

# SOUTHERN ZONE ROCK LOBSTER FISHERY COMPLIANCE PROGRAM 2015/2016

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## COMPLIANCE PROGRAM SUMMARY

PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture teams undertake coordinated compliance activities to educate fishers, deter opportunistic and financially motivated fishery related offences and enforce the rules and regulations.

In consultation with industry a dedicated compliance plan has been developed for the Southern Zone Rock Lobster fishery. This compliance plan was developed to direct effort and ensure compliance activities are intelligence driven, efficient, cost effective and outcome focussed. The compliance plan is underpinned by three core strategies (Education and Awareness, Effective Deterrence and Appropriate Enforcement) and is focussed towards increasing voluntary compliance and maximising effective deterrence.

An analysis of intelligence and information holdings is conducted to identify the major risks for the fishery. A series of strategies, actions, and initiatives are detailed and used to focus the primary compliance effort in order to manage the risks and achieve targeted outcomes.

## OBJECTIVES

This program provides a compliance framework to monitor and regulate fishing activities that support the sustainable commercial take of Rock Lobster in accordance with the Act and the Southern Zone Rock Lobster fishery Management Plan.

The plan provides a focus for Fisheries Officers to undertake coordinated compliance activities to educate fishers, deter opportunistic and financially motivated fishery related offences, and enforce the rules and regulations of the fishery.

Any compliance related risks or emerging trends/issues of significance that arise outside the plan are addressed as required.

The risks and strategies are regularly reviewed and assessed for relevance to ensure compliance activities meet the following objectives:

- Meet the objectives of the *Fisheries Management Act 2007*;
- To promote compliance with the *Fisheries Management (Rock Lobster Fisheries) Regulations 2006*;
- To support meeting the goals and objectives of the Southern Zone Rock Lobster Fishery Management Plan;
- To promote increased voluntary compliance;
- To deliver an effective education and awareness program;
- Continue developing effective deterrence strategies;
- Undertake appropriate enforcement activities;
- Increase integrity in fishery management systems and/or quota systems;
- Promote positive interactions & collaboration with stakeholders;

- To deliver an efficient and effective compliance program.

## **COMPLIANCE EFFORT**

- Monitoring of Southern Zone Rock Lobster fishery management and quota systems for compliance and integrity;
- Offence identification and response;
- Operational and investigation planning and surveillance;
- Risk assessments, trend and threat analysis;
- Master Operational Planning process;
- Legislative review for efficacy and relevance;
- Industry liaison and education.

## **ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES**

The principal outcome of this compliance program is to support sustainable management of the Southern Zone Rock Lobster fishery by:

- Increased voluntary compliance;
- Continued development of effective deterrence strategies;
- Accurate intelligence and risk predictions;
- Successful enforcement outcomes for repeat or serious offences;
- Development of efficient and cost effective compliance strategies;
- Continued development of stakeholder engagement programs;
- Reduced incidence of reported illegal activity
- Reduced incidence of documentation errors and inconsistencies
- Increased integrity in fishery management systems and/or quota systems
- Increased positive interactions & collaboration with stakeholders

## **PROGRAM DELIVERY**

The Fisheries & Aquaculture Operations Group comprises three Regional Operations teams, an Offshore Patrol Operations team and an Intelligence & Strategic Support team. The compliance program dedicated to the Southern Zone Rock Lobster fishery is primarily delivered by Fisheries Officers from the Limestone Coast Region with support, as required, by officers from the Offshore Operations and other regional teams.

## **PROGRAM STRATEGIES AND SUPPORTING ACTIONS & INITIATIVES**

The compliance program is tailored to the Southern Zone Rock Lobster fishery and uses a number of initiatives and actions that fall under the three core strategies of Education & Awareness, Effective Deterrence and Appropriate Enforcement. These initiatives and actions are outlined in the Southern Zone Rock Lobster fishery compliance plan which has been developed in consultation with the sector.

## PROGRAM EFFORT ALLOCATION

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's management
- changes to fishing practices
- additional pressures or influences on fishers or the fishery
- intelligence holdings
- trends or change behaviours that require 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 the fishery

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

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

Strategy/Activities	Days	FTE	Cost (\$)
<b>Education Awareness</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct pre-season education meetings and participate in industry days.</li> <li>• Provide electronic distribution of educational material to fishers and licence holders at the start of the season.</li> <li>• Ensure all interested parties understand their respective obligations and the compliance focus for the coming season.</li> <li>• Develop Industry communication &amp; relationship program to facilitate discussion of industry issues and queries.</li> <li>• Ongoing one on one education during inspections and interactions</li> </ul>	282	1.41	340,529
<b>Effective Deterrence</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure all aspects of the Quota Management System are monitored such as chain of custody requirements in catch disposal records (CDR) including auditing.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	703	3.52	848,907

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct intelligence driven operations and use appropriate enforcement action</li> <li>• Respond to reported incidents/issues</li> <li>• Establish &amp; maintain communication strategy</li> </ul>			
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<b>Enforcement</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate reports of non-compliance and where appropriate take action</li> <li>• Issue expiations, cautions and court enforced actions.</li> </ul>	187	0.93	225,813
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1172</b>	<b>5.86</b>	<b>1,415,249</b>

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

All values have been rounded to the nearest dollar figure

FINAL DOCUMENT