



Australian Government
Australian Fisheries Management Authority



Skipjack Tuna Fishery



MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS BOOKLET



2015 FISHING SEASON

Important Note:

Every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained in this document is correct and accurate at the time of printing. However, the information provided is intended to serve as a guide only, and therefore AFMA shall in no way be liable for any loss caused, whether due to negligence or otherwise, arising from the use of or reliance upon this document. The document is not intended to replace any operator's concession concerning the conditions under which they are required to operate. Depending on the terms, provisions and conditions of the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* and the *Fisheries Management Regulations 1992* some of the items discussed in this booklet may not apply to a particular fishing operation. Web addresses for these documents can be found in the attachments or they can be accessed via links on AFMA's website.

www.afma.gov.au



Protecting our fishing future

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Acronyms

AFMA	Australian Fisheries Management Authority
AFZ	Australian Fishing Zone
ALC	Automatic Location Communicator
CDR	Catch Disposal Record
CTF	Commonwealth Managed Fisheries Transit Form
DNIN	Data Network Identification Number
DoE	Department of Environment
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
EPBC Act	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>
ESTF	Eastern Skipjack Tuna Fishery
FRDC	Fisheries Research and Development Corporation
FRP	Fish Receiver Permit
ICVMS	Integrated Computer Vessel Monitoring System
IOTC	Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
ISMP	Integrated Scientific Monitoring Program
ITQ	Individual Transferable Quota
MAC	Management Advisory Committee
MPA	Marine Protected Area
MOU	Memorandum Of Understanding
OCS	Offshore Constitutional Settlement
QTS	Quota Transaction Statement
RAG	Resource Assessment Group
SBT	Southern Bluefin Tuna
STF	Skipjack Tuna Fishery
SFR	Statutory Fishing Right
TACC	Total Allowable Commercial Catch
TAP	Threat Abatement Plan
WCPFC	Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission
WSTF	Western Skipjack Tuna Fishery



Introduction to the fishery

This booklet summarises the management arrangements for the Skipjack Tuna Fishery (STF) including relevant fisheries management permit/licence conditions and arrangements that have been agreed to at a policy level.

This booklet is intended as a guide only. The complete requirements for operators in the STF are detailed in several key documents. It is the responsibility of the concession holder to familiarise themselves with these documents:

- *Fisheries Management Act 1991*;
- *Fisheries Management Regulations 1992*;
- *Eastern Skipjack Fishery General Conditions 2015 Season*; and
- *Western Skipjack Fishery General Conditions 2015 Season*.

The STF is comprised of the Eastern Skipjack Tuna Fishery (ESTF) and the Western Skipjack Tuna Fishery (WSTF). The ESTF generally covers waters east of 141°E and the WSTF waters west of 141°E (see maps on page 27). The area encompassed incorporates nearly the entire AFZ (including waters around Norfolk Island, Christmas and Cocos [Keeling] Islands, but excluding Heard Island and McDonald Islands and Macquarie Island) together with high seas in the areas of competence of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) and the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).

The Management Arrangements Booklet for the Skipjack Tuna Fishery

The Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) has prepared this guide to the management arrangements for the STF and we hope that you find it to be a useful source of information about how the management arrangements work in this fishery.

If there is anything that you do not understand in this booklet, if you need further information, or if you want to discuss your specific access arrangements to the fishery, please contact AFMA Direct for the cost of a local call on **1300 723 621**.

We would also like to hear your feedback about how useful this booklet is, and welcome your suggestions on ways we could improve it for next year. You can provide any comments you may have by calling AFMA Direct on **1300 723 621**.

The role of AFMA

The STF is managed by AFMA, in accordance with the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* (the Act). In managing the fishery, AFMA is required to pursue the objectives of the Act. These objectives include:

- Implementing efficient and cost effective fisheries management;
- Pursuing ecologically sustainable development;
- Maximising the net economic returns to the Australian community;
- Ensuring accountability; and
- Achieving Australian Government targets in relation to cost recovery.



Please refer to www.afma.gov.au for details of the objectives of the Act.

What do I need to fish in the fishery?

Before going fishing

The ESTF and WSTF are currently managed through a Fishing Permit system. Fishing Permits are issued to operators annually from 1 July. Currently, there are 18 ESTF permits and 14 WSTF permits. You must hold a fishing permit to fish in the STF.

What gear can I use?

The STF fishing permit authorises the use of Purse Seine fishing.

If you are fishing north of the parallel of latitude 20°S by purse seine method, you must not deploy or fish around a fish aggregating device;

Note: 'Fish Aggregating Device' or 'FAD' means an object or group of objects, of any size, that has or has not been deployed, that is living or non-living, including but not limited to buoys, floats, netting, webbing, plastics, bamboo, logs and whale sharks floating on or near the surface of the water that fish may associate with.

What species can I catch?

Primary Species

Skipjack tuna is the only target species in the fishery. You must retain on board and land all skipjack tuna taken.

There is a 30,000 tonne catch limit of Skipjack Tuna within the ESTF. When 85% of this limit is reached, monitoring will increase. When the limit is reached, the fishery will be closed for the remainder of the season.

Secondary Species

Secondary species refers to any species of fish, other than the primary species, that can be taken and retained in the area of the fishery.

- In the ESTF, the catch of the following species is allowed provided it is done in accordance with the quota arrangements under the *Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery Management Plan 2010*:
 - a) Albacore Tuna
 - b) Bigeye Tuna
 - c) Broadbill Swordfish
 - d) Striped Marlin
 - e) Yellowfin Tuna

- In the WSTF, the catch of the following species is allowed provided it is done in accordance with the quota arrangements under the *Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery Management Plan 2005*:
 - f) Bigeye Tuna
 - g) Broadbill Swordfish
 - h) Striped Marlin
 - i) Yellowfin Tuna



- In the STF, the catch of Southern Bluefin Tuna is allowed provided it is done in accordance with the quota arrangements under the *Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery Management Plan 1995*.

The catch of secondary species (total combined live weight) in the ESTF is limited to a seasonal catch of 2% of the total live weight of skipjack tuna taken and a trip limit of 50% of the skipjack live weight.

Offshore Constitutional Settlement (OCS) Arrangements

Within the area of the STF, the Commonwealth has Offshore Constitutional Settlement (OCS) arrangements with Queensland, Northern Territory, Western Australia, South Australia, Victoria and Tasmania. Through these arrangements, AFMA has jurisdiction over waters relevant to the STF, off these States and Territories.

What forms do I have to fill in?

You should be aware of all the requirements for completing logbooks and required forms before you go fishing. You should complete the following forms in accordance with the instructions outlined in the logbooks. Note that some parts of the following forms may need to be completed before, during and after fishing.

- Your **LOGBOOK**
 - You must complete the **PS01A** logbook (Australian Purse Seine Daily Fishing Log) and record details of each shot.

Note: Paper logbooks now cost \$8.40 per fishing day.

- A **CATCH DISPOSAL RECORD (PT02B)**
 - A **PT02B** Catch Disposal Record (CDR) must be completed by you at the time of landing. **PT02B** forms are numbered and accountable so if you make a mistake or damage a form and want to cancel it, you have to clearly mark it as cancelled and send it to AFMA.
- A **TRANSIT FORM (CTF)**
 - If a consignment of fish is split between more than one truck, a completed Commonwealth Managed Fishery Transit Form (CTF) must accompany **every** load that is going to the same receiver. The Catch Disposal Record (**PT02B**) must also accompany the last load.
- The **SOUTHERN BLUEFIN TUNA CATCH DOCUMENTATION SCHEME**
 - The purpose of the Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS) is to allow individual SBT to be tracked from the point of capture to the point of sale.
 - Under the CDS the fish must be tagged and the following CDS logbooks are used; Catch Tagging Form (**CTAU02A**), Catch Monitoring Forms (**CMAU02A**) and Re-Export/Export After Landing of Domestic Product (**REAU02**).



- For full details of how to complete the CDS logbooks please refer to the *Southern Bluefin Tuna Catch Documentation Longline Handbook* (available on the AFMA website) and the detailed instructions included under the “**Southern Bluefin Tuna Catch Documentation Scheme**” below.

Failure to complete these forms according to the instructions and/or failure to lodge returns in time is a breach of your concession conditions. AFMA may then issue you with a fine or you may be prosecuted.

Vessel Monitoring System (VMS)

It is your responsibility to ensure that any vessel nominated to your fishing permit is fitted with an Integrated Computer Vessel Monitoring System (ICVMS) of a category specified in the register of AFMA approved Automatic Location Communicators (ALCs). This register can be found at <http://www.afma.gov.au/fisheries-services/vessel-monitoring/>.

The ALC must not be switched off, including when in port. You must ensure that the ALC is monitoring correctly before going out to sea for the first time and that no interference occurs with the correct operation of the ICVMS. On becoming aware of a problem with the ICVMS functioning, you must advise AFMA as soon as practicable via:

Phone: 02 6225 5369 (if prompted, follow instructions on the voice mail)

Mobile: 0419 205 329

Fax: 02 6225 5440

Email: vmsreporting@afma.gov.au

If the ALC is not operating or is malfunctioning, the boat must remain in port until the ALC is inspected, repaired if necessary and AFMA has received confirmation from an authorised technician that the ALC is functioning normally.

Please refer to the ICVMS conditions on your fishing permit for more information.

Manual Reporting

If a nominated vessel's ICVMS unit stops reporting the data required by AFMA at the frequency specified by AFMA, you will be required to manually report the vessel's position **at times and frequencies required by AFMA** unless otherwise specified.

Temporary Switch Off Arrangements

A Temporary Switch Off (TSO) is a formal arrangement that allows a unit to be legitimately switched off. If your nominated vessel is undergoing maintenance, berthed for an extended period or there are other exceptional circumstances that render VMS operation impractical, you can apply for a TSO by filling out an 'Application for VMS Temporary Switch Off' form and sending it to AFMA via:

Fax: 02 6225 5440

Email: vmsreporting@afma.gov.au



Mail: Data Processing
AFMA
PO Box 7051,
CANBERRA BC
ACT 2610

Further information can be found on the AFMA website at:

<http://www.afma.gov.au/fisheries-services/vessel-monitoring/>

Observers

If requested by AFMA, you **MUST** take observers on board your boat. Penalties exist if you do not, such as suspension of your permit or cancellation of your boat nomination.

Observers provide reliable data on catch composition, fate of target and non-target species, fishing effort and fishing practices. One of their main tasks in the STF is to report on the use and effectiveness of mitigation measures under the Threat Abatement Plan (TAP) and to monitor interactions with Threatened, Endangered and Protected (TEP) species, particularly seabirds and turtles, and record them on detailed wildlife interaction sheets.

All the detailed information collected by observers from individual vessels is subject to privacy laws and will only be available to AFMA Fisheries Management, AFMA Compliance Section and the vessel owner. However, compiled data (where individuals cannot be identified) is available for release by AFMA.

The role of the observer is not one of a Fisheries Officer. Observers have no authority to direct fishing operations of the vessel or give operational advice or act in an enforcement role. However, observers are required to report illegal fishing activity.

If requested, you must retain any bycatch and/or give access to biological, economic or technical information.

Electronic Monitoring

Electronic monitoring (e-monitoring) has been rolled out in a number of Commonwealth fisheries and will be an approved alternative to on-board observers for the STF in the future. If you would like to learn more about e-monitoring, please contact the current e-monitoring contractor, Archipelago Asia Pacific:

Archipelago Asia Pacific
Phone: 02 6162 1192
Email: andrewk@archipelago.ca

While I am fishing

Where can I fish?

The Skipjack Tuna Fishery is split into east and west:

- The Eastern Skipjack Tuna Fishery extends eastwards from Cape York Peninsula to the South Australian/Victorian border.



- The Western Skipjack Tuna Fishery extends westward from the South Australian/Victorian border across the Great Australian Bight and around the west coast of Western Australia to the Cape York Peninsula.

The area of the STF is displayed in **Attachment 1** at the end of this booklet.

Where can't I fish?

Coral Sea Zone (Previously known as Area E)

The Coral Sea Zone is a restricted area off the Queensland coast between Shelburne Bay and Proserpine, which was created to protect juvenile Marlin species and their spawning grounds. No purse seine fishing is allowed in this area unless you hold a Coral Sea boat Statutory Fishing Right.

Lord Howe Island and Balls Pyramid

No fishing is allowed within 12 nautical miles of Lord Howe Island and Balls Pyramid unless you have been given authorisation.

Norfolk Island

You must not fish inside the Norfolk Island box with the co-ordinates:

- Beginning at the point of latitude 28° 35' South, longitude 167° 25' East; and running
- East along that parallel to its intersection with the meridian of longitude 168° 25' East; and
- South along that meridian to its intersection with the parallel of latitude 29° 50' South; and
- West along that parallel to its intersection with the meridian of longitude 167° 25' East; and
- North along that meridian to the point where the line began.

Data Buoys

You must not intentionally fish within 1 nautical mile of a data buoy or intentionally interact with a data buoy. Interacting with a data buoy includes, but is not limited to:

encircling the buoy with fishing gear;

tying up to or attracting the boat or any fishing gear, part or portion of the boat to a data buoy or its moorings; or

cutting a data buoy anchor line.

If your boat unintentionally comes into contact with a data buoy while fishing you must remove any entangled fishing gear with as little damage to the data buoy as possible. If you cause damage to the buoy or you observe a damaged buoy, you must report it to AFMA by fax (+612 6225 5440) or email (monitoring@afma.gov.au). Your report must include the date of observation, the buoy location and any discernible identifying information contained on the buoy.



Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)

STF boats are not allowed to fish inside State and Commonwealth managed MPAs, however fishing may be permitted in some MPAs. It is your responsibility to check if fishing is permitted. See the Department of Environment (DoE) website located at www.environment.gov.au/marinereserves/index.html for more information.

You cannot fish in another country's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

Fishing on the High Seas

When conducting fishing operations on the High Seas, you must ensure that:

- your boat is clearly marked with its international radio call sign according to internationally recognised standards;
- you report to AFMA (vmsreporting@afma.gov.au) prior to entering the High Seas;
- you report their position via ICVMS to the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) Secretariat and carry an observer if they enter the WCPFC Convention Area;
- All fishing gear is properly stowed when transiting through another country's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ); and
- you do not fish in another country's EEZ.

Landing in a foreign port

If you wish to land your catch in a foreign port, you must seek prior approval from AFMA before unloading in that port. You can do this by contacting AFMA Licensing by fax on (02) 6225 5440 or by emailing licensing@afma.gov.au. You must also provide AFMA with the following information, at least 48 hours before landing, via email to vmsreporting@afma.gov.au or fax (02) 6225 5440:

- The name and international distinguishing symbol of the boat;
- The proposed foreign port or ports of unloading;
- The estimated time and date the boat will arrive at that foreign port; and
- The quantities of all species on board the boat.

If you intend to land in a foreign port you must:

- Reach any ports of destination by the most direct route and when leaving a foreign port, leave the country's EEZ by the most direct route;
- Not fish in a foreign EEZ without proper authorisation from that foreign nation;
- Not land any catch without proper authorisation from the nation where you plan on landing your catch and ensure you meet their local requirements; and
- Cooperate with inspections being carried out by Fisheries Officers authorised to do so by other signatories of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC). Failure to do so may result in suspension of your fishing permit.



Bycatch and Byproduct Limits

Bycatch includes all living and non-living material that is caught or affected by the fishing gear/activity, except for the target species. It includes:

- Byproduct – any part of the catch that was not targeted, but is kept and sold by the fisherman;
- Discards – that part of the catch which is not kept, but still affected by the gear or fishing activity; and
- Everything that does not make it to the deck, but is still affected by the fishing gear or activity.

You must record all byproduct and discards under the ‘Catch Details’ section of your logbook and any interactions with protected species under the ‘Wildlife and other Protected Species’ section of your logbook.

Tables 1 and 2, display the species that you are allowed and not allowed to take respectively, in the fishery. Tables 3 to 8 display the State bycatch limits for each species that interact within the STF. The State restrictions apply to all waters extending out from the Australian coastline.

You are required to report any discarding of quota or other species in your fishing logbook.

Table 1. Species allowed to be taken in the STF

Common name	Scientific Name	Restrictions
Skipjack Tuna	<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>	Nil. Should the 30,000 tonne trigger limit be reached in the ESTF, the fishery will be closed for the remainder of the season.
Yellowfin Tuna	<i>Thunnus albacares</i>	Any take of Yellowfin Tuna must be done in accordance with the quota arrangements under the <i>Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery Management Plan 2010</i> or the <i>Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery Management Plan 2005</i> .
Bigeye Tuna	<i>Thunnus obesus</i>	Any take of Bigeye Tuna must be done in accordance with the quota arrangements under the <i>Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery Management Plan 2010</i> or the <i>Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery Management Plan 2005</i> .
Broadbill Swordfish	<i>Xiphias gladius</i>	Any take of Broadbill Swordfish must be done in accordance with the quota arrangements under the <i>Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery Management Plan 2010</i> or the <i>Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery Management Plan 2005</i> .
Striped Marlin	<i>Tetrapturus audax</i>	Any take of Striped Marlin must be done in accordance with the quota arrangements under the <i>Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery Management Plan 2010</i> or the <i>Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery Management Plan 2005</i> .



Common name	Scientific Name	Restrictions
Albacore Tuna	<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>	Any take of Albacore Tuna in the ESTF must be done in accordance with the quota arrangements under the <i>Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery Management Plan 2010</i> .
Longtail Tuna	<i>Thunnus tonggol</i>	A maximum 35 tonne limit per fishing year is in place across all Commonwealth fisheries. A 10 fish trip limit per operator will be imposed should the 35 tonne trigger limit be reached in any fishing year.
Northern Pacific Bluefin Tuna	<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>	You must report to AFMA prior to landing NBT (via e-mail northernbluefin@afma.gov.au or fax 02 6225 5440) at least 1 hour before landing in port. Further information is provided in the Northern Bluefin Tuna section below.
Southern Pacific Bluefin Tuna	<i>Thunnus maccoyii</i>	Any take of SBT must be done in accordance with the quota arrangements under the <i>Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery Management Plan 1995</i> .
Pomfrets and Rays Bream	Family <i>Bramidae</i>	Nil (except in Commonwealth waters adjacent to Western Australia landward of the 200 metre isobath where none can be taken).
Indo-Pacific Sailfish	<i>Istiophorus platypterus</i>	Nil
Shortbill Spearfish	<i>Tetrapturus angustirostris</i>	Nil
Moonfish	Genus <i>Lampris</i>	Nil
Rudderfish	Genus <i>Centrolophus</i>	Nil
Escolar/Oilfish	<i>Ruvettus pretiosus</i> & <i>Lepidocybium flavobrunneum</i>	Nil
Mahi Mahi	<i>Coryphaena hippurus</i>	Nil
School Shark	<i>Galeorhinus galeus</i>	Combined trip limit of 5 carcasses in WSTF. No take in the ESTF.
Gummy Shark	<i>Mustelus antarcticus</i>	
Elephant Fish	Families: <i>Callorhynchidae</i> , <i>Chimaeridae</i> and <i>Rhinochimaeridae</i>	
Sawshark	<i>Pristiophorus cirratus</i> and <i>Pristiophorus nudipinnis</i>	



Table 2. Species not allowed to be taken in the STF

Common Name	Scientific Name	Limits
Blue Eye Trevalla	<i>Hyperoglyphe antarctica</i> and <i>Schedophilus labyrinthica</i>	No take
Blue Grenadier	<i>Macruronus novaezelandiae</i>	
Blue Warehou	<i>Seriolella brama</i>	
Flathead	Platycephalus and Neoplatycephalus sp.	
Gemfish	<i>Rexea solandri</i>	
Jackass Morwong	<i>Nemadactylus macropterus</i>	
John Dory	<i>Zeus faber</i>	
Ling	<i>Genypterus blacodes</i>	
Mirror Dory	<i>Zenopsis nebulosus</i>	
Ocean Perch	<i>Helicolenus</i> sp.	
Orange Roughy	<i>Hoplostethus atlanticus</i>	
Redfish	<i>Centroberyx affinis</i>	
Royal Red Prawn	<i>Haliporoides sibogae</i>	
School Whiting	<i>Sillago findersi</i>	
Silver Trevally	<i>Pseudocaranx dentex</i>	
Spotted Warehou	<i>Seriolella punctata</i>	
Blue Marlin	<i>Makaira mazara</i>	
Black Marlin	<i>Makaira indica</i>	
Black Cod	<i>Epinephelus daemeli</i>	
Deepwater Sharks	<i>Centroscyrnus coelolepis</i> <i>Centroscyrnus crepidater</i> <i>Centroscyrnus owstoni</i> <i>Centroscyrnus plunketi</i> <i>Centroscyllium kamoharai</i> <i>Dalatias licha</i> <i>Dalatias calcea</i> <i>Dalatias quadrispinosa</i> <i>Etmopterus bigelwi</i> <i>Etmopterus dianthus</i> <i>Etmopterus dislineatus</i> <i>Etmopterus evansi</i> <i>Etmopterus fusus</i> <i>Etmopterus granulosus</i> <i>Etmopterus lucifer</i> <i>Etmopterus molleri</i> <i>Etmopterus pusillus</i>	No take in the ESTF.



Table 3. Restricted species for northern waters (Western Australia, Northern Territory and Queensland) (These apply to all waters extending out from the coastline)

Common name	Scientific name	Restrictions
Amberjack	<i>Seriola dumerili</i>	2 fish total per trip for all species combined
Black Kingfish that are in waters east of the meridian of longitude 129° east	<i>Rachycentron canadus</i>	
Yellowtail Kingfish	<i>Seriola lalandi</i>	
Australian Bonito	<i>Sardi australis</i>	10 fish total per trip for all species combined
Australian Spotted mackerel	<i>Scomberomorus munroi</i>	
Bar Cod	<i>Polyprion moeone</i>	
Cod	Family <i>Serranidae</i>	
Dog Toothed Tuna	<i>Gymnosarda unicolor</i>	
Dolphinfish that are in northern waters west of the boundary between Northern Territory and Queensland waters	<i>Coryphaena hippurus</i>	
Emperor	Families <i>Lethrinidae</i> and <i>Lutjanidae</i>	
Frigate Mackerel	<i>Auxis thazard</i>	
Grouper	Family <i>Serranidae</i>	
Hapuku	<i>Polyprion oxygeneios</i>	
Leaping Bonito	<i>Cybiosarda elegans</i>	
Mackerel Tuna	<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>	
Oriental Bonito	<i>Sarda orientalis</i>	
Rainbow Runner	<i>Elagatis bipinnulata</i>	
Rake Gilled Mackerel	<i>Rastrelliger kanagurta</i>	
Shark Mackerel	<i>Grammatorcynus bicarinatus</i>	
Snapper	<i>Pagrus auratus</i>	
Spanish Mackerel	<i>Scomberomorus commerson</i>	
Trevally	Family <i>Carangidae</i> (except genus <i>Seriola</i>)	
Tropical Snapper	Families <i>Lethrinidae</i> and <i>Lutjanidae</i>	
Tuskfish	Family <i>Labridae</i>	
Wrasse	Family <i>Labridae</i>	
Butterfly Mackerel	<i>Gasterochisma melampus</i>	20 fish total per trip for all species combined
Shark	Subclass <i>Elasmobranchii</i> and Family <i>Serranidae</i>	
Slender Tuna	<i>Allothunnus fallai</i>	
Wahoo	<i>Acanthocybium solandri</i>	



Common name	Scientific name	Restrictions
Black Kingfish that are in waters west of the meridian of longitude 129° East	<i>Rachycentron canadus</i>	No limit
Dolphinfish that are in northern waters east of the boundary between Northern Territory and Queensland waters	<i>Coryphaena hippurus</i>	No limit

Table 4. No take species for South Australian waters (these apply to all waters extending out from the coastline)

Common name	Scientific name	Restrictions
Australian Anchovy	<i>Engraulis australis</i>	No take
Australian Salmon/Tommy Ruff	Genus <i>Arripis</i>	
Banded Morwong	<i>Nemodactylus spectabilis</i>	
Black Bream	<i>Acanthopagrus butcheri</i>	
Blue Sprat	<i>Spratelloides robustus</i>	
Dusky Morwong	<i>Dactylophora nigricans</i>	
Garfish	<i>Hyporhamphus melanochir</i>	
Grassy (Rock) Flathead	<i>Platycephalus laevigatus</i>	
King Gar	<i>Scomberesox forsteri</i>	
King George Whiting	<i>Sillaginodes punctata</i>	
Luderick	<i>Girrella tricuspidata</i>	
Magpie Morwong	<i>Cheilodactylus nigripes</i>	
Pilchard	<i>Sardinops sagax</i>	
Red Mullet	<i>Upeneichthys vlamingii</i>	
Sea Sweep	<i>Scorpiis aequipinnis</i>	
Snook	<i>Sphyraena novaehollandiae</i>	
Sprat	<i>Clupea bassensis</i>	
Wrasse	Family <i>Labridae</i>	
Yellow Eye Mullet	<i>Aldrichetta forsteri</i>	
Yellow-finned Whiting	<i>Sillago schomburgkii</i>	



Table 5. Restricted species in South Australian waters with total maximum 200kg take per trip of all species combined (these apply to all waters extending out from the coastline)

Common name	Scientific name	Restrictions	
Bastard Trumpeter	<i>Latridopsis forsteri</i>	20 kg per trip	200 kg total per trip for all species combined
Striped Trumpeter	<i>Latris lineata</i>		
Blue Groper	<i>Achoerodus gouldii</i>	50 kg per trip	
Snapper	<i>Pagrus auratus</i>		
Mulloway	<i>Argyrosomus hololepidotus</i>	100 kg per trip	
Yellowtail Kingfish	<i>Seriola lalandi</i>	10 fish per trip	
Black Reef Leatherjacket	<i>Eubalichthys bucephalus</i>	200kg per trip	
Chinaman Leatherjacket	<i>Nelusetta ayraudi</i>		
Parrotfish (or Knifejaw)	<i>Oplegnathus woodwardi</i>		
Rough Leatherjacket	<i>Monacanthus chinensis</i>		

Note: there is a weight limit of 200kg per trip for the combined catch of all of the species in Table 5, noting the individual species trip limits.

Table 6. Restricted species in Victorian waters with total maximum 200kg take per trip of all species combined

Common Name	Scientific Name	Limits	Total limit
Barracouta	<i>Thyrsites atun</i>	200 kg	200 kg total per trip for all species combined
Leatherjackets – all species	Family <i>Monacanthidae</i>	200 kg	
Yellowtail Kingfish	<i>Seriola lalandi</i>	10 fish per trip	
Striped Trumpeter	<i>Latris lineata</i>	20kg per trip	
Snapper	<i>Pagrus auratus</i>	50kg per trip	



Table 7. Bycatch limits off Tasmania

Common Name	Scientific Name	Limits
Australian Anchovy	<i>Engraulis australis</i>	No take
Australian Salmon/Tommy Ruff	Genus <i>Arripis</i>	
Banded Morwong	<i>Nemodactylus spectabilis</i>	
Black Bream	<i>Acanthopagrus butcheri</i>	
Blue Sprat	<i>Spratelloides robustus</i>	
Dusky Morwong	<i>Dactylophora nigricans</i>	
Garfish	<i>Hyporhamphus melanochir</i>	
Grassy (rock) Flathead	<i>Platycephalus laevigatus</i>	
King Gar	<i>Scomberesox forsteri</i>	
King George Whiting	<i>Sillaginodes punctata</i>	
Luderick	<i>Girrella tricuspidata</i>	
Magpie Morwong	<i>Cheilodactylus nigripes</i>	
Mulloway	<i>Argyrosomus hololepidotus</i>	
Pilchard	<i>Sardinops neopilchardus</i>	
Red Mullet	<i>Upeneichthys vlamingii</i>	
Sea Sweep	<i>Scorpius aequipinnis</i>	
Snook	<i>Sphyraena novaehollandiae</i>	
Sprat	<i>Clupea bassensis</i>	
Wrasse	Family <i>Labridae</i>	
Yellow Eye Mullet	<i>Aldrichetta forsteri</i>	
Yellow-finned Whiting	<i>Sillago schomburgkii</i>	
Bastard Trumpeter	<i>Latidopsis forsteri</i>	20kg per trip
Blue Groper	<i>Achoerodus gouldii</i>	50kg per trip
Striped Trumpeter	<i>Latris lineata</i>	250kg per trip
Yellowtail Kingfish	<i>Seriola lalandi</i>	250kg per trip
Snapper	<i>Pagrus auratus</i>	250kg per trip

Table 8. Bycatch limits off New South Wales

Common Name	Scientific Name	Limits
Finfish	Class <i>Osteichthyes</i>	Total of 200kg



Southern Bluefin Tuna

Any take of Southern Bluefin Tuna (SBT) must be done in accordance with the quota arrangements under the *Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery Management Plan 1995*. Therefore, you must hold SBT quota SFRs to take SBT when fishing within the STF.

Southern Bluefin Tuna Catch Documentation Scheme

A new CDS was introduced by the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT) in 2009 to allow individual SBT to be tracked from the point of capture to the point of sale. The CDS applies to all SBT domestically sold or exported. Under the CDS, each fish needs to be tagged, weighed and measured, and have the correct accompanying documentation. No SBT will be accepted for domestic sale, export or import, without the correct accompanying CDS documentation. For further information about the CDS scheme please contact Mr Matt Daniel, Manager SBT fishery on (02) 6225 5338.

Northern Bluefin Tuna

Northern Bluefin Tuna (NBT) can be confused with SBT so to resolve identity difficulties you must follow these directions:

- (i) If the Bluefin Tuna was taken north of latitude 28° South **and** was greater than 220cm fork length it may be deemed a NBT; or
- (ii) If the Bluefin Tuna was taken south of 28° South, between 1 January and 1 May **and** was greater than 200cm, it may be deemed a NBT; or
- (iii) You can supply a sample of the fish to an AFMA approved agency for testing to determine the species. The sample must be comprised of an intact tail section of the fish (small part of the keel and caudal finlets) and should contain a small section of muscle. The caudal fins may be trimmed for transport purposes.

If the Bluefin Tuna does not fit the spatial, temporal and length criteria as described above, you can:

- (a) Obtain genetic testing showing that the fish in question is a NBT (AFMA will then deem the fish a NBT); or
- (b) For fish exported to Tokyo Metropolitan Central Wholesale Market (Tsukiji Market), document the fish as a Bluefin Tuna on the CDRs and provide the documentation from the Tokyo Metropolitan Central Wholesale Market (Tsukiji Market) showing the fish was sold as a NBT (AFMA will then deem the fish as a NBT).

When landing a NBT, you must let AFMA know. This can be done via e-mail northernbluefin@afma.gov.au (or fax if e-mail is not available on 02 6225 5440) at least 1 hour before landing in port. You must tell AFMA:

- The name of the boat;
- Distinguishing symbol of the boat;
- Port of landing;
- Date and time of landing; and
- Number and weight of NBT.



Processing fish

There are specific landing requirements for tuna in the STF. Tuna (except SBT and NBT) cannot be processed at sea except for the removal of fins (except the caudal fin) and gilling and gutting. SBT and NBT can be landed gilled and gutted (also known as Australian cut). Please see 9ZO of the *Fisheries Management Regulations 1992* for more details.

Protected Species

What is a protected species?

The Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) establishes four different categories of protected species in Commonwealth areas. These are:

1. Listed threatened species or listed threatened ecological communities; these generally include species with low population numbers, those that have had a reduction in habitat or distribution, or those that are subject to an increase in other threats.
2. Listed migratory species; are listed to meet Australia's obligations under certain International Treaties (such as the Convention on Migratory Species).
3. Listed marine species; are listed to provide general protection to Australia's marine native wildlife and to reduce the likelihood of population decline. It is an offence to kill injure, trade, take, keep or move native wildlife without a permit or other authorisation.
4. All cetaceans (whales and dolphins); are listed to uphold Australia's strong international, regional and national measures for the protection of this group of animals.

What are the most common protected species that I could interact with in the STF?

The most common protected species that you are likely to encounter in the STF include seabirds, turtles and marine mammals such as whales. There are also a small number of sharks (Great White, Grey Nurse, Longfin Mako and Shortfin Mako) and other fish listed under the EPBC Act.

Under environmental legislation, it is a requirement that only dead Shortfin and Longfin Mako Sharks be retained. All Shortfin and Longfin Mako Sharks that are alive when brought to the boat must be cut off and released. There is a range of other species that are protected and are encountered in other AFMA fisheries. These include Sea Snakes, Sea Lions, Syngnathids (Sea Horses, Sea Dragons and Pipefish), Sawfishes (Green and Freshwater), Crocodiles and Dugongs.

An up-to-date list of all protected species is available on the Department of Environment (DoE) website (www.environment.gov.au).

How can I tell exactly which protected species I've seen or interacted with?

To help you accurately report any protected species interactions, AFMA has produced a Protected Species Identification Guide and a Seabird Identification Guide. These guides cover the range of protected species that AFMA-managed fisheries interact with, or have the potential to interact with, during their normal fishing operations. The guides provide pictures of these species along with indicative distribution maps and key biological information. Waterproof copies of both of these guides have been printed, so



please let us know if you would like one sent for your boat. Please note that only one copy of each guide will be provided for each boat. Guides can be requested by contacting the AFMA bycatch team on 1300 723 621.

Both identification guides are also available on the AFMA website; the Protected Species Identification Guide as a PDF, and the Seabird Identification Guide as an e-book or PDF (www.afma.gov.au).

Wildlife Interactions

What is an interaction with a protected species?

"Interaction" means any physical contact that you (personally, your boat or your fishing gear) have with a protected species that causes death, injury or stress to an individual member of a protected species. This includes any collisions, catching, hooking, netting, entangling, or trapping of a protected species.

Is it illegal to interact with a protected species when I'm fishing in the STF?

No – provided that you are fishing in accordance with these management arrangements and provided that you report any and all interactions.

Do I have to report every time I have an interaction with a protected species?

Yes – you need to record the interaction in your AFMA Daily Purse Seine Fishing Logbook. The obligation to report all protected species interactions is a legal requirement under the EPBC Act.

How do I report interactions with protected species?

You report by recording the relevant information in your AFMA Daily Purse Seine Fishing Logbook (**PS01A**) or electronic logbook equivalent. You need to indicate 'Yes' on the logbook and then fill out the 'Listed Marine and Threatened Species' form. These forms are located at the back of the paper logbooks and, once filled out, should be returned to AFMA within 3 calendar days of the end of the trip. These forms must be completed for all protected species except for Mako Shark species.

How does this information get from AFMA to DoE?

AFMA has formally agreed to provide the Department of Environment (DoE), with 3-monthly summary reports of all protected species interactions, as reported through AFMA logbooks. This streamlines the reporting arrangements, and removes your responsibility for reporting interactions separately to both AFMA and DoE.

All interaction reports provided to DoE from 1 January 2012 to date are available on the AFMA website at: <http://www.afma.gov.au/sustainability-environment/protected-species-management/protected-species-interaction-reports/>.

Can I take back responsibility for reporting my interactions directly to DoE?

Yes – you can advise AFMA that you no longer want AFMA to report your protected species interactions to DoE on your behalf. If you formally request this, you will still be required to record all protected species interactions in your AFMA Daily Purse Seine Fishing Logbook. In addition, you would then also be responsible for advising DoE directly of any interactions that you have with protected species.



How can I get further information about protected species interaction issues?

Please contact the AFMA Environment Section via AFMA Direct on **1300 723 621**.

What do I need to do if a seabird is killed during an interaction?

1. **Keep the dead seabird onboard the boat** (retain it in a way which will limit decay of the specimen and meet Australian Biosecurity requirements);
2. **Record the details** in your *Australian Longline Daily Fishing Log (AL06)*, circle 'Yes' in the box at the bottom of the log sheet and fill out the 'Listed Marine and Threatened Species' form (i.e. as for any other protected species interaction); and
3. **Contact the AFMA Environment Section via AFMA Direct (1300 723 621)**, to arrange for the dead bird to be collected and analysed.

Why do I need to keep all seabirds killed during interactions?

This action is necessary to meet the requirements of the second Threat Abatement Plan for the Incidental Catch (or bycatch) of Seabirds During Oceanic Longline Fishing Operations (TAP2).

The collected seabirds undergo an examination to validate species, subspecies, origin (where possible), cause of death, age, sex and breeding status.

How do I store a dead seabird on board my boat without risking contaminating my catch?

Australian Biosecurity approved seabird collection kits can be obtained from AFMA by contacting the AFMA Environment Section via AFMA Direct: **1300 723 621**. These kits should be carried onboard at all times.

What do I do if I see a whale shark or cetacean?

If you sight a Whale Shark or cetacean prior to the setting of a purse seine net, you must not intentionally set a purse seine net around the Whale Shark or cetacean.

What do I do if I unintentionally interact with a whale shark or cetacean?

If you are fishing and a Whale Shark or cetacean is unintentionally encircled in a purse seine net, you must:

- a) take all reasonable steps to ensure its safe release; and
- b) report the interaction to AFMA via the Wildlife and Other Protected Species Form attached to the Purse Seine Daily Fishing logbook. This report must include details of how and why the interaction occurred and the steps taken to ensure the safe release of the Whale Shark or cetacean.

What should I do if I suspect someone of fishing illegally?

If you suspect illegal fishing operations are occurring, contact AFMA's Compliance Duty Officer on **0419 205 329** as soon as possible after you discover the event. Reports may be made anonymously and would ideally include the following:

- the date, time and location that the activity took place;
- the names of any verifying witnesses; and
- any photographs and/or other evidence.



If you sight a foreign vessel that you believe may be involved in illegal fishing, please contact Border Protection Command on freecall **1800 061 800** (attended 24 hours a day, 7 days a week). Or you can contact AFMA's *CRIMFISH* hotline on **1800 274 634** (1800 CRIMFI). A reporting form can also be downloaded from the *CRIMFISH* website, (www.afma.gov.au/crimfish) and then sent to AFMA.

All information received will be treated as strictly confidential.



Transshipping catch

Transshipping cannot be undertaken in the STF.

How is the fishery managed internationally?

All the main species caught in the STF are part of wider ocean stocks. International management of the stocks is coordinated by the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) and the Western Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC). Australia is an active member of both the IOTC and WCPFC. Australian Government representatives from AFMA and the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, along with industry members, participate in all meetings of the IOTC and the WCPFC. The Australian Government position is to support all Conservation and Management Measures and catch level decisions agreed at these Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs) and implement them in domestic management arrangements. More details can be found on the IOTC and the WCPFC websites (www.iotc.org and www.wcpfc.org).

After I get back from fishing

Fish Receivers

You can only land or dispose of fish that you catch to holders of a Commonwealth Fish Receiver Permit (FRP). The FRP holder must verify the species and weight of all fish received and sign the **blue copy** of the Catch Disposal Record (CDR) immediately after the fish are received (within 50m of unload area unless the FRP holder has an 'exempt' certification).



A CDR must be completed for each consignment of fish sent to each different receiver and all fish landed in the STF must be recorded on the CDR.

After completing a CDR:

- the **white** copy (filled in by the permit holder or authorised agent) must be sent to AFMA within 3 calendar days of unloading;
- the **blue** and **yellow** copies must accompany each load of fish to the first receiver;
- the **blue** copy must be completed by the FRP holder or their authorised agent and sent to AFMA within 3 calendar days of receiving the fish; and
- the **yellow** copy must be retained by the FRP holder.

It is the responsibility of the operator to make sure that the first person to receive their catch is a Commonwealth FRP holder. A list of licensed FRP holders can be found on AFMA's website as well as information on how to apply for a FRP.

Who can sign forms?

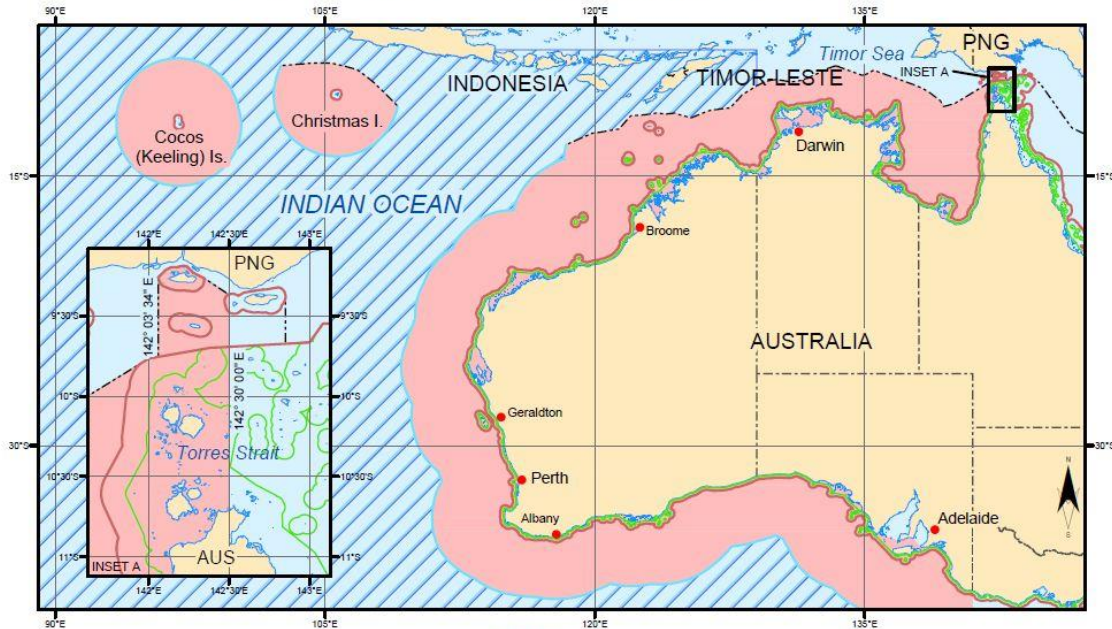
Only the holder or their authorised agents are allowed to sign logbooks, CDRs and transit forms. To nominate an authorised agent to do specific things on your behalf, you will need to complete an Authorised Agent Nomination form (AA form) available on AFMA's website at <http://www.afma.gov.au/fisheries-services/forms-fishers/>.

Keeping Track of Your Quota

You are responsible for monitoring your own quota to ensure you have enough to cover your fishing activity at all times. Further details on quota and associated requirements can be found in the respective fisheries Management Arrangements Booklets on the AFMA website: <http://www.afma.gov.au/fisheries-services/fisheries-management-plans/>.



Area of the Western Skipjack Fishery



LEGEND

- Western Skipjack Fishery
- Land and coastline
- Area of High Seas
- Limit of Coastal Waters (3nm)
- Limit of Territorial Sea (12nm)
- Limit of Exclusive Economic Zone (200nm)
- Treaty / Median line

- NOTES:**
1. The area of the Fishery is sourced from the Fisheries Management Regulations 1992 (30 April 2004 - amendments up to SR 2004 No. 70) and permit conditions.
 2. Within this fishery, arrangements exist between the Commonwealth and WA, NT and QLD, whereby the Coastal Waters of these States are deemed part of the AFZ.
 3. The maritime zone boundaries shown on this map are sourced from AMBIS 2001 (v1.1) (October 2001).
 4. The area of the high seas does not include waters within the EEZ of other countries.

Mercator Projection
 Latitude of true scale: 18° S
 Longitude of Central meridian: 120° E
 Datum: AGD66

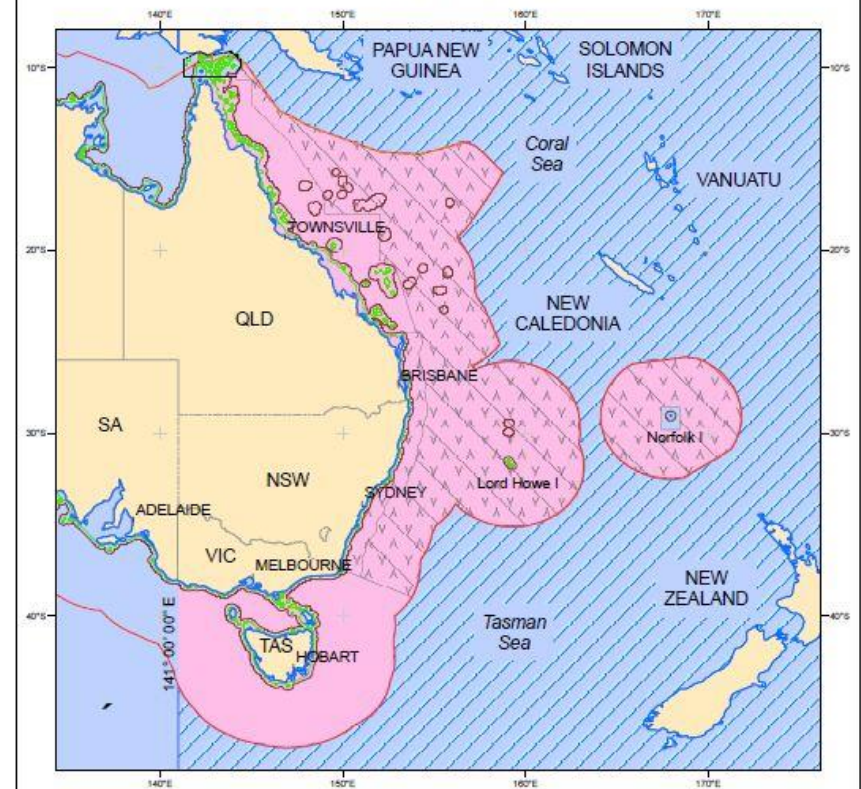


Australian Government
 Australian Fisheries
 Management Authority

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 for the Australian Fisheries Management Authority, April 2005.
 MP 03/2457.34.25

Area of the Eastern Skipjack Fishery

Northern Sub-areas



- Exclusive Economic Zone limit (200 nm)
- Territorial Sea limit (12 nm)
- Coastal Waters limit (3nm)
- State Border
- Fisheries Jurisdiction Line
- Protected Zone Boundary

Eastern Skipjack Fishery

- AFZ area
- High Seas Area
- Sub-area 01 (Northern inshore)
- Sub-area 02 (Northern offshore)

- NOTES:**
1. The area of the Fishery is sourced from the Fisheries Management Regulations 1992 and permit conditions.
 2. Within this fishery, arrangements exist between the Commonwealth and TAS, VIC, and Qld, whereby the Coastal Waters of these States are deemed to be part of the AFZ.
 3. The maritime zone boundaries shown on this map are sourced from the "Australian Maritime Boundaries (AMB) v2.0".
 4. The area of the high seas does not include waters within the EEZ of other countries.

Geographic
 Datum: WGS84



Australian Government
 Australian Fisheries
 Management Authority

Produced by the Australian Fisheries Management
 Authority, July 2007
 based on Geoscience Australia Data

JN: 62,161

Attachment 2

STF Management Contact Details

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Skipjack Tuna Fishery

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Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery

Matt Daniel,
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STF Facsimile: (02) 6225 5440

STF Email: TunaandInternational@afma.gov.au

Logbook and Licensing Administration Contact Details

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Karen Cullen,
Logbook/Data Administration Officer (02) 6225 5452

Logbooks Facsimile (02) 6225 5440

Logbooks Email: DataEntry@afma.gov.au or licensing@afma.gov.au

For all protected species interactions:

Sara Murphy
Environment Officer Sara.Murphy@afma.gov.au (02) 6225 5386



Compliance Contact Details

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General Manager Operations 0409 465 561

Domestic Compliance AFMA Direct 1300 723 621

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Senior Manager Domestic Compliance 0409 129 638

Glen Salmon, (02) 6225 5395
Manager Foreign Surveillance Response Unit 0409 447 463

Intelligence & VMS

Tod Spencer, (02) 6225 5312
Senior Manager National Compliance Strategy, 0409 463 736
Intelligence and Planning

Phil Ravello, (02) 6225 5398
Manager National Intelligence 0437 816 512

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Senior Intelligence Analyst (VMS)

Narelle Williams, (02) 6225 5542
VMS Administration
CRIMFISH 1800 274 634

Duty Officer 0419 205 329

Compliance Facsimile (02) 6225 5442

Compliance Email: ForeignSurveillanceResponse@afma.gov.au

Observer Contact Details

Chris Burns, (02) 6225 5506
Manager Observer Program

Electronic Monitoring Contact Details

Archipelago Asia Pacific (02) 6162 1192

E-monitoring Email: emonitoring@afma.gov.au



State Fisheries Contact Details

Tasmania	Wild Fisheries Management Branch, Department of Primary Industry, Water & Environment Telephone: (03) 6233 2147
South Australia	Fisheries Division, Department of Primary Industries and Regions Telephone: (08) 8204 1380 (Head Office)
Victoria	Fisheries Division, Department of Primary Industries Telephone: 1300 366 356
New South Wales	New South Wales Fisheries Telephone: 1300 550 474
Queensland	Queensland Fisheries Service Telephone: (07) 3404 6999

STF Internet Links for Relevant Documents

Fisheries Management Act 1991:

<http://www.afma.gov.au/about/legislation-regulation/>

Fisheries Management Regulations 1991:

<http://www.afma.gov.au/about/legislation-regulation/>

Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities:

www.environment.gov.au

AFMA legislation page:

<http://www.afma.gov.au/about/legislation-regulation/>

AFMA logbook page:

<http://www.afma.gov.au/fisheries-services/logbooks-and-catch-disposal/>

AFMA licensing forms:

<http://www.afma.gov.au/fisheries-services/forms-fishers/>

Commonwealth Harvest Strategy Policy:

http://www.agriculture.gov.au/fisheries/domestic/harvest_strategy_policy

