

# **Cost Recovery Implementation Statement for the Spencer Gulf & West Coast Prawn Fishery**

**1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024**



**Government  
of South Australia**  
Department of Primary  
Industries and Regions

# Cost Recovery Implementation Statement

Information current as of February 2023  
© Government of South Australia

## Disclaimer

PIRSA and its employees do not warrant or make any representation regarding the use, or results of the use, of the information contained herein as regards to its correctness, accuracy, reliability and currency or otherwise. PIRSA and its employees expressly disclaim all liability or responsibility to any person using the information or advice.

## All Enquiries

A/General Manager, Regulatory and Business Services, Fisheries and Aquaculture  
Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA)  
GPO Box 1625, Adelaide SA 5001  
T 08 8429 2422  
E [randel.donovan@sa.gov.au](mailto:randel.donovan@sa.gov.au)

# Contents

Introduction .....	6
Summary Table - Spencer Gulf Prawn Fishery .....	7
Summary Table – West Coast Prawn Fishery .....	8
<b>Program Daily Charge Out Rate 2023-24 .....</b>	<b>9</b>
Fishery Management Objectives - Spencer Gulf Prawns .....	10
Fishery Management Objectives – West Coast Prawns .....	12
Fisheries Management Program .....	13
Program summary .....	13
Objectives .....	13
Program strategies and supporting actions and initiatives .....	13
Program delivery .....	13
Anticipated outcomes .....	14
Performance indicators .....	14
Program effort allocation .....	15
<b>Legal Services Program .....</b>	<b>17</b>
Program summary .....	17
Objectives .....	17
Program strategies and supporting actions and initiatives .....	17
Program effort allocation .....	17
Anticipated outcomes .....	18
<b>Leasing and Licensing .....</b>	<b>19</b>
Program summary .....	19
Objectives .....	19
Program strategies and supporting actions and initiatives .....	19
Anticipated outcomes .....	19
Program effort allocation .....	19
<b>Directorate Program .....</b>	<b>24</b>

Program summary .....	24
Objectives .....	24
Program strategies and supporting actions and initiatives .....	24
Program effort allocation .....	24
Anticipated outcomes .....	25
<b>Fisheries Compliance Operations Program .....</b>	<b>26</b>
Program summary .....	26
Legislative and regulatory framework .....	26
Program effort, funding and resources .....	26
IT systems, technology and data .....	28
Delivery outputs .....	28
Intelligence .....	29
Education and awareness .....	29
Effective deterrence, monitoring and surveillance .....	29
Enforcement .....	29
Risk assessment and management (work priorities) .....	30
<b>Stock Assessment and Monitoring Program .....</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Spencer Gulf Prawn Fishery .....</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>1. Project details .....</b>	<b>31</b>
2. Project description .....	33
3. Deliverables .....	35
4. Funding arrangements .....	38
5. Project staff .....	38
6. Project cost summary .....	39
<b>Stock Assessment and Monitoring Program .....</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>West Coast Prawn Fishery .....</b>	<b>43</b>
1. Project details .....	43
2. Project description .....	44
3. Deliverables .....	46

4. Funding arrangements.....	48
5. Project staff.....	48
6. Project cost summary .....	49

# 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](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.\*\*

# Summary Table - Spencer Gulf Prawn Fishery

2022-23 (\$)	PROGRAM AREA	2023-24 (\$)	COMMENTS	DAYS	FTE
<b>RESEARCH COSTS</b>					
566,303	Stock Assessment and Monitoring	539,256	Year 1 of research program.		
17,179	Economic Assessment	17,695	As per contracted services 2023-24		
1,858	Other Research	1,193	Contribution towards Threatened and Endangered Species		
<b>PIRSA RELATED COSTS *</b>					
39,375	Fisheries Management	41,265	Same level of service as previous year	45	0.23
9,420	Legislation	9,870	Same level of service as previous year	10	0.05
18,960	Licensing	19,880	Same level of service as previous year	20	0.10
13,920	Directorate	14,576	Same level of service as previous year	16	0.08
40,832	Compliance	42,784	Same level of service as previous year	32	0.16
68,600	Vessel	71,890	Same level of service as previous year	10	0.05
	Information Services	43,913	Logbook Program – Entry, validation, management and reporting of data		
<b>OTHER COSTS</b>					
83,316	FRDC	72,976	Funding based on 0.25% of rolling three year average GVP		
194,600	Co-Management Services	212,800	Co-management services requested for 2023-24		
<b>1,054,363</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,088,098</b>			

\*The indexation rate of 4.8 % confirmed by the Department of Treasury and Finance has been applied to the 2023/24 PIRSA program costs

<b>Licence Fee 2023-24 (\$)</b>	
Licence Fee	27,900
<b>Total of licences</b>	<b>39</b>
<i>Licence Fee 2022-23 (\$)</i>	
<i>Licence Fee</i>	<i>27,035</i>
<b>Total of licences</b>	<b>39</b>

# Summary Table – West Coast Prawn Fishery

2022-23 (\$)	PROGRAM AREA	2023-24 (\$)	COMMENTS	DAYS	FTE
<b>RESEARCH COSTS</b>					
39,200	Stock Assessment and Monitoring	30,702 **	Year 1 of research project scope \$33,703 reduced to \$30,702, refund applied of \$3,001 due to Ceduna FIS site not completed in March 2023..		
791	Economic Assessment	815	As per contracted services 2023-24		
143	Other Research	92	Contribution towards Threatened and Endangered Species		
<b>PIRSA RELATED COSTS *</b>					
7,000	Fisheries Management	7,336	Same level of service as previous year	8	0.04
942	Legislation	987	Same level of service as previous year	1	0.01
1,896	Licensing	1,988	Same level of service as previous year	2	0.01
1,740	Directorate	1,822	Same level of service as previous year	2	0.01
7,656	Compliance	8,022	Same level of service as previous year	6	0.03
13,720	Vessel	658 **	Same level of service as previous year	2	0.01
	Information Services	2,643 **	Logbook Program – Entry, validation, management and reporting of data		
<b>OTHER COSTS</b>					
3,139	FRDC	3,275	Funding based on 0.25% of rolling three year average GVP		
<b>76,227</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>58,340</b>			

\* The indexation rate of 4.8 % confirmed by the Department of Treasury and Finance has been applied to the 2023/24 PIRSA program costs

\*\* Services for the following program components reduced due to WCP fishery closure in 2022-23 resulting in reduced costs:

\$13,720 Vessel

\$ 3,001 Stock Assessment and Monitoring

\$ 2,687 Information Services

**\$19,408 Total reductions**

Noting, program service delivery days for Vessel, SAM & IS in 2023-24 will remain the same as listed above.

<b>Licence Fee 2023-24 (\$)</b>	
Licence Fee	19,447
<b>Total of licences</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Licence Fee 2022-23 (\$)</b>	
Licence Fee	25,409
<b>Total of licences</b>	<b>3</b>

## Program Daily Charge Out Rate 2023-24

	DAILY RATE (\$)					
	Compliance	Vessel	Directorate	Legislation	Licensing	Fisheries Management
Total Employee Expenses	692	2,568	640	764	521	618
Total Operating Expenses	350	2,972	127	64	145	166
Deprecation and Capital Costs	56	1,027	0	0	0	0
Total Other Expenses*	239	621	145	159	328	133
<b>TOTAL DAILY RATE</b>	<b>1,337</b>	<b>7,189</b>	<b>911</b>	<b>987</b>	<b>994</b>	<b>917</b>

**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 - Spencer Gulf Prawns

Management Plan Objectives	Outcomes	Fisheries Management	Compliance	Assessment and Research	Leasing and Licensing
<p>Maintain ecologically sustainable prawn biomass.</p> <p>Optimum utilisation and equitable distribution.</p>	<p>Maintain stocks and ecosystem in line with the Management Plan under the <i>Fisheries Management Act 2007</i>.</p> <p>Sufficient data and information are available to undertake real time management.</p> <p>Maximise value within ecologically sustainable limits.</p> <p>Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between PIRSA and the Association on the activities to be undertaken by the respective parties under the Ministerial delegation to set fishing runs.</p>	<p>Real-time management in accordance with the Harvest Strategy.</p> <p>Preparation, attendance and participation in selected management committee meetings.</p> <p>Auditing fishing strategies and assisting with the application of the delegation.</p> <p>Support implementation of the management plan for the fishery.</p> <p>Continue implementation and management of existing programs.</p> <p>Develop and implement MoU between respective parties re the rules and procedures for setting management arrangements through fishing runs.</p>	<p>Implement compliance program, in accordance with risk assessment.</p> <p>Support implementation of Management Plan.</p> <p>Develop licence conditions for the introduction of eLogs as a compliance or intelligence-gathering tool.</p>	<p>Conduct and report on surveys.</p> <p>Produce biennial stock assessment reports to assess fishery performance, in accordance with Management Plan (2024/25 &amp; 2026/27).</p> <p>Produce annual stock status advice note to inform Harvest Strategy.</p>	<p>Support implementation of Management Plan.</p> <p>Provide ongoing support for licensing queries.</p>

Management Plan Objectives	Outcomes	Fisheries Management	Compliance	Assessment and Research	Leasing and Licensing
		Support consideration of scientific information available regarding reopening of the WCPF consistent with the Harvest Strategy.			
Protect and conserve aquatic resources, habitats and ecosystems.	<p>Progress actions and conditions for MSC auditing purposes.</p> <p>Review and implement recommendations in the DAWE WTO accreditation under EPBC Act.</p> <p>Consider and implement any arrangements identified through the ESD RA process</p>	<p>Support implementation of actions and conditions for MSC auditing.</p> <p>Support the development and implementation of bycatch and habitat monitoring programs.</p> <p>Continue implementation and management of existing programs.</p> <p>Consider and implement any processes identified through the ESD risk assessment process in relation to habitats and ecosystems.</p>	Implement compliance program, in accordance with compliance risk assessment.	<p>Support implementation of actions and conditions for MSC.</p> <p>Provide scientific advice on habitat and ecosystem research, when required.</p>	
Enable effective and participative management of the fishery.	Effective engagement with the industry, in accordance with agreed co-management arrangements.	Preparation, attendance and participation at association meetings and provision of advice, as required.	Attend association meetings and provide advice on compliance issues, as required.	Attend association meetings and provide advice on scientific issues, as required.	Provide ongoing support for licensing queries.

## Fishery Management Objectives – West Coast Prawns

Management Plan Objectives	Outcomes	Fisheries Management	Compliance	Assessment and Research	Leasing and Licensing
Maintain ecologically sustainable prawn biomass.	Stock maintenance.	Real-time management in accordance with management policy.	Implement compliance program, in accordance with risk assessment.	Conduct and report on surveys as described in the Harvest Strategy for the fishery.	Provide ongoing support for licensing queries.
Optimum utilisation and equitable distribution of the resources.				Produce annual advice note to inform Harvest Strategy decision rules.	
Ensure optimal utilisation and equitable distribution.	Annual Report for DAWE.	Continue implementation and management of existing programs.  Develop options to assess ecological risks including bycatch.	Implement compliance program, in accordance with risk assessment.		
Cost-effective, efficient and participative management of the fishery.	Effective engagement with the industry, in accordance with agreed co-management arrangements.	Preparation, attendance and participation at association meetings and provision of advice, as required.  Consideration of new co-management arrangements with the SGWCPFA	Attend association meetings and provide advice on compliance issues, as required.	Attend association meetings and provide scientific advice, as required.	Provide ongoing support for licensing queries.

# Fisheries Management Program

## Program Manager:

Jordan Lear, Fisheries Manager, Fisheries Management  
Telephone: 08 8429 0931 Email: [Jordan.lear@sa.gov.au](mailto:Jordan.lear@sa.gov.au)

## 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 the 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 fishing sector.
- Progress Australian Government recommendations under EPBC Act (1999) assessment.

## Objectives

To provide day-to-day fisheries management services for the Spencer Gulf and West Coast Prawn Fishery to government and industry, as well as advice and facilitation of fisheries policy and management issues, through the Fisheries Management Program.

## Program strategies and supporting actions and initiatives

### Program delivery

1. Participate 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.
7. Participate in industry development initiatives related to fisheries management.
8. Attending to general correspondence and enquiries relevant to fisheries.
9. Provide advice to 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. Provision of clear instructions for complex legal drafting or compilation of drafts of simple legislative instruments in consultation with the legal manager as necessary for the management of the Spencer Gulf and West Coast Prawn Fishery (regulations, closure notices, licence conditions, Ministerial exemptions, regulation 10 notices under the prawn fisheries regulations etc).
2. Provide advice to the Minister or his/her delegate on setting effort levels for the Spencer Gulf and West Coast Prawn Fishery.
3. Develop and implement a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between PIRSA and the Spencer Gulf and West Coast Prawn Fishermen's Association (the Association) detailing the activities to be undertaken by the respective organisations under the Ministerial delegation that has been provided to the Association to set fishing runs.
4. Prepare policies to support fisheries management.
5. Prepare submissions to enable regular assessment of the Spencer Gulf and West Coast Prawn Fishery under the EPBC Act.
6. Prepare annual report to the Australian Government on EPBC Act requirements for the Spencer Gulf and West Coast Prawn fisheries.
7. Prepare regular fisheries status reports.
8. Develop and maintain day-to-day productive working relationships and outcomes through cooperative management and collaboration with stakeholders.
9. 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. Develop and implement a bycatch monitoring program.
3. Australian Government recommendations met in relation to EPBC assessment.
4. Setting of management arrangements, including fishing runs, for Spencer Gulf and West Coast Prawn 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 – Spencer Gulf	45	0.23	41,265
Fisheries Management – West Coast	8	0.04	7,336

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

### Spencer Gulf Prawn Fishery

	Deliverables	Due date
1.	Participate in inter- and intra-departmental meetings and workshops on issues relevant to fisheries management.	Ongoing
2.	Liaise within the Fisheries and Aquaculture Division, with SARDI Aquatic Sciences and other parts of PIRSA on the application, development and implementation of decisions relevant to fisheries management.	Ongoing
3.	Liaise with the Executive Officer of the Spencer Gulf and West Coast Prawn Fishermen's Association (SGWCPFA) and licence holders in the fishery on the application, development and implementation of decisions relevant to fisheries management.	Ongoing
4.	Delivery of SARDI advice note reporting on key performance indicators and stock status in the fishery	30 September 2023
5.	Support the Executive Officer and Coordinator at Sea positions within the SGWCPFA to develop and implement notices under Regulation 10 of the <i>Fisheries Management (Prawn Fisheries) Regulations 2017</i> to set fishing runs and surveys under the delegation these positions have been provided.	Ongoing
6.	Participate in the SGWCPFA Management Committee and Research Sub-Committee meetings, providing accurate and effective information to assist these parties in the development of fisheries management advice to the Executive Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture.	Ongoing
7.	Support implementation and development of a bycatch monitoring program for the fishery in collaboration with the SGWCPFA Executive Officer and SARDI.	Ongoing
8.	Attend to general correspondence and enquiries relevant to the SGPF.	Ongoing
9.	Provide advice to Minister in relation to the management of fisheries and Ministerial correspondence.	Ongoing
10.	Communicate on fisheries management issues to key stakeholder groups and the broader community.	Ongoing
11.	Consider further development of co-management arrangements in collaboration with the SGWCPFA.	Ongoing

## West Coast Prawn Fishery

	Deliverables	Due date
1.	Participate in inter- and intra-departmental meetings and workshops on issues relevant to fisheries management.	Ongoing
2.	Liaise within the Fisheries and Aquaculture Division, with SARDI Aquatic Sciences and other parts of PIRSA, other government agencies and local government on the application, development and implementation of decisions relevant to fisheries management as required.	Ongoing
3.	Liaise with the Executive Officer of the Spencer Gulf and West Coast Prawn Fishermen's Association (SGWCPFA) and licence holders in the fishery on the application, development and implementation of decisions relevant to fisheries management.	Ongoing
4.	Delivery of SARDI advice note reporting on key performance indicators in the fishery.	30 November 2023
5.	Participate in the SGWCPFA Management Committee and Research Sub-Committee meetings, providing accurate and effective information to assist these parties in the development of fisheries management advice to the Executive Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture.	Ongoing
6.	Attend to general correspondence and enquiries relevant to the WCPF.	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
9.	Support consideration of scientific information available regarding reopening of the WCPF consistent with the Harvest Strategy.	July 2023, November 2023, March 2024

# Legal Services Program

## Program Manager:

Lambertus Lopez, Manager, Legal and Legislative Programs

Telephone: 08 8429 0527 Email: [lambertus.lopez@sa.gov.au](mailto:lambertus.lopez@sa.gov.au)

## Program summary

PIRSA Fisheries & 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 Spencer Gulf & West Coast Prawn 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 (\$)
Legal Services – Spencer Gulf	10	0.05	9,870
Legal Services – West Coast	1	0.01	987

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

## Anticipated outcomes

### Spencer Gulf & West Coast Prawn Fishery

	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 variation of fishing closure 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 Manager:

Todd Sutton, Manager, Leasing and Licensing

Telephone: 08 8207 5321 Email: todd.sutton2@sa.gov.au

## 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.

### 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 – Spencer Gulf	20	0.10	19,880
Leasing and Licensing – West Coast	2	0.01	1,988

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

	Deliverables	Due date
	<b>Services to directly support the fishery</b>	
1.	Issue and maintain fishery licences.	Ongoing
2.	Database management for licence and licence holder information.	Ongoing
3.	Collect licence fees and associated payments.	Ongoing
4.	Compose and send quarterly instalment notices.	Ongoing
5.	Record and track unpaid invoices.	Ongoing
6.	Compose and send late payment instalment notices for unpaid quarterly instalments.	Ongoing
7.	Draft and issue notices to fishers.	Ongoing
8.	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, application for licence transfers, boat changes, gear enquiries and fishing regulations.	Ongoing
9.	Regularly update information about licence holders.	Ongoing
10.	Research and prepare documents for public record.	Ongoing
11.	Liaise with government stakeholders to verify the credentials of fishers.	Ongoing
12.	Liaise with PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture, SARDI Aquatic Sciences, Crown Solicitors and other state and local agencies on matters relevant to the fishery.	Ongoing
13.	Draft and update licence conditions over the duration of the licensing year as determined by the Executive Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture.	Ongoing
14.	Provide information to licence holders relating to the requirements pursuant to licence administration.	Ongoing
15.	Manage calls from fishers regarding late payment notices, fees and general enquiries about their licences.	Ongoing
16.	Provide support regarding an increased frequency of last-minute administrative enquiries from fishers. e.g. master changes, boat variations, as well as provide advice and support to fishers on licence information, to complete the required forms.	Ongoing
17.	Effort required to investigate and implement electronic reporting into fishery and associated troubleshooting between industry, Fisheries and Aquaculture Compliance, Real Time Data, Oracle CMS, PIRSA ICT and SARDI. This effort will be reviewed annually.	Ongoing
	<b>Services to support fisheries management</b>	

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

	Deliverables	Due date
	<b>Services to directly support the fishery</b>	
1.	Issue and maintain fishery licences.	Ongoing
3.	Database management for licence and licence holder information.	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 un-paid 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, application for licence transfers, boat 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
18.	Effort required to investigate and implement electronic reporting into fishery and associated troubleshooting between industry, Fisheries and Aquaculture Compliance, Real Time Data, Oracle CMS, PIRSA ICT and SARDI. This effort will be reviewed annually.	Ongoing
	<b>Services to support fisheries management</b>	

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

# Directorate Program

## Program Manager:

Randel Donovan, A/General Manager, Regulatory and Business Services

Telephone: 08 8429 2422 Email: [randel.donovan@sa.gov.au](mailto:randel.donovan@sa.gov.au)

## Program summary

Business Services, 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 Services 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 – Spencer Gulf	16	0.08	14,576
Directorate – West Coast	2	0.01	1,822

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

## Anticipated outcomes

### Spencer Gulf & West Coast Prawn Fishery

	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

## Program Manager:

Andrew Carr, Regional Manager

Telephone: 0438 459 679      Email: [andrew.carr@sa.gov.au](mailto:andrew.carr@sa.gov.au)

## State Coordinator:

Shane Gassner, Senior Fisheries Officer

Telephone: 0429 831 601      Email: [shane.gassner@sa.gov.au](mailto:shane.gassner@sa.gov.au)

## 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 Spencer Gulf & West Coast Prawn 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, enforcing 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 2007*

*Fisheries Management (General) Regulations 2007*

*Fisheries Management (Demerit Points) Regulations 2009*

*Fisheries Management (Prawn Fisheries) Regulations 2006*

*Spencer Gulf & West Coast Prawn Management Plan*

## 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 Spencer Gulf & West Coast Prawn 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 tables includes the number of days predicted to reflect the anticipated split of effort and associated costs to deliver the compliance outputs for 2023-24. Unused offshore patrol vessel days from 2022-23 will be applied across 2023-24 and 2024-25.

*Table 1: SGP Effort Allocation by Compliance Outputs*

<b>Compliance Outputs</b>	<b>Days</b>	<b>FTE</b>	<b>Cost (\$)</b>
Education Awareness	3	0.015	4,011
Effective Deterrence, Monitoring and Surveillance	28	0.14	37,436
Enforcement	1	0.005	1,337
<b>TOTAL OFFICER DAYS</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>0.16</b>	<b>42,784</b>
<b>Fisheries Patrol Vessel Southern Ranger</b>	<b>10</b>		<b>71,890</b>

Table2: WCP Effort Allocation by Compliance Outputs

Compliance Outputs	Days	FTE	Cost (\$)
Education Awareness	1	0.005	1,337
Effective Deterrence, Monitoring and Surveillance	4	0.02	5,348
Enforcement	1	0.005	1,337
<b>TOTAL OFFICER DAYS</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0.03</b>	<b>8,022</b>
<b>Fisheries Patrol Vessel Southern Ranger</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>14,378</b>

**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 Spencer Gulf & West Coast Prawn 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 Prawns. 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 & relationship programs to facilitate discussion of topics such as compliance inspection outcomes, Bycatch and other issues impacting the Spencer Gulf & West Coast Prawn Fishery.
- Ongoing one on one education during inspections.

## **Effective deterrence, monitoring and surveillance**

- Ensure all aspects of required reporting including log sheets and unload reports are monitored 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/issue.
- Communicate activities in formal reporting.
- Follow up of incorrect, incomplete reporting

## **Enforcement**

- Investigate reports of non-compliance and where appropriate take action.
- Issue expiations and caution notices.
- Prepare briefs of evidence for the Crown Solicitors Office to consider court enforced actions.
- Communicate enforcement outcomes in formal reporting
- Service of suspension notices.

## **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 Spencer Gulf & West Coast Prawn Fishery.

1. Fish in Closed Areas or Outside Prescribed Areas and Times.
2. Take Protected or Non Permitted Species.
3. By-Catch.
4. Use Illegal Fishing Gear & Equipment.
5. Interactions with Obstructions on the Sea Floor (SGP Only).

### **Deliverables**

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

# Stock Assessment and Monitoring Program

## Spencer Gulf Prawn Fishery

### Fisheries and Aquaculture Contact Person:

Gavin Begg, Executive Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture  
Telephone: 08 8429 0960      Email: [gavin.begg@sa.gov.au](mailto:gavin.begg@sa.gov.au)

### SARDI Contact Person:

Dr Michael Steer, Research Director, SARDI Aquatic and Livestock Sciences  
Telephone: 08 8429 0115      Email: [michael.steer@sa.gov.au](mailto:michael.steer@sa.gov.au)

## 1. Project details

### 1.1 Title

Spencer Gulf Prawn Fishery

### 1.2 Subcontractor/Collaborator

Spencer Gulf and West Coast Prawn Fishermen's Association

### 1.3 Timeframe

Commencement Date: 1 July 2023

Completion Date: 30 June 2024

### 1.4 Summary

This scope of work will provide PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture with the scientific information required to underpin the ecologically sustainable management of the Spencer Gulf Prawn Fishery (SGPF) in South Australia. The core stock assessment and monitoring program for the SGPF is comprised of several components:

- Fisheries statistics.
- Fishing strategy development and real-time management (fishery-independent surveys, FIS) (annual).
- Length-frequency measurements by observers in upper Spencer Gulf (100 prawns at 34 pre-determined locations) during the March FIS, used as supplementary length-based information on recruitment.
- Bycatch data collection by observers (during annual FISs). This replaces the gulf-wide length-frequency measurement program previously undertaken by observers.
- Stock status Advice Note (annual).

- Stock assessment report (including updated estimate of trawl footprint) (biennial – delivered in 2020/21 and 2022/23; not delivered in 2023/24).
- Advice Note to summarise by-catch program and statistics.
- Provision of aggregated data to the Executive Officer, SGWCPFA (annual).

Details of the work program activities in 2023/24 are also identified in Appendix 1.

Secondary outputs include presentations provided to PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture and the Management Committee of the Spencer Gulf and West Coast Prawn Fishermen's Association (SGWCPFA) on stock assessment and other information as required.

## 2. Project description

### 2.1 Background

Production from the SGPF has been relatively stable between 1600 t and 2400 t throughout the history of the fishery. Since 1978 effort has effectively halved. Fishing strategies are developed from a combination of fishery-independent and fishery-dependent surveys and data collected during commercial fishing.

SARDI provides an independent assessment of the status of the resource against the PIs of the Management Plan. This assessment is underpinned by prawn survey data collected in a fishery-independent manner. The assessment also incorporates an evaluation of the real-time monitoring (RTM) practices of the fishery. SARDI has developed tools to aid electronic data capture during surveys and regularly provide training to observers and crew on the survey data requirements through a series of workshops.

In recent years, SARDI has also conducted a variety of other research that relates to South Australia's prawn fisheries, such as bycatch surveys (to inform risk assessment and management), development of by-catch reduction devices and ecosystem-based fisheries management.

### 2.2 Need

Multiple FISs are required throughout the fishing season to report against the PIs of the SGPF, thus providing the basis for assessment of the fishery or determining stock status. Immediate assessment of FIS data, enhanced through electronic data capture and analysis, enables assessment against the criteria of the Management Plan and subsequent development of appropriate fishing strategies. FIS also provide information on egg production and recruitment to the fishery. In addition to delivering fishery assessments, this scope of work includes bycatch monitoring of the fishery.

### 2.3 Objectives

#### 2.3.1 *Collect and analyse FIS and fishery-dependent (FDS) data to:*

- Develop fishing strategies in accordance with the decision rules of the Management Plan.
- Assess performance of the fishery with respect to fishing strategy criteria and against the biological PIs of the Management Plan.
- Determine stock status.
- Deliver stock assessment report (biennial – not delivered in 2023/24).

#### 2.3.2 *Analyse fisher logbook information to:*

- Determine spatial and temporal patterns in catch and effort.
- Assess performance of the fishery with respect to fishing strategy criteria and against the biological PIs of the Management Plan.
- Assess the effectiveness of RTM.

#### 2.3.3 *Monitor bycatch in the fishery:*

- Collect bycatch data on selected species.

- Summarise bycatch statistics.

## **2.4 Methods**

### *2.4.1 Fishing strategy development and real-time management:*

- Run workshops as required to educate skippers, crews and observers on the importance of surveys and data collection requirements.
- Manage and coordinate the FIS observer program.
- Prepare and distribute spreadsheets for skippers (e-logs) to provide catch rate and prawn size data through email.
- Collate and analyse survey data including spatial analysis.

### *2.4.3 Provision of aggregated data:*

- Provide the Executive Officer, SGWCPFA, with aggregated data as specified in Appendix 2.

### *2.4.4 Stock status advice:*

- Analyse trends in biomass through FIS data.
- Determine stock status in accordance with reference points in the Management Plan.

### *2.4.5 Bycatch monitoring:*

- Record numbers and weights of previously identified bycatch species of interest (~20 species) during FISs.
- Analyse spatial and temporal distribution of these bycatch species and summarise statistics in an Advice Note.

### 3. Deliverables

The key deliverables of the 2023/24 SGPF stock assessment and monitoring program are tabulated below; additional work related to the core program is also identified:

Funding Source	Deliverable	Due Date
This SLA	Stock Status Advice Note delivered	30 September 2023
This SLA	November Fishery-independent survey (FIS) & bycatch data collection completed	30 November 2023
This SLA	March FIS (including length-frequency) & bycatch data collection completed	31 March 2024
This SLA	April FIS completed	30 April 2024
This SLA	Provision of aggregated data to the Executive Officer, SGWCPFA	30 June 2024
This SLA	By-catch Advice Note delivered	30 June 2024
PIRSA	Research workshop with industry	31 December 2023
PIRSA	Support SGPF MSC annual reviews and audit	30 June 2024
FRDC	Project completion: 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).	31 December 2023
FRDC	Contribute to Status of Key Australian Fish Stocks Report	31 December 2023
FRDC	Project completion: Nature and extent of the ecological assets conserved by the Spencer Gulf Prawn Fishery to mitigate their ecological footprint' (FRDC Project 2020/002; Principal Investigator: Dr Gretchen Grammer).	30 June 2024

#### 3.1 Service Provided:

##### 3.1.1 Data collection

Collection of fisheries statistics:

- Regular training of observers and crew on the survey data requirements.
- Collection and storage of prawn size and abundance distributions from FIS and FDS.
- Collection and storage of prawn size-grading information.

- Collection and storage of basic biological data e.g. fecundity, length-weight relationships for prawns.

### 3.1.2 *Analysis and reporting*

Analysis and interpretation:

- Real-time analysis to inform fishing strategy development.
- Provide an analysis of survey data for determining stock status and annual Harvest Strategy for the following season.

Industry and policy liaison:

- Provision of aggregated data to the Executive Officer, SGWCPFA (annual).
- Participate and contribute to meetings with PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture as required.
- Participate and contribute to SGWCPFA Management Committee and Research Subcommittee meetings as required.
- Respond to requests from PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture as required.

Reporting:

- Provide end of fishing season status report incorporating catch and effort data.
- Complete survey reports immediately after each FIS to support RTM (triannual).
- Advice note on the stock status of the SGPF prior to the commencement of the next fishing season (annual).
- Advice note on the bycatch monitoring work program.
- Update relevant chapters in fishery stock status reports as required.

## 3.2 **Outcomes:**

- Timely completion of post-survey reports.
- Advice on the Harvest Strategy and stock status classification prior to the start of the next fishing season.
- Advice to support fishery management from stock assessment outputs.
- Implement bycatch-monitoring program undertaken by observers in conjunction with FISs.

## 3.3. **Outputs and extension:**

- Provide end of fishing season status report incorporating catch and effort data.
- Complete survey reports immediately after each FIS to support RTM (triannual).
- Advice note to PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture on stock status prior to the start of each fishing season (annual).

- Advice Note to summarise by-catch program and statistics.
- Provision of aggregated data to the Executive Officer, SGWCPFA (annual).

## 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

PROJECT COST	Total Funded	Total In-kind	Total Project Cost
2023/24	\$539,256	\$69,315	\$608,571
GST	NO GST	NO GST	NO GST
TOTAL	\$539,256	\$69,315	\$608,571

### 4.3 Milestone and payment schedule

Date	Milestone	Payment (\$) Ex GST
30 September 2023	Stock status Advice Note	
31 December 2023	First half payment	\$269,628
31 May 2024	Second half payment	\$269,628
30 June 2024	Advice Note: Bycatch monitoring program 2022/23	
30 June 2024	Aggregated data provided to EO	
SUBTOTAL		\$539,256
GST		No GST
TOTAL COST		\$539,256

## 5. Project staff

### 5.1 2023/24 research program

Staff (if identified)	2023/24 FTE
Principal Investigator	0.75
Principal Scientist	0.10
Research Officer	0.17
Research Services Officer	0.42
TOTAL	1.44

## 6. Project cost summary

Cost	Detail	2023/24 Total (\$) Ex GST
Salaries (FTE)		1.44
Salaries (\$)		188,427
<b>Operating</b>		
Payment to industry for surveys (\$)		211,000
Fieldwork (\$)		12,130
Laboratory (\$)		1,200
Travel (\$)		6,400
Office & communication (\$)		5,100
Capital equipment (\$)		
SARDI overhead (\$)		114,999
SARDI inkind (\$)		69,315
<b>Total Cost (\$)</b>		<b>608,571</b>
<b>Revenue – PRICE</b>		
PIRSA F&A (\$)	89%	539,256
<b>Total Revenue (\$)</b>		
<b>SARDI Investment (\$)</b>	11%	69,315

Explanation of costs above:

*Payment to industry for surveys* - Direct costs of using industry vessels and staff to undertake surveys -63 survey nights.

*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

## Appendix 1. Proposed schedule of work for 2023/24

2023/24
1. FI surveys
2. Stock status advice note
3. Fishery bycatch monitoring (incl. advice note)

## Appendix 2. Provision of aggregated data to Executive Officer, SGWCPFA

	Primary data source	Data fields/outputs	Grouping	Delivery date (Annual)
1.	Skipper's logs (stock assessment surveys)	Replicate shot data as presented in stock assessment survey reports (i.e. Year, Survey Month, Vessel, Shot ID, Shot Location No., Total Catch, Total Catch Rate, 20+ Catch Rate, Bucket Count, Tide, Comments) plus Trawl Duration, Trawl Distance, No. Nets	None (data requested for individual survey trawl shots)	15 September
2.	Stock assessment report (data underpinning figures)	Year, Region (aggregation of blocks), Catch, Effort, CPUE (Figs 3.6–3.10)	Year	31 October
		Year, Grade, Grade Proportion (by Wt) (Fig. 3.11)	Year	
		Year, Bucket Count Category, Proportion of Nights, Mean Bucket Count (weighted) (Fig. 3.12)	Year	
		Standardised Catches (fishing and survey) Means and standard errors for survey catch rates for adults/recruits, egg production, recruitment (Figs 3.1–3.4, 3.13 and 3.14)	Month (for survey catch rates and recruitment) and Year	
3.	Commercial fishing logbook – WKP	For the fleet: Year, Month, Departure Date, Catch (kg, adjusted), Effort (hours), Grade, Grade Wt	Night, Month and Year	On request via email or by 31 December
		For the fleet: Year, Month, Region, Catch (kg, adj.), Effort (h), CPUE, No. Nights, No. Vessels	Month, Year and Region	
		For the fleet: Year, Month, Departure Date, Catch (kg, adj.), Effort (h)	Night, Month and Year; filtered for Committee-At-Sea (CAS) members only	

4.	Commercial fishing logbook – Southern Calamari and Balmain Bug	For the fleet: Year, Month, Species, Region, Catch (kg, adj.)	Month, Year and Region	15 January
5.	Wildlife Interaction Logbook and SARDI Observer data sheet	For the fleet: Year, Month, Region, TEP Species, Nature of Interaction, Status, Fate	Month, Year and Region	15 June

# Stock Assessment and Monitoring Program

## West Coast Prawn Fishery

### Fisheries and Aquaculture Contact Person:

Prof. Gavin Begg, Executive Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture  
Telephone: 08 8429 0960 Email: [gavin.begg@sa.gov.au](mailto:gavin.begg@sa.gov.au)

### SARDI Contact Person:

Dr Michael Steer, Research Director, SARDI Aquatic and Livestock Sciences  
Telephone: 08 8429 0115 Email: [michael.steer@sa.gov.au](mailto:michael.steer@sa.gov.au)

## 1. Project details

### 1.1 Title

West Coast Prawn Fishery

### 1.2 Subcontractor/Collaborator

Spencer Gulf and West Coast Prawn Fishermen's Association

### 1.3 Timeframe

Commencement Date: 1 July 2023

Completion Date: 30 June 2024

### 1.4 Summary

This scope of work will provide PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture with the scientific information required to underpin the ecologically sustainable management of the West Coast Prawn Fishery (WCPF) in South Australia. The core stock assessment and monitoring program for the WCPF is comprised of three key components:

- Fishery Independent Surveys (FIS; March and June).
- Annual advice note reporting on performance indicators (PIs).
- Annual stock status report.

Secondary outputs include presentations provided to PIRSA and the Management Committee of the Spencer Gulf and West Coast Prawn Fishermen's Association (SGWCPFA) on stock assessment and other information as required, and data provision to industry.

## 2. Project description

### 2.1 Background

There are three licensed operators in the West Coast Prawn Fishery. The catch history of the fishery is punctuated by periods of high catch followed by periods of very low catch.

PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture, in conjunction with SARDI and industry, previously agreed to a minimalist research strategy that involved the conduct of FIS during March and June. As per previous SLAs, four observers were costed to SARDI, and one was supplied by industry. The same arrangements for observers are proposed for this agreement.

### 2.2 Need

Annual stock status and advice notes are required as part of the ongoing management of the South Australian western king prawn resource. Status reports are completed biennially (delivered in 2023/24). The broad statutory framework for the sustainable management of this resource is provided by the *Fisheries Management Act 2007* with specific policies, objectives and strategies to be employed for the sustainable management of the WCPF as set out in the management policy and Harvest Strategy for the fishery.

### 2.3 Objectives

#### 2.3.1 *Fishery independent surveys:*

- To undertake FISs of the WCPF. Data to be incorporated into annual stock assessments to provide information independent of the commercial fishery. The objective is to provide a measure of relative abundance not altered by changing fishing patterns.

#### 2.3.2 *Commercial logbook data:*

- To analyse fisher logbook information. Data to be incorporated into annual stock assessments to provide information on the commercial fishery.

#### 2.3.3 *Performance indicator advice:*

- To provide advice on PIs specified in the Harvest Strategy to inform management arrangements for the fishery.
- Deliver Advice Note on potential adjustments to reference points in the Harvest Strategy to account for modified surveys.

#### 2.3.4 *Stock status report:*

- To provide a synthesis, data analysis and stock status classification for the fishery to ensure sustainable management of the resource (biennial – delivered in 2023/24).

#### 2.3.5 *Data provision to industry:*

- Data provision to industry as per Appendix 3.

### 2.4 Methods

#### 2.4.1 *FIS data*

- Collate, validate and analyse FIS data.
- SARDI and industry to provide observers for surveys conducted throughout the season.

#### 2.4.2 *Fisher logbook information*

- Analyse fisher logbook information.

#### 2.4.3 *Performance indicator advice note(s):*

- Undertake assessment of PIs against reference points specified in the Harvest Strategy.
- Deliver Advice Note on potential adjustments to reference points in the Harvest Strategy to account for modified surveys.

#### 2.4.4 *Stock status report*

- Provide report (biennial – delivered in 2023/24) and presentations as required.

### 3. Deliverables

The key deliverables of the 2022/23 WCPF stock assessment and monitoring program are tabulated below; additional work related to the core program is also identified:

Funding Source	Deliverable	Due Date
This SLA	Annual advice note reporting on performance indicators delivered	30 November 2023
This SLA	March FIS completed	31 March 2024
This SLA	June FIS completed	30 June 2024
This SLA	Stock status report delivered	30 June 2024
This SLA	Provision of aggregated data to the Executive Officer, SGWCPFA	30 June 2024
Previous SLA	Advice Note on potential adjustments to reference points in the Harvest Strategy to account for modified surveys delivered	30 June 2024
PIRSA	Research workshop with industry	31 December 2023
FRDC	Project completion: 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).	31 December 2023
FRDC	Contribute to Status of Key Australian Fish Stocks Report	31 December 2023
FRDC	Project completion: Nature and extent of the ecological assets conserved by the Spencer Gulf Prawn Fishery to mitigate their ecological footprint' (FRDC Project 2020/002; Principal Investigator: Dr Gretchen Grammer).	30 June 2024

#### 3.1 Service Provided

##### 3.1.1 Analysis and reporting

- Provide an assessment against performance indicators in the Harvest Strategy.
- Update SA fisheries status report as required.

##### 3.1.2 Industry and Policy liaison

- Participate and contribute to PIRSA/industry meetings where needed as the research representative.
- Participate in the Research Subcommittee of the Spencer Gulf and West Coast Prawn Fisherman's Association (SGWCPFA).
- Respond to appropriate requests from PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture.

##### 3.1.3 Reporting

- Deliver biennial stock status reports.
- Provide annual performance indicator advice note.
- Provide Advice Note on potential adjustments to reference points in the Harvest Strategy to account for modified surveys.
- Provide other relevant material as required, including data provision to industry.

### **3.2 Outcomes**

- Stock status of the WCPF.
- Advice on assessment of performance indicators and reference points in the Harvest Strategy Policy.
- Advice to support fishery management from stock status outputs.

## 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 Project Cost \$ (GST N/A)
<b>2023/24</b>	\$33,703	\$6,739	<b>\$40,442</b>
<b>TOTAL PROJECT</b>	<b>\$33,703</b>	<b>\$6,739</b>	<b>\$40,442</b>

### 4.3 Milestone and payment schedule

Date	Milestone	Payment (\$) Ex GST
30 November 2023	2023 performance indicator advice note	
31 December 2023	First Half Payment 2023/24 SLA.	\$16,851
31 May 2024	Second Half Payment 2023/24 SLA.	\$16,852
30 June 2024	2023 Stock status report for the WCPF	
30 June 2024	Aggregated data provided to EO	
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>		<b>\$33,703</b>
<b>GST</b>		<b>NO GST</b>
<b>TOTAL COST</b>		<b>\$33,703</b>

## 5. Project staff

Staff	2023/24 FTE
Research Scientist	0.075
Research Officers	0.065
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0.14</b>

## 6. Project cost summary

Cost	Detail	2023/24 Total (\$) Ex GST
Salaries (FTE)		0.14
Salaries (\$)		18,082
<b>Operating</b>		
Payment to industry for surveys (\$)		
Fieldwork (\$)		4,090
Laboratory (\$)		
Travel (\$)		250
Office & communication (\$)		100
Capital equipment (\$)		
SARDI overhead (\$)		11,181
SARDI inkind (\$)		6,739
<b>Total Cost (\$)</b>		<b>40,442</b>
<b>Revenue – PRICE</b>		
Licence Holders (\$)		
<b>Total Revenue (\$)</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>33,703</b>
<b>SARDI Investment (\$)</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>6,739</b>

Explanation of costs above:

*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

### Appendix 3. Provision of aggregated data to Executive Officer, SGWCPFA

Primary data source		Data fields/outputs	Grouping	Delivery date
1.	Skipper's logs (stock assessment surveys)	Replicate shot data as presented in stock assessment survey reports (i.e. Year, Survey Month, Vessel, Shot ID, Shot Location No., Total Catch, Total Catch Rate, 20+ Catch Rate, Bucket Count, Tide, Comments) plus Trawl Duration, Trawl Distance, No. Nets	None (data requested for individual survey trawl shots)	15 August
2.	Stock assessment report (data underpinning figures)	Year, Region (aggregation of blocks), Catch, Effort, CPUE, FIS CPUE (Figs 3.1 to 4.1)	Year/Region	31 October
3.	Commercial fishing logbook – WKP	Year, Month, Departure Date, Catch, Effort, Grade, Grade Wt	Night, Month and Year	28 February
		Year, Month, Region, Catch, Effort, CPUE, No. Nights, No. Vessels	Month, Year and Region	
4.	Commercial fishing logbook – Southern Calamari, Balmain Bug, Arrow squid and octopus	Year, Month, Species, Region, Catch	Month, Year and Region	28 February
5.	Wildlife Interaction Logbook and SARDI Observer data sheet	Year, Month, Region, TEP Species, Nature of Interaction, Status, Fate	Month, Year and Region	28 February

