

# ***Northern Prawn Fishery Determination and Directions***

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All Directions are available on the AFMA website:

[http://www.afma.gov.au/fisheries/northern\\_trawl/northern\\_prawn/mgt/directions/default.htm](http://www.afma.gov.au/fisheries/northern_trawl/northern_prawn/mgt/directions/default.htm)

The following pages have been slightly modified from the actual NPF Directions and Determinations. These modifications include references to indicative maps, changes to contact details and replacement of the AFMA logo.

**FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ACT 1991**  
**NORTHERN PRAWN FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN 1995**

**GEAR DETERMINATION No. NPF GD 03**

I, Geoff Richardson, Acting Managing Director of the Australian Fisheries Management Authority, as delegate, make the following Determination under section 17(6)(aa) of the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* and section 7A(1) of the Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995.

Dated            July 2006

Acting Managing Director  
Australian Fisheries Management Authority

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**Citation**

1. This Determination may be cited as Direction No. NPF GD 03.

**Commencement and period of application**

2. This Determination commences on the day after it is registered.

**Interpretation**

3. A term used in this Determination by way or priority, or if there is any inconsistency:
  - (a) takes the meaning given to it in the Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995; and then
  - (b) if no meaning is given to the word in the Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995, takes the meaning given to that word under the Fisheries Management Act 1991.

**'Otter board'** means a board or plate used on a fishing net which, when the net is being towed, keeps the mouth of the net open.

**'Twin trawl net configuration'** means the use of two fishing nets designed or intended to be towed simultaneously by a boat and having the mouth or opening of each net being controlled by the use of otter boards.

***'Quad trawl net configuration'*** means the use of four fishing nets designed or intended to be towed simultaneously by a boat and having the mouth or opening of each net being controlled by the use of otter boards.

***'Twin tongue trawl net configuration'*** means the use of two fishing nets designed or intended to be towed simultaneously by a boat and having the mouth or opening of each net being controlled by otter boards and at least one bridle extending from each warp wire to the centre or 'tongue' of the headrope of each net.

**Determination of fishing capacity**

4. The total length of operational headrope for a twin trawl net configuration that may be used under gear statutory fishing rights in the area of the Northern Prawn Fishery is 3028.725 metres. This equates to 5.625cm per gear statutory fishing right.
5. The total length of operational headrope for a quad trawl net configuration that may be used under gear statutory fishing rights in the area of the Northern Prawn Fishery is 2725.853 metres. This equates to 5.0625cm per gear statutory fishing right.
6. The total length of operational headrope for a twin tongue trawl net configuration that may be used under gear statutory fishing rights in the area of the Northern Prawn Fishery is 2725.853 metres. This equates to 5.0625cm per gear statutory fishing right.

**Revocation of Direction No NPF GD 02**

7. Direction No NPF GD 02 is revoked.

**FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ACT 1991**  
**NORTHERN PRAWN FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN 1995**

**NPF DIRECTION No. 113**  
**FIRST SEASON CLOSURES**  
(revoking NPF Direction No. 112)

The Australian Fisheries Management Authority makes the following Direction under section 17(5A) of *the Fisheries Management Act 1991* and section 25(1) of the *Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995*.

Dated this     March 2008

The Common seal of the Australian  
Fisheries Management Authority  
was affixed in accordance with a  
resolution of the Board

Peter Witheridge

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**Citation**

1.     This Direction may be cited as NPF Direction No. 113.

**Commencement**

2.     This Direction commences on the day after it is registered on the Federal Register of Legislative Instruments.

**Application**

3.     This Direction applies to a holder of statutory fishing rights in the Northern Prawn Fishery, and to a person acting on behalf of the holder, when fishing in the Northern Prawn Fishery area.

**Period of Application**

4.     This Direction applies for a period beginning on the date this Direction commences and ending on 2200 hours UTC 31 December 2009.

**Interpretation**

- 5.1    In this Direction:  
      "**boat**" means a boat that is nominated on statutory fishing rights for the Northern Prawn Fishery;  
      "**gear trial**" means a test, or a series of short tests, of equipment on or towed by a boat and carried out under the following conditions:
  - (a)    the test is conducted in such a way as to avoid the capture of fish, primarily  
          by keeping the cod end of nets fully open at all times; and
  - (b)    fish that are captured in the equipment during the test are returned to the sea as soon as practicable after it becomes apparent that the fish have been captured.

"**fishing**" means the commercial fishing activities that are referred to in section 14 of the *Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995*;

"**equipment**" means equipment for fishing;

"**rack**" means a structure on a boat (including a structure on, or forming a part of, the deck of the boat) designed specifically for carrying otter boards when the boards are not in use; and

**5.2** "**UTC**" means Coordinated Universal Time, the time scale based on the second (SI), maintained by the International Bureau of Weights and Measures. For the purposes of this Direction UTC is equivalent to mean solar time at the prime meridian (0 degrees longitude), formerly expressed in Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).

**5.3** A term used in this Direction that is defined for the purposes of the *Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995* has the same meaning in this Direction as it has in that plan.

[Notes: 1. Terms defined in the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* have the same meanings in this determination. 2. Terms defined in the *Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995* include "Northern Prawn Fishery" and "Northern Prawn Fishery area". ]

**5.4** This Direction is to be read consistently with other Directions made under the *Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995*.

**5.5** The origin of geographical coordinates used in this Direction is the Australian Geodetic Datum 1966 (AGD66).

### **Prohibition on fishing**

**6** A person in an area described in Schedules 1-8 is prohibited from fishing for the period in any year commencing at the time and on the day specified in the corresponding row in column 2, and ending at the time and on the day specified in the corresponding row in column 3 in the Closures Table following section 8 below.

### **To whom does the prohibition on fishing not apply?**

**7.1** The prohibition in clause 6 does not apply during the periods specified in Column 4 if information given by the boat's vessel monitoring system during the period that the boat was navigated in the closed zones shows that:

1. the boat was navigated in the closed zone for a continuous period of 30 minutes or more; and
2. at all times during the period, the boat was travelling at a speed of at least 5 knots.

**7.2** The prohibition in clause 6 does not apply to a person who:

1. before entering an area described in a Schedule, during the period in any year commencing at the time and on the day specified in the corresponding row in column 2 and ending at the time and on the day specified in the corresponding row in column 3 of the Closures Table referred to in clause 6, applies for and receives an exemption from AFMA in accordance with Schedule 10; or
2. is carrying out a gear trial in accordance with NPFD 116.

**7.3** The prohibition in clause 6 does not apply to a person who:

- (a) is entitled to fish in the Northern Prawn Fishery using a boat under the *Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995*; and
- (b) uses the boat when fishing for gravid prawns; and
- (c) holds a written approval from the Australian Fisheries Management Authority to take gravid prawns from a specified area; and

- (d) does not fish for gravid prawns other than in accordance with that approval;  
or
- (e) a person who is fishing in accordance with another plan of management in force under the Act, or a law of a State or Territory that is in force in relation to the Northern Prawn Fishery area.

**Revocation of NPF Direction No. 112**

8. This Direction revokes NPF Direction No. 112 with effect from the date and time of commencement of this Direction.



## Closures Table

Column 1 (area)	Column 2 (period commencing)	Column 3 (period ending)
Schedule 1 (Sweers Island – Mornington Island)	2200 hours UTC 16 April 2008	0200 hours UTC 5 June 2008
Schedule 2 (Joseph Bonaparte Gulf)	2200 hours UTC 26 March 2008	0200 hours UTC 5 June 2008
Schedule 3 (North West of Groote Eylandt)	2200 hours UTC 26 March 2008	0200 hours UTC 5 June 2008
Schedule 4 (South West Corner)	2200 hours UTC 26 March 2008	0200 hours UTC 5 June 2008
Schedule 5 (Fog Bay/ Bynoe Harbour)	2200 hours UTC 26 March 2008	0200 hours UTC 5 June 2008
Schedule 6 (Lingi Point)	2200 hours UTC 26 March 2008	0200 hours UTC 5 June 2008
Schedule 7 Mid season closure	0200 hours UTC 5 June 2008	0830 hours UTC 31 December 2008
Schedule 8 Mid season closure	0200 hours UTC 5 June 2008	0830 hours UTC 31 December 2008

## SCHEDULE 1

### (Sweers Island - Mornington Island)

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at the point where Latitude 17° 00 S intersects the east coast of Bentinck Island;
- (b) then north easterly along the geodesic to the point of Latitude 16° 32'S Longitude 139° 42.66'E in the vicinity of Cape Van Diemen on Mornington Island;
- (c) then south easterly along the geodesic to the point of Latitude 16° 42.83'S Longitude 139° 49.5 E in the vicinity of the western side of South Bountiful Island;
- (d) then south along the meridian 139° 49.5'E to latitude 17° 00'S;
- (e) then west along the parallel of Latitude 17° 00'S to the point of commencement;
- (f) excepting for the exempt transit corridor listed in Schedule 9, Part 1.

## SCHEDULE 2

### (Joseph Bonaparte Gulf)

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at the intersection of the northern shore of the mainland of Australia, in the vicinity of Cape Londonderry at low water mark, with the meridian of Longitude 126° 58' East;
- (b) then running north along that meridian to its intersection with the parallel of Latitude 13° 00'South;
- (c) then running east along that parallel to its intersection with the mainland of Australia, in the vicinity of Point Blaze at low water; and
- (d) then generally south westerly, southerly, westerly and north-westerly along that shore at low water to the point of commencement.

## SCHEDULE 3

### (North West of Groote Elyandt)

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at the point of Latitude 13° 38' South, Longitude 136° 57' East;
- (b) then running north-westerly along the geodesic to the intersection of the southern shore of the mainland of Australia at low-water in the vicinity of Cape Arrowsmith with the point Latitude 13°15' South and Longitude 136°27.6' East;
- (c) then running south-westerly along the geodesic to the intersection of the southern shore of the mainland of Australia at low-water in the vicinity of Cape Shield with the meridian of Longitude 136°20.5' East;
- (d) then in a southerly Direction along the geodesic to the western most point of the Connexion Island shore at low-water;
- (e) then in generally a south westerly Direction along the geodesics to the intersection of Latitude 14°30' South, Longitude 136°00' East;
- (f) then due east along the parallel of Latitude 14°30' South to Longitude 136°19.5'East;
- (g) then running north along that meridian to South Point, Groote Eylandt;
- (h) then running along the western shore of Groote Eylandt to the point Latitude 13°45' South Longitude 136°50' East in the vicinity of Scott Point;
- (i) then northeast along the geodesic to the point of commencement;

- (j) excepting for the exempt transit corridors listed in Schedule 9, Parts 2 & 3.

## SCHEDULE 4

### (South West Corner)

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at the point Latitude 14° 30'S Longitude 136° E on the Cape Shield to West Island permanent closure;
- (b) then south westerly to the point latitude 14° 37.7'S Longitude 135° 46.8'E;
- (c) then south westerly to the point Latitude 14° 50'S Longitude 135° 44.9'E on Maria Island;
- (d) then southerly along the coast of Maria Island to the point Latitude 14° 54'S Longitude 135° 46'E;
- (e) then south easterly to the point Latitude 15° 27'S Longitude 136° 46.2'E;
- (f) then east to the point Latitude 15° 27'S Longitude 137° 04.2'E;
- (g) then south to the point Latitude 15° 37.8'S Longitude 137° 04.2'E;
- (h) then south easterly to the eastern tip of Steep Cut at Latitude 15° 43.2S Longitude 137° 06'E;
- (i) then south easterly to the point Latitude 15° 46.2'S Longitude 137° 20'E;
- (j) then south easterly to the point Latitude 16° 00'S Longitude 137° 45'E;
- (k) then south along the meridian to its intersection with the northern shore of the mainland of Australia;
- (l) then north west following the coastline of Australia and the Cape Shield to West Island permanent closure to the point of commencement.

## SCHEDULE 5

### (Fog Bay / Bynoe Harbour)

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at the low water mark of the northern most point of Charles Point to the north west of Darwn Harbour;
- (b) then north westerly along the geodesic to the point of Latitude 12°22'South, Longitude 130°17' East;
- (c) then south westerly along the geodesic to the point of Latitude 12°27' South, Longitude 130°15' East;
- (d) then south along the meridian to the point of Latitude 12°32' South, Longitude 130°15' East;
- (e) then south easterly along the geodesic to the point Latitude 12°42' South, 130°16' East;
- (f) then east along that latitude to the intersection with the low water mark of the shore;
- (g) then generally northerly and easterly along the low water mark of the shore to the point of commencement.

## SCHEDULE 6

### (Lingi Point)

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at the intersection of Latitude 11° 08'S Longitude 132° 00'E in the vicinity of Vashion Head;
- (b) then running north along the meridian to Latitude 11° 05'S;

- (a) then north westerly along the geodesic to the point of Latitude 10° 59 S, 131°53.7'E;
- (b) then south westerly along the geodesic to the intersection of Latitude 11° 08'S 131° 45'E;
- (c) then running southerly along the geodesic to the low water mark at Latitude 11° 18'S Longitude 131° 46'E;
- (d) then generally easterly and northerly along that shore at low water to the point of commencement.

## SCHEDULE 7

### Mid Season Closure

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at the intersection of the meridian of longitude 138° East and the mainland of Australia at the low water mark; and
- (b) then running north along that meridian to its intersection with the parallel of Latitude 11° 47' South; and
- (c) then east along the geodesic to the intersection of the parallel of Latitude 11°47' South with the northern shore of the mainland at low water mark, in the vicinity of the Skardon River, on the eastern side of the Gulf of Carpentaria; and
- (d) then generally southerly and then generally westerly along that shore at low-water to the point of commencement.

## SCHEDULE 8

### Mid Season Closure

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at the intersection of the north-western shore of the mainland of Australia at low-water with the meridian of Longitude 123°45' East;
- (b) then running north along that meridian to its intersection with the parallel of Latitude 15°28' South;
- (c) then north-easterly along the geodesic to the point of Latitude 14°53' South, Longitude 124°08' East;
- (d) then north-easterly along the geodesic to the point of Latitude 14°12' South, Longitude 124o50' East;
- (e) then north-easterly along the geodesic to the point of Latitude 13°28' South, Longitude 125°43' East;
- (f) then east along the parallel of Latitude 13°28' South to the meridian of Longitude 127°00' East;
- (g) then north easterly along the geodesic to the point of Latitude 13°21.4' South, Longitude 129°30.9' East;
- (h) then south westerly along the geodesic to the point of Latitude 13°45' South, Longitude 129°12' East;
- (i) then west along the parallel to the intersection with the mainland at low water mark;
- (j) then generally north easterly along the shore at low water mark to the parallel of latitude 13°10' South;
- (k) then westerly along the parallel to the point of Latitude 13°10' South, Longitude 129°40 East;
- (l) then north along the meridian of Longitude 129°40' East to its intersection with the parallel of Latitude 10°30' South;
- (m) then east along that parallel to its intersection with the meridian of Longitude 133°16' East;
- (n) then south along that meridian to its intersection with the parallel of Latitude 11°00' South;
- (o) then south-easterly along the geodesic to the point of Latitude 11°25' South, Longitude 134°15' East;
- (p) then east along the parallel of Latitude 11°25' South to its intersection with the meridian of

- Longitude 135°35' East;
- (q) then north-easterly along the geodesic to the point of Latitude 11°05' South, Longitude 136°10' East;
- (r) then north-easterly along the geodesic to the point of Latitude 10°30' South, Longitude 136°40' East;
- (s) then south-easterly along the geodesic to the point of Latitude 11°00' South, Longitude 137°05' East;
- (t) then south along the meridian of Longitude 137°05' East to its intersection with the parallel of Latitude 11°47' South;
- (u) then north easterly along the geodesic to the point of intersection of the parallel of Latitude 11° 29.16' South with the meridian of Longitude 138° East;
- (v) then south along that meridian to its intersection with the mainland at low water mark;
- (w) then generally westerly along the shore at low water mark to the point of commencement.

## **SCHEDULE 9**

### **EXEMPT TRANSIT CORRIDORS**

#### **Part 1 - Sweers Island - Mornington Island**

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at the point of Latitude 16°52.5' South, Longitude 139°37.83' East;
- (b) then running east along that parallel to its intersection with the meridian of Longitude 139°53.42' East;
- (c) then generally south along the geodesic to the point of Latitude 16°56' South, Longitude 139°54.66' East;
- (d) then west along that parallel to its intersection with the meridian of Longitude 139°37.08' East; and
- (e) then generally north to the point of commencement.

#### **Part 2 - Groote Eylandt, west**

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at the point of Latitude 14°18.5' South, Longitude 136°19.5' East; then running north westerly along the geodesic to the point of Latitude 14°14.3' South, Longitude 136°14.5' East;
- (b) then generally north easterly along the geodesic to the point of Latitude 13°50.5' South, Longitude 136°23' East;
- (c) then running generally north along the geodesic to the point of Latitude 13°43.8' South, Longitude 136°25.8' East;
- (d) then running north east to the point of Latitude 13°25.5' South, Longitude 136°41.2' East;
- (e) then south east to the point of Latitude 13°26.3' South, Longitude 136°42.2' East;
- (f) then south west to the point of Latitude 13°44.5' South, Longitude 136°26.8' East;
- (g) then running generally south along the geodesic to Latitude 13°50.5' South, Longitude 136°24' East;
- (h) then running south westerly to the point of Latitude 14°13.7' South, Longitude 136°16' East;
- (i) then south easterly to the point of Latitude 14°16.5' South, Longitude 136°19.5' East;
- (j) then south to the point of commencement.

#### **Part 3 - Groote Eylandt, north**

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at the point of Latitude 13°32' South, Longitude 136°35.5' East;
- (b) then running south west to the point of Latitude 13°40' South, Longitude 136°33.5' East;
- (c) then running south east to the point of Latitude 13°41.25' South, Longitude 136°34.75' East on the northern tip of Groote Eylandt at low water;
- (d) then running east to the point of Latitude 13°40.55' South, Longitude 136°35.61' East;
- (e) then running northerly to the point of Latitude 13°40' South, Longitude 136°35.62' East on the southern side of Chasm Island at low water;
- (f) then running westerly along that shore at low water to the point of Latitude 13°40 South, Longitude 136°34.6' East on the western side of Chasm Island;
- (g) then generally north east along the geodesic to the point of Latitude 13°32.5' South, Longitude 136°36.5' East; and
- (h) then running generally north west to the point of commencement.

## **SCHEDULE 10**

### **APPLICATIONS FOR EXEMPTIONS**

1. An application for exemption to an AFMA Compliance Officer in Canberra, must be made either by telephone, by fax or in person as follows:
  - (a) by telephone to (02) 6225 5369 or 0418 468 134; or
  - (b) by fax to (02) 6225 5443 ; or
  - (c) after hours on 0419 205 329
2. An exemption approval from an AFMA Compliance Officer must be provided to the person in writing, and must be:
  - (a) posted to an address; or
  - (b) transmitted to a fax number; or
  - (c) provided via email;nominated by the person giving the notice.
3. Applications for exemptions to prohibitions on navigation in prohibited areas during seasonal closures will be considered for approval in exceptional circumstances. Where navigation is required because of vessel breakdown, distress, medical emergency, cyclone or weather warning, or to access an anchorage where no transit corridor has been provided, applications for an exemption will always be approved.
4. In the event that an exemption approval is not granted by an AFMA Compliance Officer, a vessel operator may request that the application be reviewed by a person who did not participate in the making of the original decision and who holds, occupies, or performs the duties of position titles General Manager, Strategy and Planning and Executive Secretary, General Manager, Operations or General Manager, Fisheries.

**FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ACT 1991  
NORTHERN PRAWN FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN 1995**

**NPF DIRECTION No. 114  
(revoking NPF Direction No.103)  
PROHIBITION ON FISHING  
(PRIOR TO SEASONS)**

The Australian Fisheries Management Authority makes the following Direction under section 17(5A) and 17(5B) of the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* and section 25(1) of the *Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995*.

Dated this      March 2008

The Common seal of the Australian  
Fisheries Management Authority  
was affixed in accordance with a  
resolution of the Board

Peter Witheridge

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**Citation**

1. This Direction may be cited as NPF Direction No. 114.

**Commencement**

2. This Direction commences the day after it is registered on the Federal Register of Legislative Instruments.

**Application**

3. This Direction applies to a holder of statutory fishing rights in the Northern Prawn Fishery and to a person acting on behalf of the holder.

**Period of Application**

4. This Direction applies for a period beginning on the date this Direction commences and ending on 31 December 2009.

**Interpretation**

- 5.1 In this Direction:

"**boat**" means a boat that is nominated on statutory fishing rights for the Northern Prawn Fishery;

"**gear trial**" means a test, or a series of short tests, of equipment on or towed by a boat and carried out under the following conditions:

- (a) the test is conducted in such a way as to avoid the capture of fish, primarily by

keeping the cod end of nets fully open at all times; and

- (b) fish that are captured in the equipment during the test are returned to the sea as soon as practicable after it becomes apparent that the fish have been captured.

**"fishing"** means the commercial fishing activities that are referred to in section 14 of the *Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995*;

**"equipment"** means equipment for fishing;

**"rack"** means a structure on a boat (including a structure on, or forming a part of, the deck of the boat) designed specifically for carrying otter boards when the boards are not in use; and

**"UTC"** means Coordinated Universal Time, the time scale based on the second (SI), maintained by the International Bureau of Weights and Measures. For the purposes of this Direction UTC is equivalent to mean solar time at the prime meridian (0 degrees longitude), formerly expressed in Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).

- 5.2** A term used in this Direction that is defined for the purposes of the *Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995* has the same meaning in this Direction as it has in that plan.

[**Notes:** 1. Terms defined in the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* have the same meanings in this Direction. 2. Terms defined in the *Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995* include "Northern Prawn Fishery" and "Northern Prawn Fishery area".]

- 5.3** The origin of geographical coordinates used in this Direction is the Australian Geodetic Datum 1966 (AGD66).

### **Prohibition on Fishing**

- 6.** A person is prohibited from fishing in:
  - (a) the areas described in Schedule 1 during the period commencing at 2200 hours UTC on 30 November in any year and ending at 2200 hours UTC on 21 March in the following year; and
  - (b) the area described in Schedule 2, other than the sub areas within that area that are described in Schedules 3 and 5, during a period commencing at 2200 hours UTC on 14 March in any year and ending at 1400 UTC 26 March; and
  - (c) the area described in Schedule 2, except for the areas described in Schedule 3, during the period in any year commencing at 1400 UTC on 26 March and ending at 2200 hours UTC on 26 March.

### **Prohibition on equipment**

- 7.1** A person in the areas described in Schedule 2 and Schedule 3 and Schedule 5 is prohibited from having in that person's possession or in that person's charge boat equipment of the kind described in subsection 7.2, during the period commencing at 2200 hours UTC on 30 November in any year and ending at 2200 hours UTC on 26 March in the following year;
- 7.2** The equipment referred to in subsection 7.1 is equipment that is:
  - (a) capable of being used for any kind of trawling; or
  - (b) capable of being used for taking the fish that can be fished for under a statutory

fishing right for the Northern Prawn Fishery.

### **To whom does the prohibition on fishing not apply?**

- 8.1** The prohibition in clause 6 does not apply to a person in the area of the fishery during the period commencing at 2130 hours UTC 26 March and ending at 2200 hours UTC 26 March, if the person carries the equipment out of the water or, if any part of the equipment is in the water:
- (a) that part is drawn up to the boat; and
  - (b) that part is visible from a nearby aircraft or boat; and
  - (c) if the equipment includes cod ends - the cod ends are open; and
  - (d) if the equipment includes lazy lines and blocks - the lazy lines are on the blocks; or
- 8.2** The prohibition in clause 6 does not apply to a person who:
- (a) carries out a gear trial in accordance with Direction No. NPF 116; or
  - (b) before entering the area described in Schedule 1 during the period commencing at 2200 hours UTC on 30 November in any year and ending at 2200 hours UTC on 21 March in the following year, applies for and receives an exemption from AFMA in accordance with Schedule 4.; or
  - (c) is within an area described as an exempt designated steaming track in Schedule 5, commencing at 2200 hours UTC on 14 March in any year and ending at 1400 UTC on 26 March and carries the equipment inboard on the boat with any boards, beams and skids that are part of the equipment stowed in a rack or on the deck; or
  - (d) is within the area described in Schedule 2, during the period commencing at 1400 UTC on 26 March and ending at 2200 hours UTC on 26 March applies to AFMA and receives a written confirmation from AFMA for an exemption in accordance with Schedule 6.

### **To whom does the prohibition on equipment not apply?**

- 9.1** The prohibition in clause 7 does not apply to a person if the person:
- (a) carries the equipment inboard on the boat and any boards, beams and skids that are part of the equipment are stowed in a rack or on the deck; or
  - (b) is carrying out a gear trial in accordance with Direction No. NPF 116.
- 9.2** The prohibition in clause 7 does not apply to a person in an area described in Schedule 3 during the period commencing at 1400 UTC on 26 March and ending at 2200 hours UTC on 26 March if the person carries the equipment out of the water or, if any part of the equipment is in the water:
- (a) that part is drawn up to the boat; and
  - (b) that part is visible from a nearby aircraft or boat; and
  - (a) if the equipment includes cod ends - the cod ends are open; and
  - (b) if the equipment includes lazy lines and blocks - the lazy lines are on the blocks.

### **To whom do the prohibitions in clauses 6 and 7 not apply?**

- 10.** The prohibitions in both of clauses 6 and 7 do not apply to a person if the person is fishing in accordance with another plan of management in force under the Act, or a law of a State or Territory that is in force in relation to the Northern Prawn Fishery area.

### **Revocation of Direction No. NPF 103**

- 11.** This Direction revokes NPF Direction No. 103 with effect from the date of this Direction.

## **SCHEDULE 1**

### **Gulf of Carpentaria**

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at the intersection of the parallel of Latitude 12°20.9' South with the meridian of Longitude 136°58.5' East;
- (b) then running north along that meridian to its intersection with the parallel of Latitude 12° South;
- (c) then east along that parallel to its intersection with the mainland of Australia in the vicinity of Port Musgrave;
- (d) then along the mainland shore of the Gulf of Carpentaria at low-water to the point of commencement.

## **SCHEDULE 2**

### **VMS Controlled Start**

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at the intersection of the northern shore of the mainland of Australia by the parallel of Latitude 11° 45'South in the vicinity of Kerr Reef;
- (b) then running west along the parallel of Latitude 11° 45'South to the meridian of Longitude 141° 27.6' East;
- (c) then running south westerly along the geodesic to the point of Latitude 12° 13.2 South, 141° 05' East;
- (d) then running south along the meridian to its intersection with the Latitude 15°30' South;
- (e) then running south westerly to the point of Latitude 16°40' South and Longitude 140°40' East;
- (f) then running west along the parallel to the intersection of the point of Latitude 16°40 South and 140°09' East;
- (g) then running north along the meridian to the intersection with the point of Latitude 15°50' South;
- (h) then running north westerly to the point of Latitude 15°00' South and 137°12' East;
- (i) then north along the meridian to the intersection with Latitude 12°00' South;
- (j) then north westerly to the intersection with the point of Latitude 11°00' South and Longitude 136°46' East in the vicinity of Cape Wessel;
- (k) then west along the parallel to the intersection with Longitude 136°26' East;
- (l) then south westerly to the intersection with the point Latitude 11°23' South and Longitude 135°43' East;
- (m) then south westerly to the intersection with the point Latitude 11°30' South and Longitude 134°34' East;
- (n) then north westerly to the intersection with the point Latitude 10°40' South and Longitude 132°50' East;
- (o) then west along that parallel to the intersection with the meridian of Longitude 132°30' East;
- (p) then south westerly to the intersection with the point Latitude 10°50' South and Longitude 132°05' East;
- (q) then west along the parallel to the intersection with Longitude 130°18' East;
- (r) then south westerly to the intersection with the point of Latitude 11°07' South and Longitude 129°48' East;
- (s) then south along the meridian to its intersection with the parallel of Latitude 11°50' South;
- (t) then south easterly to the intersection with the point Latitude 12°15' South and Longitude 129°55' East;
- (u) then south along the meridian to the intersection with the parallel of Latitude 12°37' South;
- (v) then south westerly to the intersection with the point Latitude 13°28.5' South and Longitude 127° 39' East;
- (v) then west along that parallel to the intersection with Longitude 126°58' East;

- (w) then south along that meridian to its intersection with Latitude 13°44' South in the vicinity of Cape Londonderry;
- (x) then generally easterly along the shore at low water mark to the point of commencement.

### **SCHEDULE 3**

#### **Assembly Areas**

##### **Part A - Weipa assembly area**

The areas of proclaimed waters contained within the area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at the intersection of the northern shore of the mainland of Australia on the Weipa Peninsular, in the vicinity of Gonbung Point (Evans Point), at low-water by the parallel of Latitude 12°40' South;
- (b) then running west along that parallel to its intersection with the meridian of Longitude 141°43.3' East;
- (c) then south along that meridian to its intersection with the parallel of Latitude 12°43.2' South;
- (d) then east along that parallel to its intersection with the northern shore of the mainland of Australia on Cape York Peninsula at low-water; and
- (e) then generally northerly along that shore at low-water to the point of commencement.

##### **Part B - Karumba assembly area**

The area of proclaimed waters contained within the area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at the intersection of the southern shore of the Gulf of Carpentaria at low-water by the meridian of Longitude 140°40' East;
- (b) running then north along that meridian to its intersection with the parallel of Latitude 17°21' South;
- (c) then east along that parallel to its intersection with the eastern shore of the Gulf of Carpentaria at low-water; and
- (d) then generally south-westerly along that shore at low-water to the point of commencement.

##### **Part C - Darwin assembly area**

The area of waters known as Darwin Harbour Waters landward of the geodesic between the westernmost point on East Point at low-water and the easternmost point on West Point at low-water.

##### **Part D - Gove assembly area**

The area of waters known as Gove Harbour landward of the geodesic between the easternmost point on Shepherd Bluff at low-water and the northernmost point on Wargarpunda Point at low-water.

### **SCHEDULE 4**

#### **Application for Exemption to Schedule 1**

1. An application for exemption for Schedule 1, to AFMA, Compliance Officer in Canberra, must be made either by telephone, by fax or in person as follows:
  - (a) by telephone to (02) 6225 5369 or 0418 468 134; or
  - (b) by fax to (02) 6225 5442 or (02) 6225 5443 ; or
  - (c) after hours on 0419 205 329.
2. An exemption approval from AFMA, Compliance Officer must be provided to the person in writing, and must be:
  - (a) posted to an address; or
  - (b) transmitted to a fax number; or
  - (c) provided via email;
 nominated by the person giving the notice.

3. Applications for exemptions to prohibitions on navigation listed in Schedule 1 will be considered for approval in exceptional circumstances. Where navigation is required because of vessel breakdown, distress, medical emergency, cyclone or weather warning, or to access an anchorage where no transit corridor has been provided, applications for an exemption will always be approved.
4. In the event that an exemption approval is not granted by an AFMA Compliance Officer, a vessel operator may request that the application be reviewed by a person who did not participate in the making of the original decision and who holds, occupies, or performs the duties of position titles General Manager, Strategy and Planning and Executive Secretary, General Manager, Operations or General Manager, Fisheries.

## **SCHEDULE 5**

### **Designated Steaming Tracks**

#### **Darwin - west**

- (a) commencing at the point of Latitude 12° 18.48' South and Longitude 129°55' East;
- (b) then south easterly to the position Latitude 12°15' South and Longitude 130°20' East;
- (c) then ending at Latitude 12°20.2' South Longitude 130°41.8' East at the fairway buoy entering the Port of Darwin

#### **Darwin – east 1**

- (a) commencing at Latitude 12°20.2' South Longitude 130°41.8' East which is the fairway buoy at the entry to the Port of Darwin heading north easterly to the intersection of the point Latitude 12°19' South and Longitude 130°41.9' East;
- (b) then north easterly to the point Latitude 12° 04.6' South and Longitude 130°55.9' East;
- (c) then easterly to the point Latitude 12°04.7' South and Longitude 131°01.1' East;
- (d) then easterly to the point Latitude 12°05.5' South and Longitude 131°08' East;
- (e) then easterly to the point Latitude 12°04.8' South and Longitude 131°11.4' East;
- (f) then north easterly to the point Latitude 11°53' South and Longitude 131°21.5' East;
- (g) then north easterly to the point Latitude 11°53.3' and Longitude 131°33' East;
- (h) then north easterly to the point Latitude 11°39.8' South and Longitude 131°37.6' East;
- (i) then north easterly to the point Latitude 11°11.2' South and Longitude 131°42.1' East;
- (j) and then north easterly to the point Latitude 10°50' South and Longitude 132°05' East.

#### **Darwin – east 2**

- (a) commencing at Latitude 12°04' South, Longitude 130°55' East;
- (b) then following north channel through Vernon Islands in a north easterly direction to the point Latitude 11°55' South and Longitude 131°11' East;
- (c) then north easterly to the point Latitude 11°37' South and Longitude 131°30' East;
- (d) then north easterly to join steaming track 'Darwin east 1' at the point Latitude 11°30' South and Longitude 131°40' East;

#### **Gove**

- (a) commencing at the point of Latitude 11° 42.73' South and Longitude 136°53.73' East; and
- (b) ending at the point of Latitude 12°11.21' South and Longitude 136°39.2' East at the entry to Gove Harbour.

#### **Karumba**

- (a) commencing at the point of Latitude 16°30' South and Longitude 140°30' East;
- (b) then southerly to the point of Latitude 16°35.44' South and Longitude 140°30' East;

- (c) then south easterly to the point of Latitude 17°25.5' East and Longitude 140°43' East at the entry to the Port of Karumba.

**Weipa – north**

- (a) commencing at the point of Latitude 11° 45' South and Longitude 141° 27.6' East
- (b) then south-westerly to the Weipa north-west designated steaming track at the point of Latitude 12° 35' South and Longitude 141° 32.3' East

**Weipa - north-west**

- (a) commencing at the point of Latitude 12°00' South and Longitude 141°05' East;
- (b) then south easterly to the point of Latitude 12°42' South and Longitude 141°37.7' East;
- (c) then easterly along that meridian to the intersection with Longitude 141°40.3' East at the entry to the Port of Weipa.

**Weipa – west**

- (a) commencing at the point of Latitude 12°42' South and Longitude 141°37.7 East;
- (b) then west along that meridian to the intersection with Longitude 141°05.

**SCHEDULE 6**

**Application for Exemption to Schedule 2**

1. An application for exemption for Schedule 2, to AFMA Compliance Officer in Canberra, must be made only by fax (02) 6225 5442 or (02) 6225 5443.
2. An exemption approval from AFMA Compliance Officer must be provided to the person in writing, and must be:
  - (a) posted to an address; or
  - (b) transmitted to a fax number; or
  - (c) provided via email;nominated by the person giving the notice.
2. Applications for exemptions to prohibitions on navigation in Schedule 2 will be only be considered for approval in exceptional circumstances.
4. In the event that an exemption approval is not granted by an AFMA Compliance Officer, a vessel operator may request that the application be reviewed by a person who did not participate in the making of the original decision and who holds, occupies, or performs the duties of position titles General Manager, Strategy and Planning and Executive Secretary, General Manager, Operations or General Manager, Fisheries.

**FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ACT 1991  
NORTHERN PRAWN FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN 1995**

**NPF DIRECTION No. 115  
(revoking NPF Direction No.111)  
PROHIBITION ON FISHING**

The Australian Fisheries Management Authority makes the following Direction under section 17(5A) of the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* and section 25(1) of the *Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995*.

Dated this      March 2008

The Common seal of the Australian  
Fisheries Management Authority  
was affixed in accordance with a  
resolution of the Board

Peter Witheridge

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**Citation**

1. This Direction may be cited as NPF Direction No. 115

**Commencement**

2. This Direction commences the day after it is registered on the Federal Register of Legislative Instruments.

**Application**

3. This Direction applies to a holder of statutory fishing rights in the Northern Prawn Fishery and to a person acting on behalf of the holder.

**Period of Application**

4. This Direction applies for a period beginning on the date this Direction commences and ending on 31 December 2009.

**Interpretation**

- 5.1 In this Direction:  
"boat" means a boat that is nominated on statutory fishing rights for the Northern Prawn Fishery;  
"fishing" means the commercial fishing activities that are referred to in section 14 of the *Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995*;  
"UTC" means Coordinated Universal Time, the time scale based on the second (SI), maintained by the International Bureau of Weights and Measures. For the purposes of this Direction UTC is equivalent to mean solar time at the prime meridian (0 degrees longitude), formerly expressed in Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).

- 5.2** A term used in this Direction that is defined for the purposes of the *Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995* has the same meaning in this Direction as it has in that plan.

[Notes: 1. Terms defined in the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* have the same meanings in this determination. 2. Terms defined in the Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995 include “Northern Prawn Fishery” and “Northern Prawn Fishery” area

- 5.3** The origin of geographical coordinates used in this Direction is the Australian Geodetic Datum 1966 (AGD66).

### **Prohibition on fishing in the Gulf of Carpentaria and around the Goulburn Islands**

- 6.1** No fishing is to be engaged in the Area A and Area B described in Schedule 1 during the period in any year commencing at 2200 hours UTC on 26 March and ending at 2200 hours UTC on 31 December.

**6.2 West of 138° E**

No fishing is to be engaged in in Area C of Schedule 2 and that part of the area described in Area D of Schedule 2 which is west of the meridian of Longitude 138° E, between the times of 2230 hours UTC and 0830 hours UTC each day, during the period commencing at 0830 hours UTC on 1 August and ending at 2200 hours UTC on 31 December.

**6.3 East of 138° E**

No fishing is to be engaged in that part of the area described in Area D of Schedule 2 which is east of the meridian of Longitude 138° E, between the times of 2200 hours UTC and 0800 hours UTC each day, during the period in any year commencing at 0800 hours UTC on 1 August and ending at 2200 hours UTC on 31 December.

### **To whom do the prohibitions in clause 6 not apply?**

- 7** The prohibitions in clause 6 do not apply to a person if the person is fishing in accordance with another plan of management in force under the Management Act, or a law of a State or Territory that is in force in relation to the Northern Prawn Fishery area.

### **Revocation of NPF Direction No. 111**

- 8** This Direction revokes NPF Direction No. 111 with effect from the date of this Direction.

## SCHEDULE 1

### Area A - Gulf of Carpentaria

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at the intersection of mainland Australia at low-water mark and Latitude 14° 20' South;
- (b) then running east along the parallel to its intersection with the meridian of the Longitude 136°;
- (c) then running south easterly to the point of Latitude 15°30' South, Longitude 137°30' East;
- (d) then running south easterly to the point of Latitude 16° South, Longitude 138° East;
- (e) then generally south easterly to point of Latitude 16°15' South, Longitude 139° East;
- (f) then running parallel to its intersection with the meridian of the Longitude 140°;
- (g) then north along the meridian of Longitude 140° East to its intersection with the parallel of Latitude 12°15' South;
- (h) then west along that parallel to its intersection of mainland Australia at low-water mark in the vicinity of Nhulunbuy;
- (i) then generally southerly along that shore at low-water to the point of commencement.

### Area B - Goulburn Islands

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at the intersection of the mainland at low-water mark and Longitude 133°30' East;
- (b) then north along the meridian to the intersection with Latitude 11°20' South;
- (c) then west along the geodesic to the point Latitude 11° 20' South and Longitude 132°55' East in the vicinity of De Courcy Head;
- (d) then generally southerly and easterly along that shore at low-water to the point of commencement.

## SCHEDULE 2

### Area C - Goulburn Islands

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at the intersection of the northern shore of the mainland of Australia at low-water with the meridian of Longitude 132°57.7' East;
- (b) then running north along that meridian to its intersection with the parallel of Latitude 11°10.5' South; and
- (c) then east along that parallel to its intersection with the meridian of Longitude 133°31' East;
- (d) then south along that meridian to the northern shore of the mainland of Australia at low-water;
- (e) then west along that shore at low water mark to the point of commencement.

### Area D - Gulf of Carpentaria

The area bounded at the line:

- (a) commencing at the intersection of the northern shore of the mainland of Australia at low-water with the meridian of Longitude 135°56.5' East;
- (b) then north-easterly along the geodesic to the point of Latitude 11°55' South, Longitude 135°55.2' East, being the southern most point of Alger Island;

- (c) then north-easterly along the eastern coastline of Alger Island, that is along the low-water line on the coast to the northern most point of Alger Island;
- (d) then along the geodesic to the point of Latitude  $11^{\circ}45.8'$  South, Longitude  $136^{\circ}00.2'$  East, being the southern most point of Cunningham Island;
- (e) then north-easterly across all islands to the Wessel Island Group, that is along the low-water line on the coast to Cape Wessel;
- (f) then generally easterly to the point of Latitude  $11^{\circ}00'$  South, Longitude  $137^{\circ}05'$  East;
- (g) then south along the meridian of Longitude  $137^{\circ}05'$  East to its intersection with the parallel of Latitude  $11^{\circ}47'$  South;
- (h) then generally easterly to the intersection of the parallel of Latitude  $11^{\circ}00'$  South with the northern shore of the mainland of Australia at low-water, in the vicinity of Crab Island, on the eastern side of the Gulf of Carpentaria; and
- (i) then generally southerly, north-westerly, northerly, westerly and south-westerly along that shore at low-water to the point of commencement.

**FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ACT 1991  
NORTHERN PRAWN FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN 1995**

**NPF DIRECTION No. 116  
GEAR TRIALS**

(revoking NPF Direction No. 110)

The Australian Fisheries Management Authority makes the following Direction under section 17(5A) of *the Fisheries Management Act 1991* and section 25(1) of the *Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995*.

Dated this      March 2008

The Common seal of the Australian  
Fisheries Management Authority  
was affixed in accordance with a  
resolution of the Board

Peter Witheridge

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**Citation**

1. This Direction may be cited as NPF Direction No. 116.

**Commencement**

2. This Direction commences on the day after it is registered.

**Application**

3. This Direction applies to a holder of statutory fishing rights in the Northern Prawn Fishery and to a person acting on behalf of the holder.

**Period of Application**

4. This Direction applies for a period beginning on the date this Direction commences and ending on 31 December 2009.

**Interpretation**

**5.1** In this Direction:

"**boat**" means a boat that is nominated on statutory fishing rights for the Northern Prawn Fishery;

"**fishing**" means the commercial fishing activities that are referred to in section 14 of the *Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995*;

"**equipment**" means equipment for fishing;

"**gear trial**" means a test, or a series of short tests, of equipment on or towed by a boat and carried out under the following conditions:

- (a) the test is conducted in such a way as to avoid the capture of fish, primarily by

keeping the cod end of nets fully open at all times; and

- (b) fish that are captured in the equipment during the test are returned to the sea as soon as practicable after it becomes apparent that the fish have been captured.

**"UTC"** means Coordinated Universal Time, the time scale based on the second (SI), maintained by the International Bureau of Weights and Measures. For the purposes of this Direction UTC is equivalent to mean solar time at the prime meridian (0 degrees longitude), formerly expressed in Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).

- 5.2** A term used in this Direction that is defined for the purposes of the *Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan* 1995 has the same meaning in this Direction as it has in that plan.

[**Notes:** 1. Terms defined in the *Fisheries Management Act* 1991 have the same meanings in this determination.

2. Terms defined in the *Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan* 1995 include "Northern Prawn Fishery" and "Northern Prawn Fishery area". ]

- 5.3** The origin of geographical coordinates used in this Direction is the Australian Geodetic Datum 1966 (AGD66).

### **Prohibition on fishing other than gear trials**

- 6.1** No fishing is to be engaged in the areas described in Divisions A, B and C of the Schedule, prior to 2200 UTC 26 March, other than for the purposes of carrying out a gear trial in accordance with this Direction.
- 6.2** A gear trial mentioned in subsection 6.1 may be carried out only during the period commencing at 2200 hours UTC on 13 March and ending at 2200 hours UTC on 24 March; and
- 6.3** A gear trial carried out in an area described in Division A or B of the Schedule may only be carried out by a person:
- (a) whose boat is berthed in Karumba at 2200 hours UTC on 13 March 2008; and
  - (b) who for the purposes of carrying out a gear trial, navigates the boat directly from Karumba to, or to Karumba from, either of the areas described in Division A and Division B of the Schedule.

### **Prohibition on gear trials and its application**

- 7.1** A gear trial mentioned in section 6 is prohibited from being carried out unless notification of the intention to carry out a gear trial is made in accordance with this section.
- 7.2** That not less than 24 hours before commencing a gear trial in:
- (a) an area described in Divisions C of the Schedule - the person conducting the gear trial, or another person on the boat, must notify the Regional Duty Officer, AFMA Darwin in accordance with a method described in subsections 7.3 and 7.5; or
  - (b) an area described in Division A or Division B of the Schedule - the person conducting the gear trial, or another person on the boat, must notify the District Manager at Cairns in accordance with a method described in subsections 7.4 and 7.5;
- that the boat will be used to carry out the gear trial in the area.
- 7.3** A notice to the Regional Duty Officer, AFMA Darwin must be given either:
- (a) by mail to PO Box 131, Darwin 0801; or
  - (b) by fax to (08) 8942 2897; or
  - (c) by telephone to 0428 196 114; or
  - (d) in person.

- 7.4** A notice to the District Manager, Queensland Boating & Fisheries Patrol at Cairns must be given either:
- (a) by mail to PO Box 7453 CAIRNS QLD 4870; or
  - (b) by fax to (07) 4035 1603; or
  - (c) by telephone to (07) 40350700; or 0417 782217 or
  - (d) in person.
- 7.5** An exemption approval from the Senior Sergeant – Marine Enforcement NT Police in Darwin or District Manager, Queensland Boating & Fisheries Patrol in Cairns must be notified to the person giving notice in writing and must be:
- (a) posted to an address; or
  - (b) transmitted to a fax number;
- nominated by the person giving the notice.

**To whom do the prohibitions in sections 6 and 7 not apply?**

- 8.** The prohibitions in sections 6 and 7 do not apply to a person if the person is fishing in accordance with another plan of management in force under the Act, or a law of a State or Territory that is in force in relation to the Northern Prawn Fishery area.

**Revocation of Direction No. NPDF 110**

- 9.** This Direction revokes NPF Direction No. 110 with effect from the date of this Direction

## **THE SCHEDULE**

### **GEAR TRIAL AREAS**

#### **Division A - Karumba southern gear trial area**

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at the point of Latitude 17°20' South, Longitude 140°35' East;
- (b) then running north along the meridian of Longitude 140°35' East to its intersection with the parallel of Latitude 17°15' South;
- (c) then east along that parallel to its intersection with the meridian of Longitude 140°45' East;
- (d) then south along that meridian to its intersection with the parallel of Latitude 17°20' South; and
- (e) then west along that parallel to the point of commencement.

#### **Division B - Karumba northern gear trial area**

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at the point of Latitude 16°35' South, Longitude 140°25' East;
- (b) running then north along the meridian of Longitude 140°25' East to its intersection with the parallel of Latitude 16°30' South;
- (c) then east along that parallel to its intersection with the meridian of Longitude 140°30' East;
- (d) then south along that meridian to its intersection with the parallel of Latitude 16°35' South; and
- (e) then west along that parallel to the point of commencement.

#### **Division C - Darwin gear trial area**

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at the point of Latitude 12°20' South and Longitude 130°36' East,
- (b) then running north along that meridian of Longitude 130°36' East to its intersection with the parallel of Latitude 12°15' South;
- (c) then east along that parallel to its intersection with the meridian Longitude 130°41' East;
- (d) then south along that meridian to the intersection with the parallel of Latitude 12°20' South, and
- (e) then west along that parallel to the point of commencement.

**FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ACT 1991  
NORTHERN PRAWN FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN 1995**

**NPF DIRECTION No. 117  
(revoking NPF Direction No. 67)  
BUG SIZE LIMITS**

The Australian Fisheries Management Authority makes the following Direction under section 17(5A) of the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* and section 25(1) of the *Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995*.

Dated this      March 2008

The Common seal of the Australian  
Fisheries Management Authority  
was affixed in accordance with a  
resolution of the Board

Peter Witheridge

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**Citation**

1. This Direction may be cited as NPF Direction No. 117.

**Commencement**

2. This Direction commences on the day after it is registered on the Federal Register of Legislative Instruments.

**Application**

3. This Direction applies to a holder of statutory fishing rights in the Northern Prawn Fishery, and to a person acting on behalf of the holder, when fishing in the Northern Prawn Fishery area.

**Period of Application**

4. This Direction applies for a period beginning on the date this Direction commences and ending on 31 March 2012.

**Interpretation**

- 5.1 In this Direction:  
"boat" means a boat that is nominated on statutory fishing rights for the Northern Prawn Fishery;  
"bugs" means fish of the species *Thenus indicus* and *Thenus orientalis*;  
"carapace width" means the width of the carapace when measured at its widest point;  
"egg-bearing female bugs" includes bugs that have been 'scrubbed' to remove any eggs and includes bugs that have had their eggs removed using chemicals;  
"fishing" means the commercial fishing activities that are referred to in section 14 of the *Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995*;

"equipment" means equipment for fishing;

"trip" means the period between the unloading of a catch, or part of a catch, to a mothership or port or any other point where catch is unloaded;

"UTC" means Coordinated Universal Time, the time scale based on the second (SI), maintained by the International Bureau of Weights and Measures. For the purposes of this Direction UTC is equivalent to mean solar time at the prime meridian (0 degrees longitude), formerly expressed in Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).

- 5.2** For the purposes of this Direction, the master of a boat is, at any time, presumed to have taken all of the fish present on the boat at that time and, in so doing, to have been acting on behalf of the holder of the statutory fishing rights in respect of which the boat is nominated.
- 5.3** A term used in this Direction that is defined for the purposes of the *Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995* has the same meaning in this Direction as it has in that plan.  
[Notes:1. Terms defined in the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* have the same meanings in this Direction.  
2. Terms defined in the Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995 include "Northern Prawn Fishery" and "Northern Prawn Fishery area". ]
- 5.4** This Direction is to be read consistently with other Directions made under the *Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995*.
- 5.5** The origin of geographical coordinates used in this Direction is the Australian Geodetic Datum 1966 (AGD66).

#### **Prohibitions on taking bugs**

- 6.1** No fishing for the following types of fish can be engaged in the fishery:
- (a) bugs with a carapace width less than 75mm; and/ or
  - (b) female egg-bearing bugs.
- 6.2** Bugs that are on board a boat are presumed to have been taken during:
- (a) the current trip; or
  - (b) if the boat is not on a trip, the most recent trip.
- 6.3** Bugs that are taken in accordance with this Direction must be retained whole.

#### **To whom do the prohibitions in clause 6 not apply?**

- 7.** The prohibition in clause 6.1 does not apply to a person if the person is fishing in accordance with another plan of management in force under the Management Act, or a law of a State or Territory that is in force in relation to the Northern Prawn Fishery area.

#### **Revocation of NPF Direction No. 67**

- 8.** This Direction revokes NPF Direction No. 67 with effect from the date of this Direction.

**FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ACT 1991  
NORTHERN PRAWN FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN 1995**

**NPF DIRECTION No. 102  
(revoking NPF Direction No. 97)  
PROTECTED AREA CLOSURES**

I, Richard McLoughlin, Managing Director of the Australian Fisheries Management Authority, as delegate, make the following Direction under section 17(5A) of the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* and section 25(1) of the *Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995*.

Dated March 2007

Managing Director  
Australian Fisheries Management Authority

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**Citation**

1. This Direction may be cited as NPF Direction No. 102.

**Commencement**

2. This Direction commences the day after it is registered.

**Application**

3. This Direction applies to a holder of statutory fishing rights in the Northern Prawn Fishery and to a person acting on behalf of the holder.

**Period of Application**

4. This Direction applies for a period beginning on the date this Direction commences and ending on 31 March 2009.

**Interpretation**

**5.1** In this Direction:

"**boat**" means a boat that is nominated on statutory fishing rights for the Northern Prawn Fishery;

"**fishing**" means the commercial fishing activities that are referred to in section 14 of the Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995;

"**equipment**" means equipment for fishing;

"**rack**" means a structure on a boat (including a structure on, or forming a part of, the deck of the boat) designed specifically for carrying otter boards when the boards are not in use;

"**the one nautical mile line**" means the line, every point of which is one nautical mile seaward from the shore at low-water, of the mainland or an island of Australia and "**the two nautical mile line**" and "**the three nautical mile line**" have corresponding meanings;

"**UTC**" means Coordinated Universal Time, the time scale based on the second (SI), maintained by the International Bureau of Weights and Measures. For the purposes of this Direction UTC is equivalent to mean solar time at the prime meridian (0 degrees

longitude), formerly expressed in Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).

**5.2** A term used in this Direction that is defined for the purposes of the Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995 has the same meaning in this Direction as it has in that plan.

[Notes: 1. Terms defined in the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* have the same meanings in this determination.

2. Terms defined in the Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995 include "Northern Prawn Fishery" and "Northern Prawn Fishery area". ]

**5.3** The origin of geographical coordinates used in this Direction is the Australian Geodetic Datum 1966 (AGD66).

### **Prohibition on fishing**

**6** No fishing is to be engaged in an area described in Schedule 1 in the fishery.

### **Revocation of Direction No. NPF 97**

**7** This Direction revokes NPF Direction No. 97 with effect the day after it is registered.

## SCHEDULE 1

### Closure Areas

#### Part 1 - Caledon Bay area

The area in Caledon Bay landward of the geodesic joining the easternmost point of Point Alexander at low-water and the northernmost point of the unnamed point northeast of Mt Caledon at low-water.

#### Part 2 - Port Langdon area

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at the northernmost point of Scott Point on Groote Eylandt at low-water;
- (b) then running north-easterly along the geodesic to the westernmost point on Hawk Island at low-water;
- (c) then generally westerly along the geodesic to the easternmost point on Jagged Point on an unnamed island at low-water;
- (d) then along the northern shore of that unnamed island at low-water to its northernmost point;
- (e) then west along the parallel of latitude which passes through that northernmost point to its intersection with the shore of Groote Eylandt at low-water; and
- (f) then generally southerly, easterly and northerly along that shore at low-water to the point of commencement.

#### Part 3 - North West Bay area

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at the northernmost point on Alyinga Island at low water;
- (b) then running west along the parallel of latitude which passes through that point to its intersection with the eastern shore of Winchelsea Island at low-water;
- (c) then generally southerly and south-westerly along that shore at low-water to its southernmost point, in the vicinity of the southern end of Winchelsea Passage;
- (d) then east along the parallel of latitude which passes through that point to its intersection with the shore of Groote Eylandt at low-water;
- (e) then generally northerly, easterly, southerly, easterly northerly, easterly and northerly along that shore at low-water to its intersection with the parallel of latitude which passes through the northernmost point of Finch Island at low-water;
- (f) then west along that parallel to the northernmost point on Finch Island at low-water; and
- (g) then westerly along the geodesic to the point of commencement.

#### Part 4 - Bartalumba Bay area

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at the westernmost point on Winchelsea Island at low-water;
- (b) then running west along the parallel which passes through that point to its intersection with the one nautical mile line;
- (c) then generally southerly, south-easterly, westerly and north-westerly along that line to its intersection with the meridian of longitude 136°27.3' in the vicinity of the northernmost point of the eastern entrance point to Deception Bay at low-water, on the northern shore of Groote Eylandt;
- (d) then generally north-easterly, southerly, easterly and northerly along that shore at low-water to its intersection with the meridian of longitude 136°31.75' East, in the vicinity of the eastern end of Winchelsea Passage;
- (e) then north along that meridian to its intersection with the south-eastern shore of Winchelsea Island at low-water; and
- (f) then generally south-westerly, westerly, north-westerly and northerly along that shore at low-water to the point of commencement.

## **Part 5 - Alyangula area**

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at the point of intersection of the jetty at Alyangula on Groote Eylandt by the western shore of Groote Eylandt at low-water;
- (b) then running west along the parallel of latitude which passes through that point to its intersection with the one nautical mile line;
- (c) then generally southerly along that line to its intersection with the parallel of Latitude 13°58' South;
- (d) then east along that parallel to its intersection with the eastern shore of Groote Eylandt at low-water, in the vicinity of the northern bank of the mouth of Angurugu Creek; and
- (e) then generally northerly along that shore at low-water to the point of commencement.

## **Part 6 - Cape Shield to West Island**

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at the southernmost point on Cape Shield on the mainland of Australia at low-water.
- (b) then running southerly along the geodesic to the westernmost point on Connexion Island at low-water;
- (c) then south-westerly along the geodesic to the point of Latitude 14°30' South, Longitude 136°00' East;
- (d) then west along the parallel of Latitude 14°30' South to its intersection with the eastern shore of Edward Island at low-water;
- (e) then generally south-westerly along that shore at low-water to its southernmost point;
- (f) then south-westerly along the geodesic to the point of intersection of the two nautical mile line around Wilipili Island with the two nautical mile line around the mainland of Australia;
- (g) then generally south-westerly, southerly and south-easterly along the two nautical mile line around the mainland of Australia to its intersection with the two nautical mile line around West Island in the Sir Edward Pellew Group;
- (h) then south-easterly along the geodesic to the southernmost point on Crocodile Point on West Island at Low-water;
- (i) then south-westerly along the geodesic to the point of intersection of the meridian of Longitude 136°28' East by the northern shore of the mainland of Australia at low-water; and
- (j) then generally north-westerly, northerly, north-easterly, westerly, northerly, north-easterly and southerly along that shore at low-water to the point of commencement.

## **Part 7 - Sir Edward Pellew Group**

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at the point of intersection of the meridian of Longitude 136°28' East by the northern shore of the mainland of Australia at low-water;
- (b) then running north-easterly along the geodesic to the southernmost point on Crocodile Point on West Island in the Sir Edward Pellew Group at low-water;
- (c) then generally easterly along the shore of West Island at low-water to its south-easternmost point;
- (d) then south-easterly along the geodesic to the northernmost point on South West Island at low-water;
- (e) then north-easterly along the geodesic to the westernmost point on Toby Point on Watson Island at low-water;
- (f) then generally north-easterly along the western shore of Watson Island at low-water to its north-westernmost point;
- (g) then north-easterly along the geodesic to the southernmost point of Paradise Bay on North Island at low-water;
- (h) then north-easterly along the shore to the northernmost point on Cape Pellew on North Island at low-water;
- (i) then south-easterly along the geodesic to the point of Latitude 15°34.7' South and Longitude

- 136°58.7' East;
- (j) then south along that meridian to its intersection with Kedge Point on Vanderlin Island;
  - (k) then generally northerly to the tip of Cape Vanderlin;
  - (l) then generally south-westerly, southerly, south-westerly, southerly and south-easterly along the eastern shore of Vanderlin Island at low-water to the southernmost point at Goat Point;
  - (m) then south along the meridian which passes through that point to its intersection with a line two nautical miles to sea from the mainland of Australia;
  - (n) then generally south-easterly along that two nautical mile line to its intersection with the meridian of Longitude 138°00' East;
  - (o) then south along that meridian to its intersection with the northern shore of the mainland of Australia at low-water; and
  - (p) then generally north-westerly, westerly and north-westerly along that shore at low-water to the point of commencement.

### **Part 8 - Darwin to Point Blaze**

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at the westernmost point on Point Blaze on the mainland of Australia;
- (b) then running west along the parallel of latitude which passes through that point to its intersection with the three nautical mile line;
- (c) then generally northerly, north-easterly, easterly, south-easterly, north-easterly, northerly, north-easterly, easterly, south-easterly, easterly, northerly, north-easterly, easterly, north-easterly, easterly and northerly along that line to its intersection with the parallel of Latitude 12°15' South;
- (d) then east along that parallel to its intersection with northern shore of the mainland of Australia at low-water; and
- (e) then generally southerly, westerly, south-westerly, southerly, westerly, northerly, north-westerly, south-westerly, southerly, westerly, southerly, south-westerly and westerly along that shore at low-water to the point of commencement.

excepting for exempt transit corridors Part 1 and 2 listed in Schedule 2

### **Part 9 - Dalumba Bay area**

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at the southernmost point of Lugadamanja Point on Groote Eylandt at low-water;
- (b) then running generally westerly, northerly, westerly, southerly, easterly and northerly along the eastern shore of Groote Eylandt at low-water to the northernmost point on the unnamed point, approximately 1.3 nautical miles west of Adilyagba Point at about the meridian of Longitude 136°46.5' East; and
- (c) then north-westerly along the geodesic to the point of commencement.

### **Part 10 - Port Essington area**

The area landward of the geodesic between the northernmost point on Vashon Head at low-water at Latitude 11° 08' South, Longitude 131° 59' East and the North-Eastern most point on Smith Point at low-water at Longitude 11° 07' South, Longitude 132° 08' East in Port Essington in the Northern Territory.

### **Part 11 - Mornington Island area**

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at the intersection of the mainland of Australia at low-water, in the vicinity of Tarrant Point, by the meridian of Longitude 139°25' East;
- (b) then running north-easterly along the geodesic to the point of Latitude 17°05.45' South, Longitude 139°34.4' East, in the vicinity of Raft Point on Bentinck Island;
- (c) then north-easterly along the geodesic to the point of Latitude 16°31.5' South, Longitude 139°42.45' East, in the vicinity of Cape Van Diemen on Mornington Island;
- (d) then north-easterly, along the geodesic to the point of Latitude 16°29.5' South, Longitude 139°49.0' East, in the vicinity of Pisonia Island;

- (e) then north-westerly along the geodesic to the point of Latitude 16°27' South, Longitude 139°43.5' East, in the vicinity of Mudgun Point on Lingnoonganee (Wallaby) Island;
- (f) then north-westerly to the point of Latitude 16°21.5' South, Longitude 139°33' East,
- (g) then south along that meridian to the intersection with Mornington Island in the vicinity of Thabugan Point at Latitude 16°23.5' South,
- (h) then generally south-westerly along that shore at low-water to the westernmost point of Gee Wee point;
- (i) then south-westerly along the geodesic to the intersection of the meridian of Longitude 138°50' East by the shore of the mainland of Australia at low-water, in the vicinity of Bundella Creek;
- (j) then generally easterly and south-easterly along that shore at low-water to the point of commencement; and
- (k) excepting for exempt transit corridors in Schedule 2, Part 3.

### **Part 11A – Mornington Island Benthic Survey Sites**

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) Commencing at the point Latitude 16°27.94'S, Longitude 139°7.65' E;
- (b) then east along that parallel of latitude to its intersection with the meridian of Longitude 139°12.3'E;
- (c) then south along that meridian to its intersection with the parallel of Latitude 16°30.33S;
- (d) then west along that parallel of Latitude to its intersection with the meridian of Longitude 139°7.65'E;
- (e) then north to the point of commencement; and

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) Commencing at the point Latitude 16°33.17S, Longitude 140°6.04'E;
- (b) then east along that parallel of Latitude to its intersection with the meridian of Longitude 140°12.25'E;
- (c) then south along that meridian to its intersection with the parallel of Latitude 16°39.86'S;
- (d) then west along that parallel of Latitude to its intersection with the meridian of Longitude 140°9.35E;
- (e) then north along that meridian to its intersection with the parallel of Latitude 16°35.64S;
- (f) then west along that parallel of Latitude to its intersection with the meridian of Longitude 140°6.04'E;
- (g) then north to the point of commencement.

### **Part 12 - Arnhem Bay area**

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at the intersection of the mainland of Australia at low-water, in the vicinity of the northern shore of Cape Newbald, by the meridian of Longitude 136°10' East;
- (b) then running north-westerly to Latitude 12°04' South, Longitude 136°02'.83 East in the vicinity of the northern point of Flinders Point at low-water;
- (c) then generally southerly, easterly, northerly and westerly along the shoreline of Arnhem Bay at low-water to the point of commencement.

## **SCHEDULE 2**

### **Exempt transit corridors**

#### **Part 1 - Darwin**

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at Emery Point on the mainland of Australia;
- (b) then running north along the meridian to the point of Latitude 12°18.2' South, Longitude 130°48.8' East;
- (c) then south west along the geodesic to the point of Latitude 12°21.5' South, Longitude 130°37.9' East; and

(d) then south east to West Point on the mainland of Australia at low water.

### **Part 2 - Fog Bay**

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at Latitude 12°40' South, at the low water mark on the coast of Australia;
- (b) then running west along the parallel to its intersection with the meridian of Longitude 130°18' East;
- (c) then south along that meridian to its intersection with the point of Latitude 12°44' South; and
- (d) then west along the parallel of Latitude 12°44' South to the shore at low water.

### **Part 3 - Mornington Island**

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at the point of Latitude 16°45' South, Longitude 138°55.5' East ;
- (b) then running south east along the geodesic to the point of Latitude 16°57' South, Longitude 139°08.5' East;
- (c) then running north east along the geodesic to the point of Latitude 16°56' South, Longitude 139°37.08' East;
- (d) then north east to the point of Latitude 16°52.5' South, Longitude 139°37.83' East;
- (e) then running south west along the geodesic to the point of Latitude 16°55.5' South, Longitude 139°08.5' East;
- (f) then running north west to the point of Latitude 16°42.5' South, Longitude 139°00' East; and
- (g) then running south west to the point of commencement.

## **SCHEDULE 3**

### **Applications for exemptions**

1. An application for exemption to an AFMA Compliance Officer in Canberra must be made either by telephone, by fax or in person as follows:
  - (a) by telephone to (02) 6225 5369; or
  - (b) by fax to (02) 6225 5443 ; or
  - (c) after hours on 0418 468 134
2. An exemption approval from an AFMA Compliance Officer must be provided to the person in writing, and must be:
  - (a) posted to an address; or
  - (b) transmitted to a fax number;nominated by the person giving the notice.
3. Applications for exemptions to prohibitions on navigation in prohibited areas will be considered for approval in exceptional circumstances. Where navigation is required because of vessel breakdown, distress, medical emergency, cyclone or weather warning, or to access an anchorage where no transit corridor has been provided, applications for an exemption will always be approved.
4. In the event that an exemption approval is not granted by an AFMA Compliance Officer, a vessel operator may request that the application be reviewed by a person who did not participate in the making of the original decision and who holds, occupies, or performs the duties of position numbers 0018 (General Manager, Strategy and Planning and Executive Secretary), 0057 (General Manager, Operations) or 0075 (General Manager, Fisheries).

## **SCHEDULE 4**

### **Exempt daylight area**

#### **Mornington Island Daylight Area (Charlie Bush Bay)**

The area bounded by the line:

- (a) commencing at Cape Van Dieman, Mornington Island;
- (b) then running generally south west along the geodesic to the point of Latitude 16°45' South, Longitude 139°26' East;
- (c) then south along the meridian of Longitude 139°26' East to its intersection with Latitude 16°53' South;

- (d) then north easterly along the geodesic to the intersection of Latitude  $16^{\circ}52.5'$  South, Longitude  $139^{\circ}37.83'$  East;
- (e) then north along the geodesic to Cape Van Dieman,

**FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ACT 1991**  
**NORTHERN PRAWN FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN 1995**

**NPF DIRECTION No. 106**  
(revoking NPF Direction No. 82)  
**BYPRODUCT LIMITS**

I, Richard McLoughlin, Managing Director of the Australian Fisheries Management Authority, as delegate, make the following Direction under section 17(5A) of the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* and section 25(1) of the *Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995*.

Dated March 2007

Managing Director,  
Australian Fisheries Management Authority

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**Citation**

1. This Direction may be cited as NPF Direction No. 106

**Commencement**

2. This Direction commences the day after it is registered.

**Application**

3. This Direction applies to a holder of statutory fishing rights in the Northern Prawn Fishery, and to a person acting on behalf of the holder, when fishing in the Northern Prawn Fishery area.

**Period of Application**

4. This Direction applies for a period beginning on the date this Direction commences and ending on 31 March 2012.

**Interpretation**

**5.1** In this Direction:

“**boat**” means a boat that is nominated on statutory fishing rights for the Northern Prawn Fishery;

“**fishing**” means the commercial fishing activities that are referred to in section 14 of the Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995;

“**equipment**” means equipment for fishing;

“**rock lobster**” shall be taken to mean a whole lobster of the species *Panulirus ornatus* and/ or a lobster tail of that species;

“**trip**” means the period between the unloading of a catch, or part of a catch, to a mothership or port or any other point where catch is unloaded;

“**UTC**” means Coordinated Universal Time, the time scale based on the second (SI), maintained by the International Bureau of Weights and Measures. For the purposes of this Direction UTC is equivalent to mean solar time at the prime meridian (0 degrees longitude), formerly expressed in Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) ;

“W” means the whole weight of fish in kilograms;  
“GG” means the gilled and gutted weight of fish in kilograms;  
“F” means the fish fillet weight in kilograms;  
“HG” means the headed and gutted weight of fish in kilograms.

**5.2** For the purposes of this Direction, the master of a boat is, at any time, presumed to have taken all of the fish present on the boat at that time and, in so doing, to have been acting on behalf of the holder of the statutory fishing rights in respect of which the boat is nominated.

**5.3** A term used in this Direction that is defined for the purposes of the Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995 has the same meaning in this Direction as it has in that plan.

[Notes: 1. Terms defined in the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* have the same meanings in this Direction. 2. Terms defined in the Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995 include "Northern Prawn Fishery" and "Northern Prawn Fishery area". ]

**5.4** This Direction is to be read consistently with other Directions made under the Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995.

**5.5** The origin of geographical coordinates used in this Direction is the Australian Geodetic Datum 1966 (AGD66).

### **Prohibitions on byproduct**

**6** No fishing for the species named in Part 1 of the Schedule (the First Species) can be undertaken in this fishery in excess of a combined catch of one kilogram per trip.

### **Exemptions to the prohibition on taking fish in clause 6**

**7.1** The prohibition in clause 6 does not apply:

- (a) if the trip ends during the period beginning on 1 March in a year and ending on 30 June in the same year during the period of application of the Direction; and
- (b) if no more than a cumulative total of 550 kilograms (whole weight) (the First Weight Limit) of the First Species are taken per trip; and
- (c) if the First Weight Limit or any part thereof has been processed, the whole weight equivalent of the processed First Weight Limit or part thereof is determined using the conversion factors:

$$W = GG \times 1.1$$

$$W = F \times 2.6$$

$$W = HG \times 1.4.$$

**7.2** The prohibition in clause 6 does not apply:

- (a) if the trip ends during any other period of the year outside of the period defined in clause 7.1 (a) during the period of application of the Direction; and
- (b) If no more than a cumulative total of 55 kilograms (whole weight) (the Second Weight Limit) of the First Species are taken per trip; and
- (c) if the Second Weight Limit or any part thereof has been processed, the whole weight equivalent of the processed Second Weight Limit or part thereof is determined using the conversion factors:

$$W = GG \times 1.1$$

$$W = F \times 2.6$$

$$W = HG \times 1.4.$$

**Prohibition on taking fish in Part 2 of the Schedule**

8. No fishing for the species named in Part 2 of the Schedule (the Second Species) can be undertaken in this fishery in excess of a combined catch of 10 individual fish per trip.

**Prohibition on taking mudcrabs (*Scylla spp*)**

9. No fishing for mudcrabs can be undertaken in this fishery in excess of a catch of 10 individuals per trip.

**Prohibition on taking rock lobsters (*Panulirus ornatus*)**

10. No fishing for rock lobsters can be undertaken in this fishery in excess of a catch of 6 individuals per trip.

**Presumption on fish that are on board**

11. Fish that are on board a boat are presumed to have been taken during:
- (a) the current trip; or
  - (b) if the boat is not on a trip, the most recent trip.

**Additional exemption to prohibitions in clauses 6, 8, 9 and 10**

12. The prohibitions in clause 6, 8, 9 and 10 do not apply to a person if the person is fishing in accordance with another plan of management in force under the Management Act, or a law of a State or Territory that is in force in relation to the Northern Prawn Fishery area.

**Revocation of NPF Direction No. 82**

13. This Direction revokes NPF Direction No. 82 with effect from the date of this Direction.

## SCHEDULE

### Part 1

Common name	Scientific name
Saddle Tailed Snapper	<i>Lutjanus malabaricus</i>
Red Snapper	<i>Lutjanus erythropterus</i>
Red Emperor	<i>Lutjanus sebae</i>

### Part 2

Common name	Scientific name
Broad-barred Spanish Mackerel	<i>Scomberomorus semifasciatus</i>
Coral trouts, Rock cods etc	Serranidae family
Gold Band Snapper	<i>Pristipomoides multidens</i>
Longtail Tuna	<i>Thunnus tonggol</i>
Narrow -barred Spanish Mackerel	<i>Scomberomorus commerson</i>
Emperors, sea breams	Lethrinidae family

**FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ACT 1991  
NORTHERN PRAWN FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN 1995**

**NPF DIRECTION No. 107  
(revoking NPF Direction No. 94)  
GEAR REQUIREMENTS**

I, Richard McLoughlin, Managing Director of the Australian Fisheries Management Authority, as delegate, make the following Direction under sections 17(5A) and 17(5B) of the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* and section 25(1) of the *Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995*.  
Dated March 2007

Managing Director,  
Australian Fisheries Management Authority

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**Citation**

1. This Direction may be cited as NPF Direction No.107.

**Commencement**

2. This Direction commences on day of registration.

**Application**

- 3.1 This Direction applies to a holder of statutory fishing rights in the Northern Prawn Fishery and to a person acting on behalf of the holder.
- 3.2 However, this Direction does not apply to the holder of a scientific permit that authorises the use of an alternative Turtle Excluder Device or By-catch Reduction Device.

**Period of Application**

4. This Direction applies for a period beginning on the date this Direction commences and ending on 31 March 2010.

**Interpretation**

- 5.1 In this Direction:

“**boat**” means a boat that is nominated on statutory fishing rights for the Northern Prawn Fishery, and includes carrier boats and fishing boats;

“**Bycatch Reduction Device**” means a device that allows fish and other animals to escape immediately after being taken in the net and is constructed in accordance with Schedule 1;

“**forward edge**” is the edge of a Bycatch Reduction Device where the funnel is attached to the codend;

“**modified Turtle Excluder Device**” means a device described in Schedule 2;

“**net**” means a net used for trawling except a try-net;

“**Turtle Excluder Device**” means a device fitted to a net, and modification made to a net, that allows turtles to escape immediately after being taken in the net, and which

has:

- a) a rigid or semi-rigid inclined barrier grid comprised of bars extending from the foot to the head of the net that is attached to the circumference of the net which must guide turtles towards an escape hole immediately forward of the grid. **The minimum dimensions of this grid to be at least 81cm by 81cm. This structure is to be set at a minimum angle of between 30 and 55 degrees in relation to the horizontal plane of water through the net;** and
- b) an escape opening which must be:
  - a double flap rectangular net opening where the cut immediately forward of the TED must be a minimum of 61 cm and the two forward cuts of the escape opening must not be less than 51 cm long from the points of the cut immediately forward of the TED frame. The resultant length of the leading edge of the escape opening cut must be no less than 142 cm stretched, or a double flap net triangular opening where the cut immediately forward of the TED must be a minimum of 102 cm with minimum forward cuts of 101 cm. The flaps must be composed of two equal size rectangular panels of mesh. Each panel must be a minimum of 147 cm wide and may overlap each other no more than 38 cm. The panels may only be sewn together along the leading edge of the cut. The trailing edge of each panel must not extend more than 61 cm past the posterior edge of the TED frame. Each panel may be sewn down the entire length of the outside edge of each panel, or;
  - a single flap rectangular net opening where the cut immediately forward of the TED must be a minimum of 61 cm and the two forward cuts of the escape opening must not be less than 66 cm long from the points of the cut immediately forward of the TED frame. The resultant length of the leading edge of the escape opening cut must be no less than 181 cm stretched, or a single flap triangular net opening where the cut immediately forward of the TED must be a minimum of 102 cm with minimum forward cuts of 136 cm. The flap must be a minimum of 338cm by 132 cm piece of mesh. The 132 cm edge of the flap is attached to the forward edge of the opening 180 cm edge. The flap may extend no more than 61 cm behind the posterior edge of the TED frame.
- c) a maximum bar spacing of 120mm.
- d) Floats must be attached to the top one-half of all TEDs with bottom escape openings. The floats may be attached either outside or inside the net, but not to a flap. Floats of any size and in any combination must be attached such that the combined buoyancy of the floats, as marked on the floats, equals or exceeds the weight of the TED.
- e) it is not permitted to attach any weights, meshing or other materials which may inhibit the opening of this escape flap.

**5.2** For the purposes of this Direction, all net measurements refer to the measurement extending from the centre of opposing knots, when the mesh is pulled taut.

**5.3** A term used in this Direction that is defined for the purposes of the Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995 has the same meaning in this Direction as it has in that plan.

**[Notes:** 1. Terms defined in the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* have the same meanings in this determination. 2. Terms defined in the Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995 include "Northern Prawn Fishery" and "Northern Prawn Fishery area".]

## **Nets to which devices must be fitted**

**6.1** The fishery is closed to a boat using a net unless each net used by that boat has:

- (a) both a Turtle Excluder Device and a By-catch Reduction Device (as described in Schedule 1) installed in each net that is rigged for fishing; or
- (b) a modified Turtle Excluder Device (as described in Schedule 2) installed in each net that is rigged for fishing; and
- (c) the codend cover (skirt) attached no further than 60 meshes from the codend drawstrings.

**6.2** A net is rigged for fishing if part or all of the net is in the water, or if it is shackled, tied or otherwise connected to any trawl door or trawl board, or to any tow rope or cable, either on board the boat or attached in any manner to the boat.

**Revocation of NPF Direction No. 94**

**7.** This Direction revokes NPF Direction No. 94 with effect from the day of commencement.

## SCHEDULE 1

Each of the following are bycatch reduction devices:

1. **“Square Mesh Codend”** means a codend with at least half the circumference of the codend, and that has the following characteristics:
  - (i) a nominal mesh size no less than 45mm; and
  - (ii) netting orientated so that the Direction of twine is longitudinal and transverse to the length of the codend; and
  - (iii) an overall length no less than 75 meshes (3.375 metres); and
  - (iv) no pieces of netting or other material covering any escape openings of the square mesh, nor any opening closed by any other means, during fishing operations.
  
2. **“Square Mesh panel”** means a continuous panel of netting that has the following characteristics:
  - (i) a nominal mesh size no less than 101mm; and
  - (ii) an overall dimension no less than 400mm wide and 600mm long; and
  - (iii) the aft edge of the panel is located no further forward from the codend drawstrings than the number of meshes for a codend mesh size described in Schedule 3; and
  - (iv) no pieces of netting or other material covering any escape openings of the square mesh, nor any opening closed by any other means, during fishing operations.
  
3. **“Fisheye”** means a device that has the following characteristics:
  - (i) a vertical escape opening held open by a rigid frame; and
  - (ii) an escape opening measuring no less than 350mm wide x 150mm high; and
  - (iii) an escape opening located no further forward from the codend drawstrings than the number of meshes for a codend mesh size described in Schedule 3; and
  - (iv) no pieces of netting or other material covering any escape openings, nor any opening closed by any other means, during fishing operations.
  
4. **“Yarrow Fisheye”** means a device that has the following characteristics:
  - (i) a vertical escape opening held open by a rigid frame; and
  - (ii) an escape opening measuring no less than 350mm wide x 150mm with the width of the escape opening divided in half by a solid bar; and
  - (iii) an additional rigid bar running from the apex of the frame to the top of the escape opening; and
  - (iv) an escape opening located no further forward from the codend drawstrings than the number of meshes for a codend mesh size described in Schedule 3; and
  - (v) no pieces of netting or other material covering any escape openings, nor any opening closed by any other means, during fishing operations.
  
5. **“Radial Escape Section” (RES)** means a device that has the following characteristics:
  - (i) a funnel of netting or other material located within the codend; and
  - (ii) the circumference of the leading edge of the funnel must be of equivalent length to and attached to the circumference of the codend, where the circumference of the codend is equivalent to the product of the mesh size and the number of meshes around the codend; and

- (iii) the leading edge of the funnel must be attached to the codend no less than 10 meshes from the leading edge of the escape openings; and
- (iv) the circumference of the trailing edge of the funnel is less than or equal to 0.6 times the number of meshes in the circumference of the codend; and
- (v) individual escape openings no less than a square mesh size of 100mm; and
- (vi) overall escape openings no less than a panel of netting measuring 350mm long and extending radially around the codend for at least half the circumference of the codend; and
- (vii) the trailing edge of the funnel extending no more than 500mm past the aft edge of the escape openings, and
- (viii) an escape opening located no further forward from the codend drawstrings than the number of meshes for a codend mesh size described in Schedule 3; and
- (ix) the forward edge of the RES located no further forward than 900mm of the Turtle Excluder Device grid, or if located further forward than 900mm of the Turtle Excluder Device grid a wire hoop must be attached to the forward edge<sup>1</sup> of the RES; and
- (x) a rigid or semi-rigid wire hoop with a minimum diameter of 650mm located no more than 5 meshes behind the escape openings; and
- (xi) no pieces of netting or other material covering any escape openings, nor any opening closed by any other means, during fishing operations.

**6. “Popeye Fishbox”** means a device that has the following characteristics:

- (i) a vertical escape opening held open by a rigid frame; and
- (ii) an escape opening measuring no less than 375 mm wide x 375 mm; and
- (iii) a rigid foil positioned at the forward edge of the BRD no less than 200 mm in depth; and
- (iv) an escape opening located no further forward from the codend drawstrings than the number of meshes for a codend mesh size described in Schedule 3; and
- (v) no pieces of netting or other material covering any escape openings, nor any opening closed by any other means, during fishing operations.

## **SCHEDULE 2**

**“Modified Turtle Excluder Device”** means a device that:

- (i) is a Turtle Excluder Device with the escape opening in the top of the codend; and
- (ii) a bar spacing no more than 60mm; and
- (iii) may have an escape flap over the escape opening (but no part of the escape flap may be closer than 150mm to any part of the grid, when the Turtle Excluder Device is fitted to a codend hung vertically); and
- (iv) may have a guiding funnel or flap inside the codend ahead of the grid (but no part of the guiding funnel or flap may be closer than 150mm to any part of the grid, when the TED is fitted to a codend hung vertically)

## **SCHEDULE 3**

The following table details the maximum number of meshes for placement of BRDs from the codend drawstrings for different codend mesh sizes. The formula to calculate the maximum number of meshes using linear or metric mesh sizes is as follows:

(1) for imperial mesh sizes:  $(2 / \text{actual mesh size in inches}) \times 120$

(2) for metric mesh sizes:  $(50.8 / \text{actual mesh size in mm}) \times 120$

Mesh Size (mm)	Mesh Size (inches)	Maximum number of meshes required
31.25	1.25	195
32	1.28	191
35	1.4	174
40	1.6	152
43.75	1, 3/4	139
46	1.84	133
46.875	1, 7/8	130
48	1.92	127
50	2	122
53	2.12	115
56.25	2, 1/4	108
58	2.32	105
62.5	2, 1/2	98

**FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ACT 1991  
NORTHERN PRAWN FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN 1995**

**NPF DIRECTION No. 75  
PROHIBITED SPECIES**

I, Frank McFarlane Meere, Managing Director of the Australian Fisheries Management Authority, as delegate, make the following Direction under section 17(5A) of the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* and section 25(1) of the *Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995*.

Dated      September 2003

Managing Director,  
Australian Fisheries Management Authority

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**Citation**

1. This Direction may be cited as NPF Direction No. 75.

**Commencement**

2. This Direction commences on Gazettal.

**Application**

3. This Direction applies to a holder of statutory fishing rights in the Northern Prawn Fishery, and to a person acting on behalf of the holder, when fishing in the Northern Prawn Fishery area.

**Period of Application**

4. This Direction applies for a period beginning on the date this Direction commences and ending on 31 March 2008.

**Interpretation**

- 5.1 In this Direction:  
"boat" means a boat that is nominated on statutory fishing rights for the Northern Prawn Fishery;  
"fishing" means the commercial fishing activities that are referred to in section 14 of the Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995;  
"equipment" means equipment for fishing;  
"trip" means the period between the unloading of a catch, or part of a catch, to a mothership or port or any other point where catch is unloaded;  
"UTC" means Coordinated Universal Time, the time scale based on the second (SI), maintained by the International Bureau of Weights and Measures. For the purposes of this Direction UTC is equivalent to mean solar time at the prime meridian (0 degrees longitude), formerly expressed in Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).
- 5.2 For the purposes of this Direction, the master of a boat is, at any time, presumed to have taken all of the fish present on the boat at that time and, in so doing, to have been acting on behalf of the holder of the statutory fishing rights in respect of which the boat is nominated.

- 5.3** A term used in this direction that is defined for the purposes of the Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995 has the same meaning in this direction as it has in that plan.  
[Notes: 1. Terms defined in the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* have the same meanings in this direction. 2. Terms defined in the Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995 include "Northern Prawn Fishery" and "Northern Prawn Fishery area". ]
- 5.4** This Direction is to be read consistently with other Directions made under the Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995.
- 5.5** The origin of geographical co ordinates used in this Direction is the Australian Geodetic Datum 1966 (AGD66).

**Prohibitions on taking fish**

- 6.1** No fishing for the species in Part 1 of the Schedule should be engaged in in the fishery
- 6.2** No fishing for tuna or tuna-like species should be engaged in in this fishery.
- 6.3** Fish that are on board a boat are presumed to have been taken during:
- (a) the current trip; or
  - (b) if the boat is not on a trip, the most recent trip.

**Exemption to the prohibition on tuna and tuna 6.3**

- 7.** The prohibition in clause 6.2 above does not apply if:
- (a) the only tuna and tuna-like species on board the vessel are longtail tuna (*Thunnus tonggol*); and
  - (b) no more than 10 longtail tuna (*Thunnus tonggol*) are taken per trip.

**Exemption to fishing in clauses 6.1 and 6.2**

- 8.** The prohibitions in clauses 6.1 and 6.2 do not apply to a person if the person is fishing in accordance with another plan of management in force under the Management Act, or a law of a State or Territory that is in force in relation to the Northern Prawn Fishery area.

**SCHEDULE 1**

<b>Common name</b>	<b>Scientific name</b>
Barramundi	<i>Lates calcarifer</i>
Black jewfish	<i>Protonidea diacanthus</i>
Blue salmon	<i>Eleutheronema tetradactylum</i>
Coral	
Jewel fish (Yellow Jew)	<i>Nibeas squamosa</i>
Pearl shell	<i>Pinctada spp</i>
Queenfish	<i>Scomberoides lysan</i> ; <i>Scomberoides commersonianus</i>
Spotted grunter-bream	<i>Pomadasys kaakan</i>
Threadfin salmon	<i>Polydactylus sheridani</i>
Beche-de-mer	<i>Class Holothuroidae</i>
Trochus	<i>Class Trochidae</i>
Sharks, rays and skates	<i>Subclass Elasmobranchii</i>