

Reference: F2003 0945

Dear Sir or Madam

**Call for public comment on draft Western Trawl Fisheries Environmental Assessment Report**

The Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) has prepared a draft environmental assessment report for the western trawl fisheries (North West Slope Trawl Fishery & Western Deepwater Trawl Fishery) in accordance with Part 10 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. If the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment and Heritage is satisfied with the management arrangements for the western trawl fisheries, he will endorse the management of the fishery and declare that further approval is not required in relation to matters of national environmental significance, Part 13 listed species, and export approval requirements which are covered by the assessment.

AFMA invites comments/submissions by the closing date of 18 August 2003 on the draft environmental assessment report for the western trawl fisheries from interested persons. Comments should be sent to:

Reuben Gregor  
Northern Prawn Fishery & Western Trawl Fisheries  
Australian Fisheries Management Authority  
PO Box 7051  
CANBERRA BC ACT 2610

Fax: 02 6272 4614  
E-mail: [wtfcomments@afma.gov.au](mailto:wtfcomments@afma.gov.au)

Copies of the draft environmental assessment report can be downloaded from the AFMA website at [www.afma.gov.au](http://www.afma.gov.au). Alternatively, the document can be obtained by calling AFMA on 02 6272 5632.

Yours faithfully

Paul Ryan  
Manager  
Environmental Assessments  
17 July 2003