

Annual Report on PIRSA's Service Delivery on the Cost Recovery Agreement for the Pipi Fishery and Net Sector (Lakes and Coorong)

2022-23

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Summary of Outcomes for 2022-23

Assessment and Research Finfish Sector

Funding Source	Deliverables	Date Completed /Delivered
SLA	Mulloway stock assessment, fishery statistics, stock status and environmental performance indicator report delivered	June 2023
SLA	Presentations of fishery statistics, stock status and environmental performance indicator report provided to PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture and industry as required.	June 2023
Other SLA	Assessment of the South Australian Marine Scalefish Fishery	September 2023
PIRSA	Support the implementation of the finfish harvest strategy and LCF Management Plan	June 2023
PIRSA	Work with PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture and industry to support the recovery of Black Bream and Greenback Flounder.	June 2023, but completed for Black Bream only as this was considered the priority
PIRSA	Work with PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture and industry, as required, in fisher-LNFS interactions.	June 2023
PIRSA	Support MSC re-accreditation of Yelloweye Mullet and Mulloway.	Not completed; SFA did not proceed with MSC re-accreditation
FRDC	Project continuation: Seal-fisher-ecosystem interactions in the Lower Lakes and Coorong: understanding causes and impacts to develop longer-term solutions (FRDC project 2018/036; Principal Investigator: Dr Jason Earl).	June 2023
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; Principal Investigator: Dr Crystal Beckmann).	June 2023

Pipi Sector

Funding Source	Deliverables	Date Completed /Delivered
SLA	Completed fishery-independent biomass surveys.	May 2023
SLA	Delivered Advice Note on survey biomass and Pipi stock status.	May 2023
SLA	Delivered survey biomass and stock status presentations to PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture, Industry and the LCFMAC.	June 2023
SLA	Completed fishery-independent pre-recruit surveys.	May 2023
PIRSA	Supported the implementation of the Pipi harvest strategy and LCF Management Plan.	March 2023
PIRSA	Delivered Advice Note on bycatch from 2022/23 SARDI Pipi surveys.	May 2023
PIRSA	Supported Pipi MSC annual review and audit.	June 2023
FRDC/Goolwa Pipi Co.	Project continuation: Innovative Pipi harvesting based on real time biological and economic data (FRDC project 2017/151; Principal Investigator: Tom Robinson). Support modification of the existing project to encompass translocation.	June 2023
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; Principal Investigator: Dr Crystal Beckmann).	June 2023

Fisheries Management Program

	Deliverables	Due date
1.	PIRSA to action items that arise as a result of a workshop to examine the results of previous initiatives and future initiatives to help fishers with seal interactions in the Lakes and Coorong.	30 December 2022
2.	Review the Fisheries Management (Lakes and Coorong) Regulations 2009 and support implementation of amendments if required.	1 September 2022
3.	Assist the finfish sector to transition to electronic reporting.	30 June 2023
4.	Participated in inter- and intra-departmental meetings and workshops on issues relevant to fisheries management.	Ongoing
5.	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.	Ongoing
6.	Liaise within PIRSA, with other government agencies and with industry representatives in implementing decisions relevant to fisheries management.	Ongoing
7.	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, within fisheries policy.	Ongoing
8.	<p>Consulted with industry and SARDI in regard to the future management for Black bream stocks in the LCF which included:</p> <p>Working with industry to establish a Black Bream Working Group to develop a Black Bream Recovery Strategy (December 2022, March 2023)</p> <p>Working with SARDI to develop Performance Indicators and Reference Points to recover the Black Bream stock (December 2022, March 2023)</p> <p>Progressing the development of a Black Bream Recovery Strategy through the Working Group and Lakes and Coorong Fishery Management Advisory Committee (June 2023).</p>	<p>December 2022</p> <p>March 2023</p> <p>June 2023</p>
9.	<p>Coordinate consultation with fishery stakeholders through established co-management processes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lakes and Coorong Fishery Management Advisory Committee (LCFMAC) Lakes and Coorong Fishery Consultative Committee 	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

10.	Participate in industry liaison in the field and on vessels to strengthen fishery management knowledge and understanding, and develop rapport with licence holders.	Ongoing
11.	Participate in industry development initiatives related to fisheries management.	Ongoing
12.	Attend to general correspondence and enquiries relevant to the Lakes and Coorong Fishery.	Ongoing
13.	Provide advice to Minister in relation to the management of fisheries and Ministerial correspondence.	Ongoing
14.	Established PIRSA Pipi Weighing Working Group to examine methods to weight all Pipi harvested and deducted from CDRs.	June 2023
15.	Communicate on fisheries management issues to key stakeholder groups and the broader community.	Ongoing
16.	Continue to support MSC accreditation for the Pipi sector Support process for finfish sector MSC re-accreditation	Ongoing

Legal Services Program

	Deliverables
1.	Co-ordinated and reviewed 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 that required drafting of Cabinet submissions and supporting documentation, including the preparation of drafting instructions, for consideration by Cabinet – in particular amendments to the <i>Fisheries Management (Lakes and Coorong Fishery) Regulations 2009</i> and <i>Fisheries management (General) Regulations 2017</i> to implement changes to fishing gear entitlements for taking yabbies. This service included co-ordinating and reviewing 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 were accurately described, drafted and scrutinised before being implemented.
2.	Reviewed licensing arrangements required on an as needs basis to lawfully implement approved fishery management policy and measures within the limitations of the Act. The services included working with the Licensing program (part of Leasing and Licensing) and policy program to ensure licence conditions were effective and where necessary to implement efficient administrative systems and finalised forms and instruments that were legally sound.
3.	Problem solved and reviewed policy developments together with the provision and co-ordination of legal advisory services in liaison with the Crown Solicitor's office relating to 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.
4.	Coordinated applications for Ministerial exemptions under Part 10 Division 1 and Permits under Part 7 Division 2 of the Act and reviewed draft notices.
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, implemented new fisheries management arrangements (for example the introduction or variation of a quota system, carry over of quota arrangements) or new administrative or compliance arrangements (for example, changes to licensing processes, conditions, introduction of closures).
6.	Supported compliance with statutory interpretation, problem solving and correspondence advice (per above).

Leasing and Licensing Program

Deliverables	
	Services to directly support the fishery
1.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issued and maintained fishery licences. • Issued annual fee invoicing packs for 36 licences. • Printed and posted 14 updated registrations and entitlements certificates to all licence holders. • Manual filing and archiving of all 596 CDR documents. • Issued bin tags in PIIMS to licence holders on 32 occasions requiring packaging for posting. • Issued 9 CDR books in PIIMS and packed and posted to licence holders. • Regular filing and archiving of licensing and quota documentation.
2.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Database management for licence and licence holder information. • Set up of the new Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC) into PIIMS for the new quota season. • System maintenance including auditing user access and system testing after any system update.
3.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitored and supported eBusiness systems. • 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).
4.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quota monitoring and management including applying overcatch and undercatch adjustments. • Generated final quota balance statements and posted to all 14 licence holders. • Calculated all quota adjustments required to be entered into PIIMS. • Generated and posted updated registration and entitlements certificates. • Data entry of 596 paper CDRs and electronic monitoring of 323 CDRs submitted via eCatch. • Data entry check of each CDR entered.
5.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collected licence fees and associated payments. • Generated and audited invoices to ensure correct annual fee amount was raised. • Issued invoices and SMS reminders each quarter

6.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Composed and sent quarterly instalment notices.
7.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recorded and tracked unpaid invoices. Generated 12 monthly debtor's reports to reconcile annual fee payments.
8.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Composed and sent late payment instalment notices for unpaid quarterly instalments.
9.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drafted and issued notices to fishers. Prepared Notice to Fishers for annual fee invoicing pack
10.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Processed 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 and quota, application for licence transfers, boat changes, gear enquiries and fishing regulations. 39 quota balance statements requested via the online system.
11.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regularly update information about licence holders.
12.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Researched and prepared documents for public record.
13.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liaised with government stakeholders to verify the credentials of fishers. Processed 10 applications which included liaising with government stakeholders to verify the credentials of fishers as below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 1 vary master application ➤ 12 quota transfer applications ➤ 1 vary boat application ➤ 1 licence transfer application
14.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liaised with PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture, SARDI Aquatic Sciences, Crown Solicitors and other state and local agencies on matters relevant to the fishery. Regularly provided copies of CDR documentation to compliance for quota audit checks.
15.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drafted and updated licence conditions over the duration of the licensing year as determined by the Executive Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture.
16.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provided information to licence holders relating to the requirements pursuant to licence administration.
17.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Managed calls from fishers regarding late payment notices, fees and general enquiries about their licences.
18.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provided support regarding 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. Provided support via phone or email to any requests from licence holders.

	Services to support fisheries management
1.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participated in inter- and intra-departmental meetings and workshops on issues relevant to the fishing industry.
2.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liaised with relevant staff within PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture in implementing decisions relevant to the fishery.
3.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interrogated the PIIMS database to extract information for other stakeholders to use in preparing reports.
4.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepared reports requested by internal and external customers including maintenance of a public register of licence holders. Generated 12 monthly quota status reports for industry on catch status and CDRs received.
5.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liaised with information technology providers to maintain PIIMS and administer licensing requests.
6.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generated quota management reports to update stakeholders on varying Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC) returns and end of season quota holdings (Pipi sector). Extended term of licences in line with management plan extension and posted out new licence and entitlement certificates to all licence holders.

Directorate Program

	Deliverables
1.	Coordinated and facilitated the cost recovery processes and program agreements, including liaising with program providers, managers and financial services as required.
2.	Met with industry on matters relating to cost recovery, licence setting and related policy issues.
3.	Developed and reviewed cost recovery policy, processes, program agreements.
4.	Managed major service providers' contractual agreements, and co-management services contractual agreements with industry associations.
5.	Project managed and administered 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.
6.	Provided advice on procurement and invoicing requirements.
7.	Consulted 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.
8.	Ongoing review, development and documentation of the cost recovery model, framework, processes and roles.
9.	Met agreed timeframes on management and administration of external contractual services.
10.	Coordinated a review of the Co-Management Services request form, managed industry association co management services requests and payments.
11.	Provided administrative support to the Independent Cost Recovery Review Panel, e.g. mail outs to all licence/lease holders, meeting coordination, travel bookings and other adhoc administration support during the review.
12.	Provided an Annual Report on PIRSA's service delivery on the cost recovery agreement to the Executive Officer.

Compliance Program

Deliverables

The coordination of compliance outputs is guided by industry specific compliance plans for the Net (finfish) sector and the Papi sector, which was initially developed in consultation with the Lakes and Coorong Fishery (L&CF) industry and are reviewed annually.

Each plan ensures compliance effort is intelligence driven, efficient, cost effective and outcome focused. The plans comprise three core outputs (Education and Awareness, Effective Deterrence and Enforcement) and are optimised towards increasing voluntary compliance and maximising effective deterrence.

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.

The Lakes and Coorong Fishery (L&CF) Compliance Reports for each of the Net and Papi sectors are produced and forwarded to the Executive Officer, Southern Fisherman's Association (SFA).