

# Chair's Assessment Outcomes Report

## Allocation Review Committee

### Assessment of the Commercial only allocation of Southern Calamari

In conducting the full assessment of the commercial only allocation of Southern Calamari, the Allocation Review Committee (ARC) held formal meetings on 20 December 2023 and 14 February 2024.

The ARC noted the findings of the Stage 1 assessment, required under the Allocation Policy, and conducted by the Calamari Allocation Working Group. This Group had identified that the percentage share of SGPF catch of Southern Calamari had exceeded commercial allocation triggers as laid out in the 2013 MSF Management Plan. The Plan had based allocation on the best available information at the time and included the provision that 'catch will be used as the [proxy] indicator to measure changes in the value of shares'. Consequently, the Group recommended the need for a full Stage 2 review of the allocation.

In undertaking a Stage 2 assessment, the ARC noted that the MSF Management Plan (s 6.2) refers to any review of allocation to be in accordance with the 2011 Allocation Policy. This Policy states that "shares to aquatic resources should be expressed explicitly, as the proportional share of each fishing sector to the sustainable yield of the aquatic resources the subject of the management."<sup>1</sup> The ARC also noted that at the time the MSF Management Plan was finalized, the RBC was not available to allocate sectoral shares.

The ARC has interpreted sustainable yield as the Recommended Biological Catch (RBC). This is for two reasons. Firstly, it is a practical annual value whereas Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY) is a long-term equilibrium and secondly, the Allocation Policy refers to annual consideration/monitoring which is consistent with the use of an RBC.

Therefore, to determine whether there has been a change in allocation, the relevant question the ARC addressed was whether Spencer Gulf Prawn Fishery catch of Southern Calamari, as a proportion of the commercial sector RBC, had exceeded primary, secondary or tertiary triggers. To determine this, the ARC requested the South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI) to model RBC for Southern Calamari for the years under review.

Consideration of the SGPF catch levels against sectoral allocations of the Commercial RBC showed that within the assessment years considered, 2016/17 to 2022/23 (see **Appendix 1**):

- 1) There has been no breach of the 2013 MSF Management Plan Primary Trigger 1 (catches of Southern Calamari by the Spencer Gulf Prawn Fishery exceeding 7.5 % in the assessment year)
- 2) There has been no breach of Primary Trigger 2 (catches of Southern Calamari by the Spencer Gulf Prawn Fishery exceeding 8.2% of the Commercial RBC in three consecutive years, or four of the five years). The ARC notes, however, that in 2022/23 catches of Southern Calamari by the Spencer Gulf Prawn Fishery exceeded 8.2%.

---

<sup>1</sup> p. 11, "How are Shares Expressed?"

# Chair's Assessment Outcomes Report

- 3) There has been no breach of the 2013 MSF Management Plan Primary Trigger 3 (catches of Southern Calamari by the Spencer Gulf Prawn Fishery exceeding 11.2% in any one year of the Commercial RBC)

Consequently, the ARC recommends that **NO ACTION IS REQUIRED.**

While outside the Terms of Reference, the ARC **recommends:**

Consistent with the Allocation Policy, future assessments conducted by Working Groups undertaking a Stage 1 review should be assessed based on the catch of a fishery and/or sector against the RBC (or proxy if available) to determine the need for a Stage 2 review by the ARC.

.....

**Dr Kate Brooks**


Independent Chair of the Allocation Review Committee

# Chair's Assessment Outcomes Report


## Appendix 1: SPGF Catch against RBC

(SPGF = Spencer Gulf Prawn Fishery Catch, RBC = Recommended Biological Catch, RBCC = Recommended Biological Commercial Catch)


	RBC (t)	RBCC (t)	SGPF Catch (t)	SGPF catch as % of total RBC (to check trigger 1)	SGPF catch as % of RBCC (to check triggers 2 and 3)
2016/17	873	537.77	42.04	4.82	7.82%
2017/18	884	544.54	40.20	4.55	7.38%
2018/19	857	527.91	32.36	3.78	6.13%
2019/20	873	537.77	29.69	3.40	5.52%
2020/21	892	549.47	42.86	4.81	7.80%
2021/22	875	539.00	39.35	4.50	7.30%
2022/23	895	551.32	59.46	6.64	10.79%

 Fishery Allocation = 4.6 (whole sector level)

Commercial Allocation = 7.47

 Trigger 1 = 7.5% (sector/ fishery level)

Trigger 2 breach = 8.2% (commercial only - triggers when there have been 3 consecutive years, or 4 of the previous 5 over trigger)

 Trigger 3 breach = 11.2% (commercial only)