

Annual Report on PIRSA's Service Delivery on the Cost Recovery Agreement for the Northern Zone Rock Lobster Fishery

2021-22



Government
of South Australia
Department of Primary
Industries and Regions

Annual Report on PIRSA's Service Delivery on the Cost Recovery Agreement for the Northern Zone Rock Lobster Fishery 2021-22

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Summary of Outcomes for 2021-22

Assessment and Research

Funding Source	Deliverables	Date Completed /Delivered
SLA	Delivered end-of-season (2020/21) NZ presentations to PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture and the RLFMAC	July 2021
SLA	Delivered Status report for NZ (2020/21 season)	October 2021
SLA	Delivered Stock Assessment report for Northern Zone (2020/21 season)	July 2022
PIRSA	Supported finalization and implementation of the NZRLF Harvest Strategy and Management Plan	December 2021
FRDC	Project continuation: Improving Southern Rock Lobster on-vessel handling practices, data collection and industry tools for lobster quality assessment (FRDC project 2019/028)	June 2022
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).	June 2022
FRDC	Project completion: Assessing the efficiency of alternative pot designs for the Southern Rock Lobster (<i>Jasus edwardsii</i>) Fishery (FRDC project 2016/258).	Revised completion date is April 2023

Policy and Management Program

	Deliverables
1.	<p>Participated in inter- and intra-departmental meetings and workshops on issues relevant to fisheries management.</p> <p>Coordinated frequent and regular meetings across the Fisheries and Aquaculture Division to coordinate the management of the Northern Zone Rock Lobster Fishery including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the Undercatch/Overcatch Policy Paper • RLFMAC and RSC Meetings • Carry-over of uncaught quota entitlements • Changes to duration of the fishing season.
2.	<p>Liaised 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.</p> <p>Numerous meetings were held in relation to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The carry-over of uncaught quota entitlements from the 2020/21 quota periods to the 2021/22 quota period. • The setting of the TACC for the respective zones of the fishery for the 2021/22 quota period. • The Marine Scalefish Fishery (MSF) reform, including the setting of the TACCs for MSF species. • Access to Australian Salmon. • MSF access under Options A, B and C. • The disruption to the market. • Supported research related to heavy metals in Australian Rock Lobster
3.	<p>Liaise within PIRSA, with other government agencies and with industry representatives in implementing decisions relevant to fisheries management.</p> <p>Provided a wide range of information relevant to the management of the Northern Zone Rock Lobster Fishery (NZRLF), this work includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attending and speaking at West Coast Crayfishermen's Association meetings • Attending and speaking at the SANZRLFA Annual General Meeting (AGM) • Consulting with Rock Lobster Fishery Management Advisory Committee (RLFMAC) members on the draft PIRSA carry-over and over-catch policy • Attending two RLFMAC and two Research Subcommittee meetings (July 2021 and February 2022) • Three informal meetings with the Executive Officer of the SANZRLFA regarding carry-over and over-catch, access to MSF species and transferring quota from Outer Region to Inner Region • Invited EO SANZRLFA to presentation on implementation of the Undercatch/Overcatch Policy Paper

4.	<p>Conducted 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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As part of the MSF reform undertook a review of the options to access MSF species • Implemented arrangements to carry-over uncaught 2020/21 quota entitlements on individual licences • Undertook a review of the draft Economic and Social Indicators for the Northern Zone Rock Lobster Fishery 2020/21 report • Reviewed the SARDI 2020/21 Northern Zone Rock Lobster Stock Assessment report • Reviewed the SARDI 2021/22 Northern Zone Rock Lobster Stock Status report • Reviewed report on annual TEPS interaction reports across all commercial fisheries • Provided annual report as required under the Rock Lobster export approval under the EPBC Act
5.	<p>Coordinated consultation with fishery stakeholders through established co-management processes.</p> <p>Coordinated industry consultations regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expert fisheries management advice at RLFMAC meetings and Research Subcommittee meetings (July 2021 and February 2022) • Discussions on setting the TACC, access to MSF species and PIRSA carry-over and over-catch regulation at port meetings. • Transfer of Outer Region quota entitlements to the Inner Region • Application of the harvest strategy in the fishery
6.	<p>Participated in industry liaison in the field to strengthen fishery management knowledge and understanding and develop rapport with licence holder.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended and participated in the West Coast Crayfishermen's Association AGM. • Attended and participated in the SANZRLFA AGM.
7.	<p>Participated in industry development initiatives related to fisheries management.</p> <p>In order to alleviate the impact of the disruption to the Chinese market PIRSA has worked with industry to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and implement arrangements to permit winter fishing in the Inner Region of fishery in 2021/22 • Develop and implement arrangements to carry-over uncaught quota entitlements from the 2020/21 quota period to the 2021/22 quota period, in both the Inner and Outer Regions of the fishery. • Developed and sought arrangements to implement the to implement the Undercatch/Overcatch Policy Paper. • Sought amended regulations to allow fishers market flexibility including selling product directly to the public.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amendments to the management arrangements above included the development of updated government gazette notices, notices to fishers and associated correspondence.
8.	<p>Attending to general correspondence and enquiries relevant to fisheries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PIRSA has responded to correspondence from licence holders, the RLFMAC, and the SANZRLFA. Responses to the RLFMAC have been the mechanism to confirm positions in relation to the primary management issues in the fishery including, setting the TACCs (Inner and Outer Region), the carry-over and over-catch of quota entitlements and winter fishing.
9.	<p>Provided advice to the Minister in relation to the management of fisheries and Ministerial correspondence.</p> <p>PIRSA has provided advice to the Minister in relation to the setting of the TACC, the carry-over and over-catch of quota entitlements, winter fishing, the impact of the disruption to the Chinese market, MSF species TACCs and access arrangements.</p>
10.	<p>Communicated on fisheries management issues to key stakeholder groups and the broader community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Setting the TACCs (Inner and Outer Region). Management arrangements for Marine Scalefish Fishery priority species (Snapper, garfish, King George Whiting and Calamari) in the South East, GSV, Spencer Gulf and West Coast management zones. Input into update of the NZRLF Operator User Guide Liaised with the Ministers Recreational Fishery Management Advisory Committee in relation to winter fishing.

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. Input into fees amendment submissions, settling of notices, 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).

Leasing and Licensing Program

	Deliverables
1.	<p>Issued annual fee invoicing packs for 63 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 invoices and SMS reminders 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> <p>Printed and posted 63 updated registrations and entitlements certificates to all licence holders.</p>
3.	<p>Generated final quota balance statements and posted to all 63 licence holders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calculated any quota adjustments required to be entered into PIIMS. • Generated and posted updated registration and entitlements certificates.
4.	<p>Data entry of 938 CDRs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data entry check of each CDR entered. <p>Manual filing and archiving of all 938 CDR documents.</p>
5.	Manual recording and separate approvals for each of the 10 CDRs with mortalities.
6.	<p>Issuing of bin tags in PIIMS to licence holders on 57 occasions requiring packaging for posting.</p> <p>Adjustment in PIIMS for lost/damaged bin tags on 3 occasions.</p>
7.	Issuing of 21 CDR books into PIIMS and packing and posting to licence holders.
8.	Generated 12 monthly quota status reports for industry on catch status and CDRs received.
9.	<p>System maintenance including auditing user access and system testing after any system update:</p> <p>783 quota balance statements requested via the online system.</p>

10.	Regularly provided copies of CDR documentation to compliance for quota audit checks.
11.	<p>Processed 214 applications which included liaising with government stakeholders to verify the credentials of fishers as below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 vary boat applications • 7 licence transfer applications • 13 vary master applications • 177 quota transfer applications • 2 third party interest applications
12.	Generated reports on licensing information for compliance or fishery management purposes as requested.
13.	Provided support via phone or email to any requests from licence holders.
14.	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 reports 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.	Followed up action items from cost recovery meetings, responding to cost recovery related correspondence.
6.	Published cost recovery documentation and reports on PIRSA's web site.
7.	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.
8.	Ongoing review of PIRSA's cost recovery policy, costing models and processes to achieve continuous improvement and transparency.
9.	Coordinated co-management services request for the South Australian Northern Zone Rock Lobster Fishermen's Association and prepared standard goods and services agreement for execution.

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 Northern Zone Rock Lobster 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 Northern Zone Rock Lobster Fishery Compliance Reports are produced and forwarded to the Executive Officer, South Australian Northern Zone Rock Lobster Fishermen's Association.</p>

