based survey of Vongole populations on commercially important fishing grounds in the West Coast fishing zone;
- 2.3.2 Determine estimates of the harvestable biomass of Vongole in 2021/22 from the areas sampled;
- 2.3.3 Provide PIRSA with biomass estimates in a risk analysis framework; and
- 2.3.4 Provide PIRSA with scientific advice to support the sustainable management of the South Australian Vongole Fishery, including TACC setting.

2.4 Methods

- 2.4.1 Work with Vongole fishers from the West Coast fishing zone to review the 2009/10, 2011/12, 2013/14, 2015/16 and triennial (2016/17 to 2018/19) sampling design, incorporating changes to important commercial fishing grounds;
- 2.4.2 Re-map the commercial fishing grounds and sampling locations into a GIS layer;
- 2.4.3 Undertake a transect-based method, to obtain representative data on the biomass of Vongole across those fishing grounds. Sampling across the three spatial units of the West Coast fishery (i.e. Streaky Bay, Smoky Bay and Venus Bay to occur on a tri-ennial rotational basis with sampling of all bays occurring in 2021/22);
- 2.4.4 Apply a multi-level bootstrap analysis to determine estimates of Vongole biomass in a risk-analysis framework; and
- 2.4.5 Document and interpret the research findings in a report.

3. Deliverables

The key deliverables of the 2022/23 Vongole (West Coast) assessment and monitoring program are tabulated below; additional work related to the core program is also identified:

Funding Source	Deliverable	Due Date
This SLA	Work with PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture and industry to review the survey design	30 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).	30 June 2023

3.1 Service Provided:

3.1.1 *Survey estimates of biomass*

- Review the commercially important fishing grounds.
- Review (and amend as required) the 2009/10, 2011/12, 2013/14, 2015/16 and triennial (2016/17 to 2018/19) surveys to estimate Vongole biomass.
- Provide estimates of current biomass to PIRSA following survey.

3.1.2 *Data analysis*

- Apply a multi-level bootstrap model to provide estimates of Vongole biomass for the West Coast fishing zone.

3.1.3 *Management and quality assurance of research data*

- Provide effective storage and management of research data.
- Develop and implement a formal quality assurance program.

3.1.4 *Analysis and Interpretation*

- Interpret the results of the research program in a report.

3.1.5 *Project management*

- Ongoing supervision of projects.
- Management of deliverables.
- Quality control.

- Liaise with PIRSA, industry, agencies on matters relevant to the fishery.
- Participate in industry development initiatives.
- Development and implementation of new projects and collaboration on proposed/existing projects.
- Update relevant chapter in status report for SA fisheries.

3.2 Outcomes:

The principal outcome will be stock status and estimates of harvestable biomass in May 2022 to support sustainable management of the SA Vongole Fishery.

3.3. Outputs and extension:

The principal output is a report providing estimates of Vongole biomass in a risk-analysis framework by 15 May 2022.

4. Funding arrangements

4.1 Project Costing Policy

This Research Project Scope and Costing has been costed at a Discounted rate.

4.2 Project Cost

Financial Year	Total Funded by Licence Holders \$ (GST N/A)	Total SARDI In-kind \$ (GST N/A)	Total Program Cost (\$) No GST
2019/20	\$0	\$0	\$0
2020/21	\$0	\$0	\$0
2021/22	\$26,907	\$4,956	\$31,863
2022/23	\$26,906	\$4,956	\$31,862
TOTAL PROJECT (over 4 financial years)	\$53,813	\$9,912	\$63,725

4.3 Milestone and payment schedule

Date	Milestone	Payment (\$) Ex GST
31 December 2019	First Half Payment 2019/20 SLA	\$0
31 May 2020	Second Half Payment 2019/20 SLA	\$0
31 December 2020	First Half Payment 2020/21 SLA	\$0
31 May 2021	Second Half Payment 2020/21 SLA	\$0
31 December 2021	First Half Payment 2021/22 SLA	\$31,863
15 May 2022	West Coast Biomass & status report	
31 May 2022	Second Half Payment 2021/22 SLA	\$31,862
31 December 2022	First Half Payment 2022/23 SLA	\$0
31 May 2023	Second Half Payment 2022/23 SLA	\$0
SUBTOTAL		\$63,725
GST		NO GST
TOTAL COST		\$63,725

5. Project staff

Staff	2019/20 FTE	2020/21 FTE	2021/22 FTE	2022/23 FTE
Research Scientist	0	0	0.04	0
Senior Research Officers	0	0	0.24	0
TOTAL	0.00	0.00	0.28	0.00

6. Project cost summary

Cost	Detail	2019/20 Total (\$) Ex GST	2020/21 Total (\$) Ex GST	2021/22 Total (\$) Ex GST	2022/23 Total (\$) Ex GST
Salaries (FTE)		0	0	0.14	.14
Salaries (\$)		0	0	12,509	12,509
Operating (\$)					
Logbook program (\$)					
Payment to industry for surveys (\$)		0	0	1,540	1,540
Fieldwork (\$)		0	0	4,008	4,007
Laboratory (\$)		0	0	60	60
Travel (\$)					
Office & communication (\$)		0	0	150	150
Capital equipment (\$)					
SARDI overhead (\$)		0	0	8,640	8,640
SARDI inkind (\$)		0	0	4,956	4,956
Total Cost (\$)		0	0	31,863	31,862
Revenue – PRICE					
PIRSA F&A (\$)	84%	0	0	\$26,907	\$26,906
Total Revenue (\$)		0	0	0	0
SARDI Investment (\$)	15%	0	0	4,956	4,956

*Industry requested the costs of the 2021-22 program be split over the 2021-22 and 2022-23 financial years.

Logbook Program - Entry, validation, management and reporting of data

Payment to industry for surveys - Direct costs of using industry vessels and staff to undertake surveys

Fieldwork - Fieldwork costs including vessels, travel and OHS requirements

Laboratory - Costs for processing samples

Travel - Costs for attending meetings with industry, PIRSA F&A and stakeholders

Office and communication - Stationery, communications and publications

SARDI Overhead - Indirect costs that cannot be directly attributed to a specific business activity, product, or service

SARDI in kind – SARDI investment through supporting costs for specific equipment, capital depreciation, infrastructure and research facilities



Government of South Australia
Department of Primary Industries
and Regions