

PIRSA

Annual Report on PIRSA's Service Delivery on the Cost Recovery Agreement for the Blue Crab Fishery

2019-20



Government
of South Australia
Department of Primary
Industries and Regions

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Contents

Summary of Outcomes for 2019-204

Assessment and Research4

Policy and Management Program5

Legislation Program7

Leasing and Licensing Program.....8

Directorate Program.....9

Compliance Program 10

Summary of Outcomes for 2019-20

Assessment and Research

Funding Source	Deliverables	Date Completed/ Delivered
SLA	Undertook fishery-independent surveys in Gulf St Vincent and Spencer Gulf during March 2020.	March 2020
SLA	Delivered an advice note on the 2020 fishery-independent survey results, including the harvest strategy outcomes.	April 2020
SLA	Delivered the 2018/19 stock assessment report for the Blue Crab Fishery.	May 2020
SLA	Provided presentations on the stock assessment to PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture and the South Australian Blue Crab Pot Fishers Association (SABCPFA).	May 2020
SLA	Collected, collated and stored all key commercial fishery information necessary to assess the fishery and run the harvest strategy.	Ongoing
SLA	Worked with PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture and the SABCPFA to review the research plan and investigate opportunities for new projects and potential additional funding sources.	Ongoing
PIRSA	Provided verbal and written advice to PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture on blue crabs, particularly with respect to quota carry-over.	April 2020
PIRSA	Provided significant scientific support to develop new harvest strategy and Management Plan for the Blue Crab Fishery. Attended harvest strategy working group meeting on 24/2/2020.	Ongoing

Policy and Management Program

	Deliverables
1.	Preparation of a draft management plan, public consultation and finalisation of planned review of the harvest strategy and update of the <i>Management Plan for the South Australian Commercial Blue Crab Fishery</i> ;
2.	Consulted and prepared the instruments under the <i>Fisheries Management Act 2007</i> to continue with the commercial fishing trial through the seasonal closure in Gulf St Vincent.
3.	Consulted and prepared the instruments under the <i>Fisheries Management Act 2007</i> to continue with the Gulf St Vincent fishing closures to limit confrontation between fishing sectors during peak recreational fishing periods.
4.	Provided secretariat, policy and management support to the Blue Crab Fishery Harvest Strategy Review Committee at two meetings and through two out of session items.
5.	Provided Blue Crab Fishery information for the annual report to the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment.
6.	Provided advice to the Minister and his delegate on the recommended 2020/21 TACC, progress on the planned harvest strategy review and finalisation of the management plan.
7.	Prepared for, participated in and followed up on actions related to the cost recovery process for the Blue Crab Fishery.
8.	Reviewed and facilitated government and industry presentations which led to the Blue Crab (<i>Portunus armatus</i>) Fishery 2018/19 assessment report being released by SARDI in April 2020.
9.	Met with SABCPFA Executive Officer formally (quarterly then monthly) and informally on a range of occasions by email and telephone. Attended SABCPFA meeting representing PIRSA.
10.	Held quarterly and ad hoc meetings (12) with SARDI and Compliance to discuss research, compliance and monitoring relevant to the Blue Crab Fishery.
11.	Reviewed and provided comments on the BDO Econsearch 'Economic Indicators for South Australian Blue Crab Fishery 2017/18'.
12.	Communicated with a range of fishers in the industry through face to face discussion, emails and phone calls.
13.	Provided advice to the Minister in relation to the management of fisheries and Ministerial correspondence in relation to the Blue Crab Fishery.
14.	To recommend regulatory amendment to provide for the carry-over of Blue Crab quota as a result of COVID-19 the following was undertaken; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaised with fishery licence holders • Reviewed fishery management arrangements

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewed quota period catch and effort information • Sought advice from SARDI to inform risk to sustainability • Liaised within the PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture Division to ensure accurate statutory interpretation • Provided advice to the Minister on amending the <i>Fisheries Management (Blue Crab) Regulations 2013</i>.
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Legislation Program

	Deliverables
1.	Co-ordinated the introduction, amendment or revocation of fisheries legislation in line with fisheries management/policy decisions i.e. Act or regulation amendments, the introduction of new regulations and drafting of other legislative and administrative instruments such as delegation, ministerial permit or exemption instruments as required under the <i>Fisheries Management Act 2007</i> (the Act). New variation regulations or amendments required the drafting of Cabinet submissions and supporting documentation, including the preparation of drafting instructions, for consideration by Cabinet. This service included co-ordinating the cabinet process involving liaison with the Office of Parliamentary Counsel and the Crown Solicitor's Office and inter agency consultation to ensure that proposed regulatory arrangements are accurately described, drafted and scrutinised before being implemented. Arrangements for electronic transactions / fees for commercial fisheries in Simplify Day 2018/19 Bill supporting correspondence briefings and ministerial documentation. Fees amendment cabinet submissions, settling of variation regulations, supporting briefings, minutes and parliamentary reports.
2.	Input into policy documentation and arrangements and responses to industry correspondence, as necessary.
3.	Coordinated applications for Ministerial exemptions under Part 10 and Permits under Part 7 of the Act.
4.	Provided additional legal services to support, on an as needs basis, the lawful decision-making of the Executive Director Fisheries and Aquaculture and the Director Operations and other delegates of the Minister under the Act to safeguard the ongoing sustainability of the fishery in any particular year (where required); review and coordinate crown input into co-management contract.

Leasing and Licensing Program

	Deliverables
1.	<p>Issued annual fee invoicing packs for all licences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reported licence and quota unit information for cost recovery to assist in calculating new financial year annual fees • Entered new rates into the Primary Industries Information Management System (PIIMS) • Prepared Notice to Fishers for annual fee invoicing pack • Generated and audited invoices to ensure correct annual fee amount was raised • Issued and posted invoices each quarter • Generated 12 monthly debtor's reports to reconcile annual fee payments.
2.	<p>Set up of the new Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC) into PIIMS for the new quota season:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Printed and posted updated registrations and entitlements certificates to all licence holders.
3.	Generated 10 final quota balance statements and posted to all licence holders.
4.	<p>Data entry of 610 CDRs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data entry check of each CDR entered. • Manual filing and archiving of all 610 CDR documents.
5.	Issuing of 12 CDR books into PIIMS and packing and posting to licence holders.
6.	Generated 12 monthly quota status reports for industry on catch status and CDRs received.
7.	<p>System maintenance including auditing user access and system testing after any system update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 317 quota balance statements requested via the online system.
8.	Removal of licence condition from 9 licences and updated licence certificates printed.
9.	Regularly provided copies of CDR documentation to compliance for quota audit checks.
10.	Processed licensing and quota applications and liaised with government stakeholders to verify the credentials of fishers as required.
11.	Provided reports to PIRSA Fisheries Management as required to assist with fishery management decisions.
12.	Provided support via phone or email to any requests from licence holders.
13.	Regular filing and archiving of licensing and quota documentation.

Directorate Program

	Deliverables
1.	Reconciled and prepared financial documentation to ensure accuracy.
2.	Worked with SARDI to prepare project scopes before and after cost recovery meetings with industry.
3.	Developed and prepared draft cost recovery implementation statements and annual report for industry.
4.	Coordinated cost recovery meetings with industry to discuss cost recovery programs for the following financial year, including agenda preparation, drafting of minutes and liaising with industry executive officer to finalise minutes and cost recovery implementation statement.
5.	Prepared standard goods and services agreement to engage contractors (i.e. delivery of Economic Assessment – BDO Advisory (SA) Pty Ltd., engagement of independent scientist as required, etc.).
6.	Followed up action items from cost recovery meetings, responding to cost recovery related correspondence.
7.	Published cost recovery documentation and reports on PIRSA's web site.
8.	Prepared a Cabinet submission and relevant documentation for the Minister to be briefed on the cost recovery process. Liaised with Parliamentary Council to prepare fee regulations for commercial licence fees.
9.	Ongoing review of PIRSA's cost recovery policy, costing models and processes to achieve continuous improvement and transparency.

Compliance Program

	Deliverables
	<p>The coordination of compliance outputs is guided by a fishery specific compliance plan which was initially developed in consultation with the Blue Crab Fishery and is reviewed annually.</p> <p>The plan ensures compliance effort is intelligence driven, efficient, cost effective and outcome focused. The plan comprises three core outputs (Education and Awareness, Effective Deterrence and Enforcement) and is optimised towards increasing voluntary compliance and maximising effective deterrence.</p> <p>Analysis of intelligence and information holdings is regularly conducted to identify the major Compliance risks to the sustainability of the Fishery. The combination of strategies, actions, and initiatives are critical to focus the primary compliance effort to manage the risks and achieve targeted outcomes.</p> <p>The Blue Crab Fishery Compliance Reports are produced annually and forwarded to the Executive Officer, BCF.</p>



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