

Chair's Report

Allocation Review Committee

Meeting #1 – 20 December 2023

The Allocation Review Committee (ARC) held its first meeting on 20 December 2023 at PIRSA, West Beach.

A primary purpose of the meeting was to review and endorse the draft Terms of Reference and draft Meeting Procedures. Minor amendments were made to both documents and the ARC agreed to provide the updated Terms of Reference and Meeting Procedures to the Minister for adoption.

It was noted by the recreational representative member that the Committee that there were issues with species for the recreational sector not being identified for review under the current structures. It was agreed that there appeared to be an issue with the current arrangements but that they fell outside the purvey of this Committee, and that the sector representative should continue to pursue that matter direct with PIRSA or the Minister.

An overview was provided on the requirements related to allocation reviews under the *Fisheries Management Act 2007*, PIRSA Allocation Policy, and relevant management plans. Significant discussion was had around how allocation shares are expressed, and that to be consistent with the Allocation Policy, it should be as the 'proportional share of each fishing sector to the sustainable yield' (contrary to the current practice of considering catch as a proportion of total catch). It was agreed there was a need for any initial allocation assessments to consider the share/proportion of take against the sustainable yield.

It noted that the ARC's first assessment is the commercial-only allocation of Southern Calamari. This is based on an initial assessment of an apparent allocation breach by the Spencer Gulf Prawn Fishery defined by the management policy (as against the allocation policy) and a subsequent recommendation for a full assessment of that breach for the commercial-only component of the Southern Calamari allocations.

Discussion was had around the catch, economic and social data available for Southern Calamari, and the Southern Calamari catch data was viewed in the context of the discussions around sustainable yield, as well as the disparate requirements of the management plans and Allocation Policy.

The ARC members requested PIRSA and SARDI provide additional data for their full assessment of the identified Southern Calamari breach.

The next ARC meeting is expected to be held in January or February 2024 with a final date to be confirmed out-of-session pending provision of the requested additional data.

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Dr Kate Brooks

Independent Chair of the Allocation Review Committee