



Australian Government

**Australian Fisheries
Management Authority**



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**Fisheries Research and
Development Corporation**

BOAT OPERATING PROCEDURES MANUAL

Great Australian Bight Trawl Fishery



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- *Fisheries Management Act 1991*;
- *Fisheries Management Regulations 1992*;
- *Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery Management Plan 2003*, and the associated legislation;
- Conditions on Boat SFR certificates and permits;
- Marine Pollution Laws; and
- *Great Australian Bight Trawl Fishery Bycatch and Discarding Workplan, November 2010*.

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ISBN: 978-1-877044-39-7

Acknowledgements: Jill Harrap, Shalan Bray, Jeff Moore, Steve Bolton, Steve Auld, GABTF owners, skippers and crew.

Supported by funding from the FRDC on behalf of the Australian Government.

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PREFACE

In 1883, a great scientist of the time, Thomas Henry Huxley stated,

“I believe, then, that the cod fishery, the herring fishery, the pilchard fishery, the mackerel fishery, and probably all the great sea fisheries, are inexhaustible; that is to say, that nothing we do seriously affects the number of the fish. And any attempt to regulate these fisheries seems consequently, from the nature of the case, to be useless.”

He made this statement based on the fishing powers of the time. However, the periods of industrialisation and developments in technology have driven a dramatic increase in fishing power. Failing to keep pace through management has resulted in the collapse of some of the world's largest fisheries.

Securing the future of commercial fisheries in the face of today's fishing power is one of the most difficult challenges faced by the fishing industry and fishery managers alike.

However, the Great Australian Bight Fishing Industry Association Inc. (GABIA) and the Great Australian Bight Trawl Fishery (GABTF) are leading the way in fisheries management through collaboration with government to ensure the ecological and economic sustainability of the fishery. This collaborative approach aims to build trust between industry and government, enhance transparency and ensure the fishery is managed efficiently and effectively.

The GABTF is part of the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery (SESSF). The main target species in the GABTF are Bight Redfish and Deepwater Flathead which are primarily caught with demersal trawl. There is also a developing slope fishery in which Western Gemfish and other slope species are targeted sporadically. The GABTF is a relatively small fishery with only ten boat statutory fishing rights (SFRs) and six companies. All SFR owners are members of GABIA.

As a fishing boat operator in the GABTF, you have a key role in the management of your fishery. The way you operate this boat is of critical importance to its owner, GABIA, the partnership with government and the long term future of the fishery.

This operational manual is intended to provide you with the working knowledge required to meet standards of practice either developed or fully supported by GABIA. In meeting these standards you will continue to lead the way in fisheries management, ensure your own future and set an example for others to follow.



Photo: GABIA.

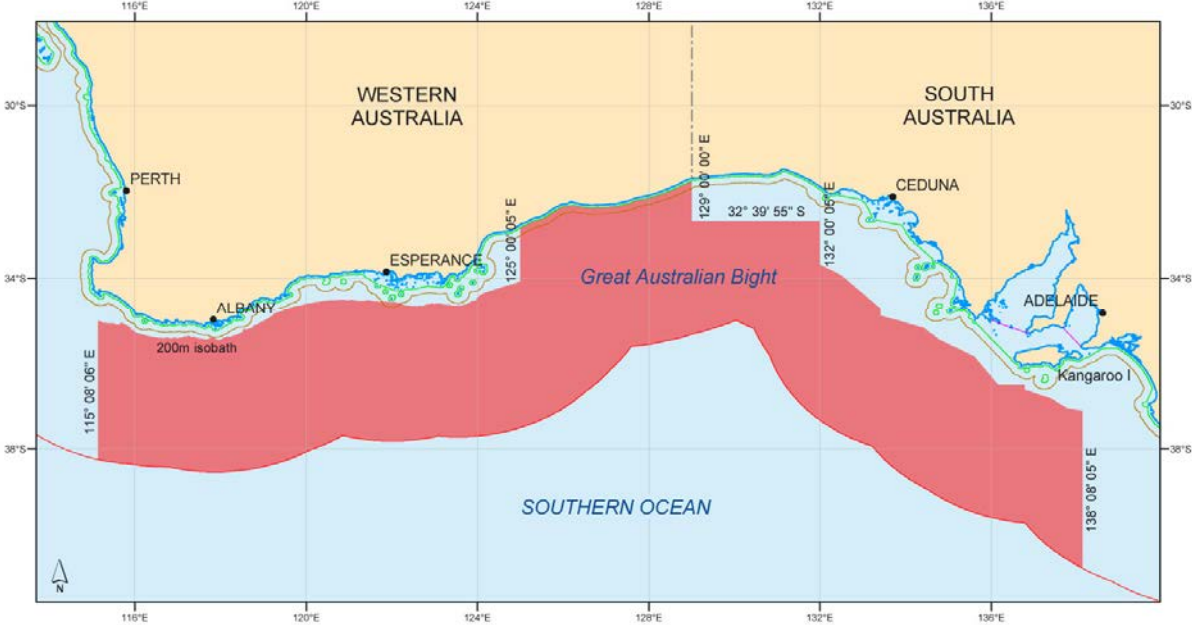
The vision of the Great Australian Bight Trawl Fishery is to be a sustainable and profitable demersal and midwater trawl fishery, built through a co-management approach with all stakeholders, to supply high quality fresh and frozen product to domestic and overseas markets.

AREA OF THE GABTF

The area of the Commonwealth GAB Trawl Sector is the part of the Australian fishing zone (AFZ) bounded by a line beginning at the intersection of the 200 metre isobath south of Australia with the meridian of longitude 115° 08' 06" E, and running progressively as described below:

1. south along that meridian to its intersection with the outer limit of the AFZ;
2. generally easterly along that outer limit to its intersection with the meridian of longitude 138° 08' 05" E;
3. north along that meridian to its intersection with the parallel of latitude 37° 05' 55" S;
4. westerly along the geodesic to 37° 02' 55" S, 137° 47' 05" E;
5. north-westerly along the geodesic to 36° 48' 55" S, 137° 24' 05" E;
6. westerly along the geodesic to 36° 36' 55" S, 136° 47' 05" E;
7. north along that meridian to its intersection with the parallel of latitude 36° 29' 55" S;
8. west along that parallel to its intersection with the meridian of longitude 136° 10' 05" E;
9. north-westerly along the geodesic to 35° 49' 55" S, 135° 36' 05" E;
10. westerly along the geodesic to 35° 26' 55" S, 134° 48' 05" E;
11. north-westerly along the geodesic to 35° 09' 55" S, 134° 25' 05" E;
12. westerly along the geodesic to 34° 52' 55" S, 133° 25' 05" E;
13. north along that meridian to its intersection with the parallel of latitude 34° 41' 55" S;
14. north-westerly along the geodesic to 33° 56' 00" S, 132° 30' 00" E;
15. westerly along the geodesic to 33° 32' 00" S, 132° 00' 00" E;
16. north along that meridian to its intersection with the parallel of latitude 32° 39' 55" S;
17. west along that parallel to its intersection with the boundary between the adjacent areas of South Australia and Western Australia;
18. north along that boundary to its intersection with the outer limit of coastal waters of southern Australia;
19. generally westerly along the outer limit of the coastal waters of Western Australia to its intersection with the meridian of longitude 125° 00' 05" E;
20. south along that meridian to its intersection with the 200 metre isobath; and then
21. generally westerly along that isobath to the point where the line began.

AREA OF THE GABTF (CONTINUED)



1



BOAT SPECIFIC OPERATIONS

2



HAZARD ANALYSIS AND CRITICAL CONTROL POINTS

CARD 2A: INTRODUCTION TO HACCP

BACKGROUND

Good product handling practices are important for delivering high quality product and maximising boat income and profit.

Hazard analysis and critical control points (HACCP) is an internationally recognised system for ensuring good product handling. This is a proactive system that aims to prevent food safety hazards from occurring.

The system involves identifying and monitoring certain points in the production process at which food safety hazards may occur. These are known as critical control points (CCPs). If the monitoring result at a CCP is not within safe limits then a pre-planned action is undertaken to ensure the hazard does not occur.

Another method for ensuring product quality is through traceability. Traceability means keeping track of fish after they are caught, and through the transportation, processing and distribution phases.

Accurate record keeping is essential for traceability. GABIA and AFMA are working together to investigate traceability options for the GABTF.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Ensure all crew are adequately trained in HACCP.
- Ensure all crew comply with the boat's HACCP plan.
- Ensure all record keeping is accurate and up to date.

REFERENCES

Product Traceability: A Desktop Study for GABIA from AFMA Co-management section, 2009.

CONTACT DETAILS

GABIA EO: 0400 166 649



Photo: AFMA.

3



REPORTING

CARD 3A: DAILY FISHING LOGS

BACKGROUND

The daily fishing log program is one of the most important tools for gathering information on fishing catch and effort. Daily fishing log information is used by fisheries managers and researchers to assess fish stocks and gain a picture of the changes in the fishery over time. Accurate reporting in daily fishing logs is essential to ensure that fisheries remain sustainable and profitable.

The GABTF is in the process of implementing electronic daily fishing logs (E-logs).



Photo: AFMA.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Complete the Southern and Western Trawl Daily Fishing Log (SWT01A or its replacement).
- Return the original white copy of the daily fishing log pages to AFMA within three days of the completion of each fishing trip.
- Clearly mark any spoiled or incorrectly completed daily fishing log pages and return these to AFMA.
- Ensure an authorised agent of the concession holder completes and signs the daily fishing log.
- If you wish to authorise another person to complete the daily fishing log and/or Commonwealth managed fisheries transit forms, you must obtain approval from AFMA by completing the authorised agent nomination form (AA).

CONTACT DETAILS

AFMA Data section: 1300 723 621

GABIA EO: 0400 166 649

CARD 3B: CATCH DISPOSAL RECORDS

BACKGROUND

A catch disposal record (CDR) must be completed on landing. The CDR form provides details on the species caught and their accurate weight. CDRs are designed to verify catch landings and provide information for fisheries management purposes.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Always land fish to a person holding a fish receiver permit.
- Complete the Great Australian Bight Trawl Fishery CDR (GAB2C or its replacement) within 50 metres of the landing point.
- Return the original white copy of the CDR to AFMA within three days of unloading.
- The yellow and blue copies of the CDR must accompany the fish to the receiver.
- Clearly mark any spoiled or incorrectly completed CDR forms and return these to AFMA.
- If you have multiple receivers you must complete a separate CDR for each receiver.
- Complete the Commonwealth managed fisheries transit form (CTF) when landing fish and using multiple vehicles to transport the fish to one receiver.
- If you wish to authorise another person to complete the CDR forms, you must obtain approval from AFMA by completing the authorised representative nomination form (AA).

CONTACT DETAILS

AFMA Data section: 1300 723 621

GABIA EO: 0400 166 649

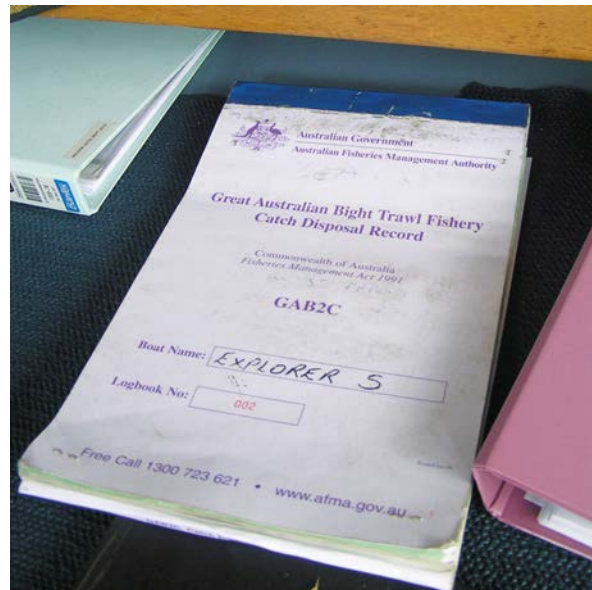


Photo: AFMA.

4



BYCATCH AND DISCARDS

CARD 4A: RECORDING BYCATCH

BACKGROUND

Bycatch refers to the part of catch made up of non-target species. Bycatch is an issue of concern for the sustainability of the marine ecosystem and must be minimised to the greatest extent possible.

There are a number of industry initiatives in the GABTF that assist in quantifying and reducing bycatch, including:

- the GABTF Bycatch and Discard Workplan, November 2010, which outlines actions that will be undertaken in the GABTF to address bycatch and discarding issues;
- gear modifications pursued by industry, including the move to T90 extensions and/or codends on all nets used for fishing on the shelf;
- area closures;
- investigation of seabird mitigation measures, including offal management and mitigation devices;
- individual vessel seabird management plans; and
- production of a GABIA bycatch and discards flier to assist in accurate reporting of bycatch and discards in daily fishing logs.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Take all reasonable measures to ensure that bycatch is kept to a minimum.
- Comply with initiatives to address bycatch issues.
- Suggest any new ideas for reducing bycatch to the boat owner, concession holder, or the GABIA EO.

REFERENCES

Great Australian Bight Trawl Fishery Bycatch and Discarding Workplan, November 2010.

GABIA Recording Discards flier, March 2009.

CONTACT DETAILS

AFMA Bycatch and discards section:

1300 723 621

GABIA EO: 0400 166 649



Photo: AFMA.

CARD 4B: RECORDING DISCARDS

BACKGROUND

Discarding is the general practice of returning the unwanted part of the catch to the sea. There is a strong community perception that discarding species of potential commercial value is wasteful. Discarding should be minimised to the greatest extent practical.

Despite the general misconception within industry that reporting discards will lead to compliance action, GABTF operators have been reporting discards over the last few years. It is important that as a GABTF operator you continue to record discards correctly so that scientific and economic assessments about the fishery are accurate. For example, reports of greater levels of juvenile quota species being discarded could be an indication of a recruitment event in the fishery.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- You must record all of the following details in your daily fishing log on a shot-by-shot basis:
 - total discards of each quota species;
 - total discards of other mixed fish; and
 - total discarded sponge.
- Do not include discards of quota species in the “other mixed fish” category. Quota species are Deepwater Flathead, Bight Redfish, School Shark, Gummy Shark, Saw Shark and Elephantfish.
- If possible, provide more specific species and weight details for the total other mixed fish category.

REFERENCES

Great Australian Bight Trawl Fishery Bycatch and Discarding Workplan, November 2010.

GABIA Recording Discards Flier, March 2009.

Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery Management Plan 2003.

CONTACT DETAILS

AFMA Bycatch and discards section:
1300 723 621

GABIA EO: 0400 166 649



Photo: AFMA.

CARD 4C: GABIA BYCATCH AND DISCARDS FLYER

BYCATCH MUST BE RECORDED

YOU NEED TO RECORD DISCARDS IN CATCH AND EFFORT LOGBOOKS

Great Australian Bight Trawl Fishery

Over the last few years, GABTF skippers have successfully made more accurate recordings of discards in GABTF catch and effort logbooks!

Bycatch (that part of the catch that is caught and then discarded) has become an issue of increasing concern in fisheries worldwide. Apart from the sustainability concerns about discarding, it is generally perceived as a “waste” to throw fish and other bycatch over the side. It is an issue that fishers can no longer ignore.

Industry initiatives to help better quantify and reduce bycatch in the GABTF:

- Skippers **must** record estimated total discards of each **quota species**, total discards of “**other**” species and total **sponge** discards from each shot in daily catch and effort logbooks.
- Gear modifications - T90 (rotated mesh) extensions and/or codends are mandatory in the GABTF if fishing 200m depth or shallower.
- Sustainable utilisation of current bycatch species through market development being explored
- Investigation of spatial management measures to address specific bycatch issues being considered.

The GABTF Bycatch Workplan aims to:

- Respond to high ecological risks assessed through AFMA’s Ecological Risk Assessment and other assessment processes;
- Avoid interactions with species listed under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act);
- Reduce discarding of target species to as close to zero as practically possible; and
- Minimise overall bycatch in the fishery over the long-term.

What must be recorded...

1. **Total discarded catch of each quota species**

(deepwater flathead, Bight redfish, school shark, gummy shark, saw shark, elephant fish);

2. **Total other (mixed fish) discarded**

(do not double count ie, do not include quota species in this mixed discard figure);
and

3. **Total discarded sponge**


by each individual GABTF vessel, on a **shot by shot** basis on daily catch sheets in the logbook.



GABIA

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you require more information about any of the issues raised or have any concerns or suggestions about bycatch reduction in the GABTF, please contact:
Jeff Moore, GABIA Executive Officer
0400 166 649
gabia@internode.on.net



CARD 4C: GABIA BYCATCH AND DISCARDS FLYER (CONTINUED)

Example of filling out discard information

Southern and Western Finfish Trawl
Daily Fishing Log
SWT01A

For each shot and species/component of catch:

- Step 1 Estimate weight to be discarded
- Step 2 Record estimated discard weight
- Step 3 Record discard code

4

Australian Fisheries Management Authority
Box 7051
Canberra Business Centre ACT 2610

Catch and Effort – SWT01A Daily Fishing Log Original Copy – Send to AFMA
Please use separate sheets for each fishing day

Date: 15 / 10 / 04 Log No: Page No:

Boat Name: **Deep Blue** Dist. Symbol: **LFB123** TRIP DATES
Departed: 15/10/04
Returned: 15/10/04

EXTENDED NON-FISHING I did not work between 6/10/04 and 14/10/04
NON-FISHING CODE (Circle) (In Port) (Bad Weather) (Other fishery) (Searching) (Steaming) (Which?)

| TRAWL DETAILS | SHOT 1 | | | SHOT 2 | | | SHOT 3 | | |
|---|-----------|---------|-------|-----------|---------|-------|-----------|--------|-------|
| | GAB | WDW | Other | GAB | WDW | Other | GAB | WDW | Other |
| Fishery (circle) | SPF | HS | | SPF | HS | | SPF | HS | |
| Gear No. (from gear sheet) | 1 | 2 | | 1 | 1 | | | | |
| Ground and mesh size (mm) | 100 | s | D | 100 | s | D | 40 | s | D |
| Ground gear disc height | 9 | inch/cm | | 9 | inch/cm | | | | |
| Trawl method (circle one from each section) | OT | PA | DEM | OT | PA | DEM | OT | PA | DEM |
| Start time of shot | 0400 | | | 1700 | | | 1715 | | |
| Start position Latitude | 3 2 1 2 5 | | | 2 9 1 1 7 | | | 4 1 1 1 7 | | |
| Start position Longitude | 1 2 9 5 8 | | | 1 1 2 2 3 | | | 1 4 8 4 0 | | |
| End time of shot | 0550 | | | 1920 | | | 2230 | | |
| End position Latitude | 3 2 2 9 | | | 2 9 2 7 | | | 4 1 4 0 | | |
| End position Longitude | 1 3 0 0 5 | | | 1 1 2 2 6 | | | 1 4 8 4 3 | | |
| Average trawl depth | 420 | m/fath | | 240 | m/fath | | 120 | m/fath | |
| Trawl depth average temp | 8 | | | 14 | | | 14 | | |
| Shot valid (circle) | Yes | No | | Yes | No | | Yes | No | |

| CATCH DETAILS | Estimate weight (kg) of each species | SHOT 1 | | SHOT 2 | | SHOT 3 | |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| | | Weight Kept | Form Code | Weight Kept | Form Code | Weight Kept | Form Code |
| Deepwater Flathead | FLD | 320 | W | 100 | W | 1000 | W |
| Bight Redfish | REB | 200 | W | 300 | W | 320 | W |
| Orange Roughy | ORO | | | | | | |
| Chinaman Leatherjacket | LJC | | | | | | |
| Yellowspot Boarfish | BOP | | | 80 | W | | |
| Big Spine Boarfish | BOB | | | | | | |
| Knifejaw | KNI | | | 100 | W | | |
| Smooth Oreo | DOO | | | | | | |
| Latchet | LAT | | | | | | |
| King Dory | DKK | | | | | | |
| Mirror Dory | DDM | | | | | | |
| Gemfish | GEM | | | | | | |
| Ruby Snapper | SNR | | | | | | |
| Rosy Jobfish | JOR | | | | | | |
| Tang Snapper | SNT | | | | | | |
| Arrow Squid | SOA | | | 40 | W | | |
| Deepwater Bugs | BUG | | | | | | |
| Gummy Shark | SHG | | | | | | |
| School Shark | SHS | | | | | | |
| Saw Shark | SHW | | | | | | |
| Elephant Shark | SHL | | | | | | |
| Angel Shark | ASH | 60 | TR | | | | |
| Alfonsino | ALF | | | | | | |
| Blue Mackerel | MAS | | | | | | |
| Jack Mackerel | MAJ | | | | | | |
| Yellowtail Scad | MAY | | | | | 4000 | W |
| Perchlet | PEA | | | | | 1000 | W |
| Wobegong | | | | 20 | TR | | |
| Whiskery sharks | | | | 30 | TR | | |
| Parasitica | | 100 | TR | | | | |
| Mixed fish | | | 200 | UM | | | |
| Sponge | | | 20 | UM | | | |
| | | | | | | 320 | UM |
| | | | | | | 10 | UM |
| | | | | | | | 300 |
| | | | | | | | 8 |
| | | | | | | | UM |
| | | | | | | | UM |

Discard Codes

- NQ = No Quota
- MP = Market Price
- US = Under Size
- UM = Un-marketable
- DM = Damaged

Quota species

Simply record the estimated weight discarded. The appropriate discard code must also be recorded.

In this example, for shot 2 of the day, the operator retained 300kg of whole and discarded 3kg of damaged (DM) Bight redfish

A reminder of what discards must be recorded...

1. Total discarded catch of each quota species, (deepwater flathead, Bight redfish, school shark, gummy shark, saw shark, elephant fish);
2. Total other (mixed fish) discarded (do not double count ie, do not include quota species in this mixed discard figure); and
3. Total discarded sponge

NOTE: You must still record retained catch for each species—this has not changed

Recording other "Mixed fish" and Sponge

After estimating quota species discards and recording them, simply estimate the remainder of the discards as "Mixed fish" and/or "Sponge", then record the estimated discard weight and appropriate discard code of each, for each shot



5



DATA COLLECTION AND RESEARCH

CARD 5A: OBSERVERS

BACKGROUND

The AFMA observer program provides a valuable data collection and verification service to the fishing industry, managers and researchers. The role of observers is to collect independent, accurate and reliable data on Commonwealth fishing operations, catches and interactions of boats and fishing gear with wildlife and the environment.

Observers do not have the authority to direct fishing operations, provide operational advice or act in an enforcement role. However, they are required to report all illegal fishing activity.

Observers may be placed on your boat from time to time. You will be contacted by AFMA's observer section if you are required to host an observer.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Facilitate the carriage of observers and ensure they have adequate food and accommodation.
- Assist the observer in completing their duties with safety and integrity.
- Allow the observer to have access to parts of the boat to which the observer reasonably requires access.
- Allow the observer to use facilities and equipment that the observer reasonably requires to undertake their duties on board the boat.
- Provide the observer with access to information that the observer reasonably requests in relation to the boat, its equipment or fish taken using the boat.
- Allow the observer to leave the boat upon request from AFMA.

REFERENCES

Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery Management Plan 2003.

Fisheries Management Regulations 1992.

CONTACT DETAILS

AFMA Observer section: 1300 723 621

GABIA EO: 0400 166 649



Photo: AFMA.

CARD 5B:

GABTF SLOPE SPECIES SAMPLING

BACKGROUND

Catch sampling provides important information about the fishery, including the number of fish at each age class. This information is used to conduct population analyses and stock assessments. Crew-based catch sampling also provides a cost-effective alternative to observers. The Great Australian Bight Research Assessment Group (GABRAG) has identified six species that need to be sampled:

- Western Gemfish;
- Blue Grenadier;
- Pink Ling;
- Hapuku;
- Blue-Eye Trevalla; and
- Ribaldo.

The amount you need to sample depends on the type of fish and how much you catch.

- **For Blue Grenadier and Western Gemfish:** if you catch more than 300kg in any shot, or more than 3000kg in any trip, then you must provide a sample.
- **For Pink Ling, Hapuku, Blue-Eye Trevalla and Ribaldo:** if you catch more than 50kg in any shot, or more than 200kg in any trip, then you must provide a sample.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Be aware of the species that need to be sampled and the catch thresholds for sampling as described above.
- Provide samples by:
 - randomly selecting 100 fish and placing them into bins. Clearly label the bins as 'research', and also label them with the date, time, position of shot and boat name;
 - or**
 - randomly selecting 100 fish and recording the length measurement for every fish and collecting otoliths from 50 fish, in accordance with GABIA's fish sampling instructions.

- Before unloading contact the GABIA EO or Russell Hudson and inform them of the samples or data that you have collected.

REFERENCES

Fish Sampling Instructions for Species in the Great Australian Bight Trawl Fishery, May 2007, GABIA.

GABIA Vessel Sample Collection Flier, April 2009.

CONTACT DETAILS

GABIA EO: 0400 166 649

Russell Hudson: 0417 131 010



Photo: Lauren Brown, 2003.

CARD 5C: DEEPWATER FLATHEAD AND BIGHT REDFISH LENGTH FREQUENCY SAMPLING

BACKGROUND

GABTF operators have agreed to collect length frequency samples for Deepwater Flathead and Bight Redfish. This provides a cost effective way to collect data for stock assessment.

This process is to be undertaken to supplement dedicated fishery independent sample collections.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

On a shot by shot basis, or otherwise when operations permit sample collection:

1. Select a sample of ungraded fish of Deepwater Flathead and/or Bight Redfish (one to two bins of each species);
2. Weigh or estimate the total catch weight of each species from the shot (only the species to be sampled) and record this weight on the length-frequency form;
3. Weigh the sample for each species and record this weight on the length frequency form;
4. Measure all fish, ensuring the snout of the fish is aligned with the end of the ruler, the body is straight and the mouth is closed. Measure the fish using the length measurement type (TOT or LCF) as shown on the back of this page. Round each measurement down to the nearest whole cm;
5. Mark the length of each fish in the appropriate box on the form (refer to the attached demonstration form);
6. Once all fish have been measured, complete the remaining fields on the form, including the integrated scientific monitoring program (ISMP) zone (refer to the attached map of ISMP zones); and
7. Send the completed forms with your logbook pages to AFMA at the address below.

REFERENCES

Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery, Great Australian Bight Trawl Sector, At-sea Length Frequency Sampling Guidelines.

Fish Sampling Instructions for Species in the Great Australian Bight Trawl Fishery, May 2007, GABIA.

GABIA Vessel Sample Collection Flier, April 2009.

CONTACT DETAILS



GABIA EO: 0400 166 649

Send forms to:

Australian Fisheries Management Authority
Box 7051
Canberra BC
CANBERRA
ACT 2610

CARD 5C: DEEPWATER FLATHEAD AND BIGHT REDFISH LENGTH FREQUENCY SAMPLING (CONTINUED)

Appropriate length measurements and species information.

| SPECIES NAME | PICTURE AND MEASUREMENT CODES | SPECIES CODE |
|---|---|---|
| Deepwater Flathead <i>Neoplatycephalus conatus</i> |  <p style="text-align: center;">TOT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Snout tip to furthest edge of the caudal fin (tail)</p> | FAO code: FTL CSIRO code: 37296002 |
| Bight Redfish <i>Centroberyx gerradi</i> |  <p style="text-align: center;">LCF</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Snout tip to the centre of the caudal fin fork</p> | FAO code: CXZ CSIRO code: 37258004 |

5



Photo: AFMA.

CARD 5C: DEEPWATER FLATHEAD AND BIGHT REDFISH LENGTH FREQUENCY SAMPLING (CONTINUED)

Example of a length-frequency form.

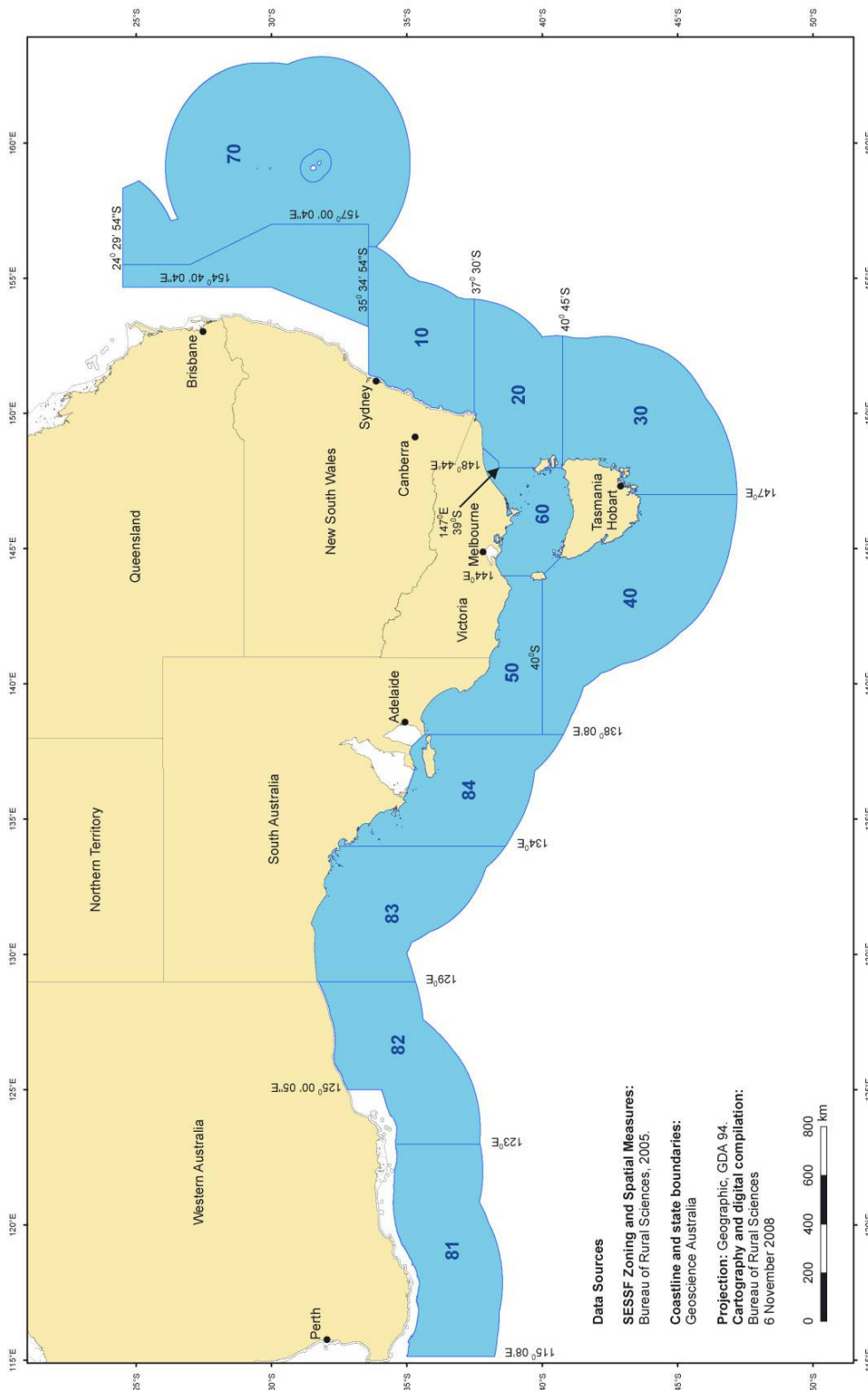
| Australian Government Australian Fisheries Management Authority | | LENGTH FREQUENCY DATA FORM (ISMP PORT SAMPLING) (DEMO ONLY) | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------|---|------------|----------------|--|--|-------------|--------------------|-----|-------|---|-----|
| Date | 14/7/2010 | Sampler Name | Jason Berg | | | Vessel | Vessel Name | | | | | |
| Trip Start Date | 8/7/2010 | Trip End Date | 16/7/2010 | Zone | 8.3 | Port Landed | Ceduna | | | | | |
| Species | Deepwater Flathead | Sorted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsorted <input type="checkbox"/> | | Fishing Method | Trawl | Total species catch weight (per grade if graded) | 3525 | | | | | |
| Species Code | FTL | Retain <input type="checkbox"/> Discard <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> | | Graded | Ungraded <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Grade S M L XL | | Sample weight (kg) | | | | 65 |
| Length code | TOT | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | TALLY | | | TOTAL | | | TALLY | | | TOTAL | | |
| | MALE | FEMALE | UNK | M | F | U | MALE | FEMALE | UNK | M | F | U |
| 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | 71 |
| 11 | | | | | | | | | | | | 72 |
| 12 | | | | | | | | | | | | 73 |
| 13 | | | | | | | | | | | | 74 |
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| 39 | | | | | | 4 | | | | | | 100 |
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| 43 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | 104 |
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| 70 | | | | | | | | | | | | 131 |

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CARD 5C: DEEPWATER FLATHEAD AND BIGHT REDFISH LENGTH FREQUENCY SAMPLING (CONTINUED)

Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery Zones



CARD 5D: FUTURE RESEARCH IN THE GABTF

BACKGROUND

Research programs are important to help develop fisheries in the GABTF, and ensure fishing is ecologically and economically sustainable. Some of the research programs currently undertaken in the GABTF include:

- fishery independent surveys;
- the integrated scientific monitoring program;
- research into fishing gear using a minimum mesh size of T90mm at the codend to help reduce bycatch; and
- GABTF cold chain study.

GABIA periodically reviews and modifies the research and monitoring programs in collaboration with AFMA. This helps to ensure research remains cost effective and efficient, and it also helped to guide the future research activities that will be undertaken in the fishery.



Photo: AFMA.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Be aware of the research and assessment programs in the GABTF.
- Assist with research in the GABTF as required.

CONTACT DETAILS

AFMA SESSF section: 1300 723 621

GABIA EO: 0400 166 649

6



WILDLIFE INTERACTIONS

CARD 6A: PROTECTED SPECIES INTERACTIONS

BACKGROUND

Some species need to be protected to aid their recovery from a population decline, and to ensure their long term survival. *The Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) protects:

- listed threatened species and ecological communities;
- listed migratory species;
- listed marine species; and
- all cetaceans.

You must report all interactions with protected species in accordance with the *Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery Management Plan 2003*. It is not an offence to have an interaction with a protected species if you are acting in accordance with the management arrangements of the fishery and taking reasonable steps to avoid an interaction or injury. However it is an offence not to report this interaction.

An 'interaction' means any physical contact that a person, boat or gear has with a protected species that causes, or may cause, death, injury or stress to the species. This includes, for example, collisions, catching, hooking, netting, entangling or trapping of a protected species.

Some of the protected species that are found in the GABTF include seabirds, seals, sea lions, sea horses, sea dragons, pipefish, Great White Sharks and Grey Nurse Sharks. AFMA's *Protected Species ID Guide* can help to identify these species.

Remember: don't get caught, just report!

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Report all interactions according to the instructions in your daily fishing log. Do this by circling 'yes' in the box at the bottom of the logsheet and completing the wildlife and other protected species form (located in the back of your daily fishing log).
- Ensure you are familiar with the protected species relevant to the GABTF.
- Take all reasonable measures to avoid interactions with protected species.
- If an interaction results in injury to a protected species, you must do everything practical to give aid to the animal.
- If there is an observer present, immediately inform them of the interaction. You are still required to report the interaction in your daily fishing log.

REFERENCES

Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery Management Plan 2003.

Department of Environment
protected species listing website:
<http://www.environment.gov.au/epbc/protect/index.html>

Protected Species ID Guide, AFMA and the National Heritage Trust, 2006.

CONTACT DETAILS

AFMA Environment section: 1300 723 621

CARD 6B: TAGGED WILDLIFE

BACKGROUND

Researchers investigating wildlife will periodically tag animals or use bands to help understand aspects of their biology and population status. Researchers are very interested in encounters and observations of tagged animals made by fishers.

If you have an encounter with tagged wildlife, record as many details as practicable in the wildlife and other protected species form in your daily fishing log. If possible, record the band or tag number in the allocated box and any other details in the comments section, such as size, sex or a description of the animal. Photos are also useful to help identify the animal.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- If you have an encounter with a tagged animal, record as much detail as practicable in the wildlife and other protected species form located at the back of your daily fishing log. AFMA will notify the appropriate researchers.
- If the animal is alive, record as many details as possible, then release it carefully noting the condition in which it was released.
- If the animal is dead, you are encouraged to retain the tag or band and return it to the appropriate authority.

CONTACT DETAILS

AFMA Environment section: 1300 723 621



Photo: Noa Younse, istockphoto.

CARD 6C: SEABIRD INTERACTIONS

BACKGROUND

Seabirds are attracted to fishing boats because they provide an easily accessible food source.

However, seabirds are listed species under the EPBC Act and they can be injured through interactions with the fishing boat. The warp lines are a particular threat to seabirds.

While research shows that seabird interactions are uncommon in the GABTF, there are practical measures that can be used to further reduce these interactions.

Industry has worked closely with AFMA to develop seabird management plans that have been specifically tailored for each boat in the GABTF. These plans will help reduce seabird interactions.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Ensure all crew understand and comply with your boat's seabird mitigation options.
- Ensuring all mitigation equipment is deployed in accordance with the plan.
- Manage all discards and offal in accordance with the Seabird Management Plan.
- If an interaction occurs, comply with your responsibilities for threatened species interactions, including your reporting obligations (refer to card 6a).
- Report any occupational health and safety issues that arise from seabird mitigation measures to the boat owner and/or concession holder.
- Any ideas of ways to reduce seabird interactions should be raised with the boat owner and/or concession holder, or be referred to the GABIA EO.

REFERENCES

Great Australian Bight Trawl Fishery, Seabird Management Plan.

Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery Management Plan 2003.

Department of Environment protected species listing website: <http://www.environment.gov.au/epbc/protect/index.html>

Daley, R, Knuckey, I., Dowdney, J., Williams, A., Bulma, C., Sporcic, M., Fuller, M., Smith, T. (2007). *Draft Ecological Risk Assessment for the Effects of Fishing. Report for the Great Australian Bight trawl sub-fishery of the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery.* Report for the Australian Fisheries Management Authority.

CONTACT DETAILS

AFMA Bycatch and discards section:
1300 723 621

GABIA EO: 0400 166 649



Photo: AFMA.

CARD 6D: GABTF SEABIRD MANAGEMENT PLAN BOAT SPECIFIC

BACKGROUND

There has been increasing pressure on trawl fisheries to manage threats that fishing may pose to seabirds. This has created a need to implement mitigation measures that will reduce or avoid seabird interactions, whilst providing for continued safe and cost effective commercial fishing.

Despite uncertainty about the extent of seabird interactions in Australian trawl fisheries, GABIA and AFMA believe that a proactive and coordinated approach is necessary. Consequently, GABIA and AFMA have developed a suite of measures that aim to mitigate seabird interactions while providing for continued safe and cost effective commercial fishing. These measures are detailed in a seabird management plan (SMP) that is specifically tailored to each boat.

VESSEL DETAILS

CONTACT DETAILS

HAZARD SUMMARY

| Hazard | Threat to Seabirds |
|------------|---|
| Warp Wires | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact through mid air collisions • Contact and drowning by warps from surface contact • Snagging on warp sprags |



Photo: Peter Woods

MITIGATION PRACTICES

- When practical, discharge bycatch and offal when gear is out of the water;
- Batching of all offal;
- Discharge of all bycatch as quickly as possible;
- Maintain warp condition and remove all sprags;
- Continue the efficient deployment and retrieval of the net.

HANDLING PRACTICES

If seabirds are incidentally caught and are still alive:

- Make every reasonable effort to ensure that seabirds are released alive;
- When possible, attempt to remove seabirds from netting or meshes without jeopardizing the life of the bird; and
- Always wear gloves, long sleeves and protective eyewear when handling seabirds because they have sharp beaks and are capable of serious bites.

CARD 6D: GABTF SEABIRD MANAGEMENT PLAN (CONTINUED)

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

- Provided an operator is fishing in accordance with the accredited *SESSF Management Plan*, it is **NOT** an offence to have an interaction with a protected species. However, failure to report an interaction in your daily fishing log (SWT01A) **IS** an offence.
- **All seabirds are protected** under Australian law and as such seabird interactions must be recorded in the *Listed Marine and Threatened Species Form* at the back of your daily fishing log and submitted to AFMA with the relevant fishing logs sheets.
- Notes on the effectiveness of the mitigation devices should be recorded in the comments section of your log page.
- Try to identify seabirds that are captured. All boats should have a copy of the protected species ID guide onboard.
- If a tagged/banded seabird is captured, operators should record the band number and as many details as possible in the *Listed Marine and Threatened Species Form*, noting the condition in which it was released.

CREW AWARENESS

- Crew and boat safety always remains paramount. In this context and in line with this SMP, all reasonable care should be taken to minimise seabird interactions.
- Ensure crew are briefed on the seabird mitigation procedures and fully understand the actions required.
- Crew need to be aware of the seabird activity around the boat and report any additional observed risks to seabirds to the skipper, who will inform AFMA.
- Ensure skippers are informed of any mitigation gear failures or potential improvements that may increase seabird mitigation effectiveness.
- Any OH&S issues arising from the use of seabird mitigation measures or procedures must be reported immediately to the skipper, to be forwarded to GABIA.

REFERENCES

Great Australian Bight Trawl Fishery, Seabird Management Plan.

MITIGATION OPTIONS

A collection of possible mitigation options that could be employed in the GABTF:

| Mitigation options | Location | Details |
|--|---|--|
| Offal and discard management <i>Most important factor in reducing seabird interactions.</i> | Trawl deck/Processing deck | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have the capacity to hold discards and offal. • Discharge bycatch and offal in batches rather than a constant release. • Gut fish/offal into holding bins then release when full. • Hold discards and offal while net is being shot away. |
| Bird bafflers | Stern quarters, port and starboard | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flexible or semi rigid lines attached to arms protruding from port and starboard to prevent birds from flying down the side of the boat to feed on discharge from scuppers and trash chute. |
| Warp scarers | Attached to warps, extending forward of the warp. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Streamers and cables attached to warps (eg by karabiners) to make the warps more visible to deter seabirds. |
| Tori / Streamer lines | Stern quarters, outside port and starboard warps | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lines trailed behind the boat with streamers attached every 5m with a drogue to keep the line taut. |

7



POLLUTION AT SEA



CARD 7A: MARINE POLLUTION

BACKGROUND

It is not an environmentally or socially acceptable practice to dump rubbish into the sea. Marine pollution reflects poorly on the fishing industry and damages its reputation.

Marine pollution can damage boats and harm animals.

Australian laws restricting the discharge of certain types of rubbish have been in place since 1990 and all boat operators should be aware of these restrictions. There are severe penalties for discharging rubbish at sea, with fines up to \$1.3 million.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Understand and comply with pollution laws.
- Do not throw any plastics into the sea.
- Do not discharge any rubbish within 12 nautical miles of the nearest land.
- Minimise onboard rubbish, for example by using crockery instead of disposable plates and cups.
- Make all efforts possible to retrieve lost fishing gear. If this is not possible, then report the position of the lost gear to the Rescue Coordination Centre (RCC-Australia).
- Boats greater than 12 metres in length must have MARPOL information signs or placards on display.
- Boats over 400 tonnes must have a waste management plan, and maintain a rubbish record book in accordance with MARPOL requirements.
- Report any sightings of illegal rubbish discharge to the Australian Maritime Safety Authority or the local authorities.

REFERENCES

Australian Maritime Safety Authority
website: http://www.amsa.gov.au/publications/Marine_Environment_Protection/Stow%20it.pdf

CONTACT DETAILS

Australian Maritime Safety Authority:
(02) 6279 5026

Rescue Coordination Centre: 1800 641 792 or
(02) 6230 6811

Contact the GABIA EO if you require MARPOL
information placards: 0400 166 649



Photo: Luoman, istockphoto.



8



LICENSING AND QUOTA MANAGEMENT

CARD 8A: GOFISH

BACKGROUND

GOFish is AFMA's online business facility, and has replaced Quotaview. GOFish can be used for:

- viewing, exporting and printing quota holding and catch summaries and quota transaction statements;
- leasing boat statutory fishing rights (SFRs), quota SFRs and individual transferable quotas (ITQs);
- permanent transfers of boat SFRs, quota SFRs, ITQs and permits;
- nomination and denomination of boat SFRs, permits and quota SFRs to and from boats;
- submitting applications for scientific permits, fish receiver permits and condition variations; and
- updating your contact details.

To register for GOFish you need to complete the appropriate forms and return them to AFMA.

These forms can be found at:

<http://www.afma.gov.au/services-for-industry/online-services/gofish/>.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Register for GOFish.
- Ensure your contact details are kept up to date.

REFERENCES

AFMA website: <http://www.afma.gov.au/services-for-industry/online-services/gofish/>

CONTACT DETAILS

To access GOFish:

<http://www.afma.gov.au/services-for-industry/online-services/gofish/>

For more information or to report a problem contact AFMA Licensing section: 1300 723 621

Australian Government
Australian Fisheries Management Authority

GO FISH

Welcome to the GOFISH Portal
Manage your fishing concessions online

User ID:

Password:

Remember me next time.

[Forgotten your password?](#)

AFMA website | Copyright | Disclaimer | Privacy policy | Security policy | Refund policy | Shipping policy | Contact us

AFMA Direct 1300 723 621

CARD 8B: FISHING CONCESSIONS

BACKGROUND

You must have a valid fishing concession to fish in any Commonwealth fishery. For the GABTF, this is comprised of statutory fishing rights (SFRs) including:

- a boat SFR; and
- quota SFRs allowing you to take a certain quantity of GABTF quota species.

All concessions must be nominated to an Australian boat.

Certificates are issued for each type of SFR. The certificate of boat SFR lists the conditions for fishing, and you must fish in accordance with these conditions.

The *Fisheries Management Act 1991* requires AFMA to maintain a Register of SFRs. All details on this register are public and cannot be withheld. This register is available on AFMA's website at <http://www.afma.gov.au/resource-centre/publications-and-forms/fisheries/public-registers/>.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Have a valid fishing concession.
- Have a copy of your fishing concession on board the boat at all times.
- Fish within the conditions and areas of your concession.
- Do not fish outside the Australian fishing zone (AFZ) without a valid high seas concession. This can be obtained by submitting a completed HS1 application form to AFMA and paying the application fee.
- Do not engage in fishing inside the AFZ and on the high seas in the same trip without prior written permission from AFMA.

REFERENCES

Fisheries Management Act 1991.
Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery Management Plan 2003.

CONTACT DETAILS

AFMA Licensing section: 1300 723 621

CARD 8C: MANAGING QUOTA

BACKGROUND

In the GABTF certain species are managed under statutory fishing rights (SRFs). These are:

- Bight Redfish;
- Deepwater Flathead;
- Orange Roughy, Albany/Esperance zone;
- School Shark;
- Gummy Shark;
- Saw Shark; and
- Elephantfish.

Concession holders must have uncaught quota prior to the commencement of a fishing trip. It is important to monitor catch against quota holdings at all times. This can be done using AFMA's online business facility, GOFish (refer to card 8a). There are penalties and legal ramifications for catching in excess of your quota holdings.

Quota may be leased or permanently traded in the SESSF. To do this, you need to make arrangements with the other SESSF operators or a quota broker, and complete the appropriate forms online using GOFish or mail the completed hardcopy forms to AFMA.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Monitor your catch against quota holdings.
- Ensure all catches of quota species can be covered with uncaught quota SFRs.

REFERENCES

Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery Management Plan 2003.

CONTACT DETAILS

AFMA Licensing section: 1300 723 621

GOFish: <http://www.afma.gov.au/services-for-industry/online-services/gofish/>



Photo: AFMA.

CARD 8D: TOTAL ALLOWABLE CATCH

BACKGROUND

Total allowable catch (TAC) refers to the total amount of a particular species that may be caught by all concession holders combined during a fishing year. TACs are based on scientific and industry input provided through the Resource Assessment Group (RAG). TACs are set by the AFMA Commission following consideration of RAG and scientific advice, recommendations from GABIA and comment from Management Advisory Committees (MACs).

Table: 2011–12 SESSF TACs for GABTF species.

| QUOTA SPECIES | 2011/12 TAC (t) |
|--|-----------------|
| Bight Redfish | 1556 |
| Deepwater Flathead | 1650 |
| Elephantfish | 89 |
| Gummy Shark | 1717 |
| Orange Roughy (Albany/Esperance zone) | 50 |
| Saw Shark | 226 |
| School Shark | 176 |

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Be aware of the TACs for each species in the GABTF.
- Maintain awareness of the total fishery catch against the TAC.
- Cover your over quota position to prevent compliance action.

CONTACT DETAILS

AFMA SESSF section: 1300 723 621

GABIA EO: 0400 166 649

CARD 8E: OVERCATCH AND UNDERCATCH

BACKGROUND

In some fisheries AFMA allows limited flexibility to catch slightly more or slightly less than your allocated quota for that season, and to carry this surplus or deficit into the following fishing season. This system helps address the issue of varying fish abundance between seasons, and allows planning of the best time to take catches in order to maximise returns.

Overcatch refers to catching more than your allocated quota for a particular species in a fishing season. In some circumstances AFMA may set a percentage of overcatch that is allowed, which will be subtracted from your quota allocation for that species in the following season.

The AFMA commission may also set a determined amount. This is an amount, in addition to the percentage of overcatch, which an operator may take under certain conditions without committing an offence.

Undercatch refers to catching less than your allocated quota for a particular species in a fishing season. AFMA may allow a certain amount of this uncaught quota to be credited in kilograms to the following season. Undercatch is not transferable.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Know the overcatch, determined amount and undercatch provisions applying to each species in the fishery for each season.
- Monitor your catch against quota holdings.

REFERENCES

Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery Management Plan 2003.

CONTACT DETAILS

AFMA Licensing section: 1300 723 621



Photo: AFMA.

9



HARVEST STRATEGY

CARD 9A: HARVEST STRATEGY FOR DEEPWATER FLATHEAD AND BIGHT REDFISH

BACKGROUND

A harvest strategy sets out the management actions necessary to achieve defined biological and economic objectives in a fishery.

Deepwater Flathead and Bight Redfish are managed under a harvest strategy based on sound scientific and industry information.

GABIA and AFMA, with input from the management advisory committee and resource assessment group, have agreed to a proactive, innovative and demonstrably precautionary blueprint for management and research arrangements in the GABTF. The arrangements are consistent with the Commonwealth Harvest Strategy Policy, GABTF *Future Direction Vision Statement* and *Fisheries Management Act 1991* objectives.

A harvest strategy, which is reviewed annually, has been adopted for the GABTF. The GABTF harvest strategy contains control rules to maintain stocks in the fishery at ecologically sustainable levels. The GABTF program of research and assessments provides scientific rigor and confidence among industry and AFMA. The research and monitoring undertaken in the GABTF ensures there is adequate data and information to implement a high quality harvest strategy and is forward planned to maximise cost-effectiveness and efficiency. (See table overleaf.)

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Be aware of the harvest strategy, TAC setting, assessment and monitoring work undertaken annually in the GABTF.
- Adhere to any industry responsibilities under the harvest strategy for the GABTF.



Photo: Peter Woods

REFERENCES

Commonwealth Fisheries Harvest Strategy Policy (HSP) and Guidelines 2007.

GABTF Future Direction Vision Statement. Harvest Strategy Framework for the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery, September 2009.

CONTACT DETAILS

AFMA SESSF section: 1300 723 621

GABIA EO: 0400 166 649

CARD 9A: HARVEST STRATEGY FOR DEEPWATER FLATHEAD AND BIGHT REDFISH (CONTINUED)

Table: Deepwater Flathead and Bight Redfish harvest strategy and GABTF research, monitoring and assessment plan.

| ITEM | | 2008/09 | 2009/10 | 2010/11 | 2011/12 | 2012/13 | 2013/14 |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------|------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Bight Redfish* | TAC | 2,000t | 2,000t | 1,653t | 1,556t | TBD | TBD |
| | Assessment | x | ✓ | x | ✓ | x | TBD |
| Deepwater Flathead* | TAC | 1,400t | 1,300t | 1,100t | 1,500t | 1,500t | TBD |
| | Assessment | x | x (update) | ✓ | x | ✓ | x |
| MEY study | | x | Developed | ✓ | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| MSE | | | | | | ✓ | n/a |
| FIS | | ✓ | ✓ | x | ✓ | x | TBD |
| ISMP - onboard | | ✓ | x | ✓ | x | ✓ | x |
| ISMP - onshore | | x | ✓ | x | ✓ | x | ✓ |
| Slope species monitoring | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Logbook | (discards recording) | Education ✓ | Monitoring ✓ | Audit ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| GABIA length measurements | Industry onboard | n/a | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| RAG meetings | | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| MAC meetings | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bycatch | T90 extensions | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| | Seabird management plans | | Developed | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

*default setting – can be influenced by decision rules

CARD 9B: GABTF SLOPE SPECIES DEVELOPMENT

BACKGROUND

The slope and mid-water fisheries in the GABTF are yet to be developed to any great extent. For some species there is not enough information to calculate TACs. To address this issue, GABIA, GABRAG and GABMAC have implemented a strategy for increased data collection and research to ensure that these species are managed sustainably. Section 5 of this manual highlights the need for collection of slope species in the GABTF. (See table overleaf.)

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Be aware of the GABTF development strategy.
- Comply with requirements for fishing species listed in the development strategy as necessary.
- Ensure you meet the sampling requirements in card 5b.

CONTACT DETAILS

AFMA SESSF section: 1300 723 621

GABIA EO: 0400 166 649

CARD 9B: GABTF SLOPE SPECIES DEVELOPMENT (CONTINUED)

Table: Great Australian Bight Trawl Fishery slope species development strategy.

| SPECIES | TRIGGER TO COLLECT BIOLOGICAL DATA | TRIGGER FOR DATA COLLECTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF ASSESSMENT PLAN | CEASE FISHING FOR THAT SPECIES | COMMENCE STOCK ASSESSMENT |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|--|---------------------------|
| Gemfish | Currently collected | 400t | 500t/year | 1000t/3 years |
| Blue Grenadier | Currently collected | 400t | 500t/year cease fishing. If a spawning aggregation is found, trigger an acoustic survey (500t) and operator collects 100 whole fish. | 1000t/3 years |
| Ling | Currently collected | 100t | 250t | 250t |
| Blue-eye Trevalla | Currently collected | 100t | 250t | – |
| Ribaldo | Currently collected | 100t | 250t | – |
| Hapuka | Currently collected | 100t | 250t | – |
| Gulper sharks | Code of practice by industry to not target these species in addition to area closure. | – | 2t | – |
| Deepwater sharks (Black/Brier) | Code of practice by industry to not target these species in addition to area closure. | – | – | – |
| Chinamen Leatherjacket | Management measures on Bight Redfish and Deepwater Flathead influences catch. | – | – | – |
| Angel Shark | Management measures on Bight Redfish and Deepwater Flathead influences catch. | – | – | – |
| Jackass Morwong | Management measures on Bight Redfish and Deepwater Flathead influences catch. | – | – | – |

10



CATCH REQUIREMENTS

CARD 10A: INCIDENTAL CATCH LIMITS FOR STATE MANAGED SPECIES

BACKGROUND

GABTF boat SFR holders are subject to a variety of catch restrictions under Commonwealth law.

When fishing in waters of the Commonwealth GABTF, catch of the following finfish, molluscs and crustaceans must be in accordance with the following Offshore Constitutional Settlement

(OCS) State catch limits for South Australia and Western Australia. The limits refer to trip limits.

Please remember the information presented in this manual is a guide only and should not be taken to replace South Australia, Western Australian or Commonwealth fisheries law.

Table: Incidental catch limits for state managed species.

| FINFISH | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| SPECIES | WESTERN AUSTRALIA | SOUTH AUSTRALIA |
| Billfish | Prohibited | Prohibited |
| Black Cod | Prohibited | Prohibited |
| Great White Shark | Prohibited | Prohibited |
| Grey Nurse Shark | Prohibited | Prohibited |
| Tuna and Tuna-like Species | Prohibited | Prohibited |
| Australian Anchovy | | Prohibited |
| Australian Salmon | | Prohibited |
| Banded Morwong | | Prohibited |
| Bastard Trumpeter | | Maximum 20kg* |
| Black Bream | | Prohibited |
| Blue Groper | | Maximum 50kg* |
| Blue Sprat | | Prohibited |
| Dusky Morwong | | Prohibited |
| Garfish | | Prohibited |
| Grassy (Rock Flathead) | | Prohibited |
| King Gar | | Prohibited |
| King George Whiting | | Prohibited |
| Luderick | | Prohibited |
| Magpie Morwong | | Prohibited |
| Mulloway | | Maximum 100kg* |
| Pilchard | | Prohibited |
| Red Mullet | | Prohibited |
| Sea Sweep | | Prohibited |
| Snapper | | Maximum 50kg* |
| Snook | | Prohibited |

CARD 10A: INCIDENTAL CATCH LIMITS FOR STATE MANAGED SPECIES

(CONTINUED)

| FINFISH | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| SPECIES | WESTERN AUSTRALIA | SOUTH AUSTRALIA |
| Sprat | | Prohibited |
| Wrasse | | Prohibited |
| Yelloweye Mullet | | Prohibited |
| Yellow-finned Whiting | | Prohibited |
| Striped Trumpeter | | Maximum 20kg* |
| Yellowtail Kingfish | | Maximum of 10 fish* |

- a total combined incidental catch of 200kg for these finfish.

| MOLLUSCS | | |
|---|-------------------|---|
| SPECIES | WESTERN AUSTRALIA | SOUTH AUSTRALIA |
| Arrow Squid | | No incidental catch limit |
| Red Ocean Squid | | No incidental catch limit |
| Southern Ocean Arrow Squid | | No incidental catch limit |
| Yellowback Squid | | No incidental catch limit |
| Scallops | | Prohibited |
| Abalone | | Prohibited |
| Specimen shells or shellfish (class Gastropoda) | | Maximum 50kg combined (Industry voluntary agreement to not take any specimen shells or shellfish) |
| All other molluscs | | Maximum of 500kg except those species listed with no incidental catch limits |

| CRUSTACEANS | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| SPECIES | WESTERN AUSTRALIA | SOUTH AUSTRALIA |
| Deepwater Prawn | | No incidental catch limit |
| Red Prawn | | No incidental catch limit |
| Prawn (Family Penaeidae) | Prohibited | Prohibited |
| Royal Red Prawn | | No incidental catch limit |
| Scarlet Prawn | | No incidental catch limit |
| Carid | | No incidental catch limit |
| Lobster (Family Palinuridae) | Prohibited | Prohibited |
| Bay Bug | | Maximum 200kg |
| Giant Crab | | Maximum of 5 crabs |
| Other Crustaceans | | Maximum of 50kg |
| Coral | Prohibited | Prohibited |

Note: In the initial drafting of the OCS between the Commonwealth and South Australia, Red Snapper (*Centroberyx gerrardi*) was erroneously identified as a predominantly state-caught species and was put under the control of South Australia. Later, it was realised that Red Snapper was a common name for Bight Redfish which is one of the major target species in the Commonwealth GABTF. Bight Redfish are not limited by the OCS arrangement.

CARD 10A: INCIDENTAL CATCH LIMITS FOR STATE MANAGED SPECIES (CONTINUED)

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Adhere to incidental catch limits.
- Report discards of any of these species in your daily fishing log.
- Avoid fishing in areas/at times when this may result in catches that exceed limits.

REFERENCES

Fisheries Management Regulations 1992.

CONTACT DETAILS

AFMA SESSF section: 1300 723 621

CARD 10B: LANDING AND PROCESSING CATCH

BACKGROUND

The SESSF Management Plan 2003 imposes a general 'no processing at sea' condition on all fishing concessions in the GABTF to ensure quota species can be readily identified. The following table provides the processing and landing requirements for shark species caught in the GABTF. In addition to these requirements:

- Scalefish must be landed either whole or gilled, headed and gutted.
- Shark finning is NOT permitted. Fins must be landed attached to the carcass.
- Landing shark livers only is NOT permitted. Livers may be landed separate from the carcass, but must be landed when the carcass is landed.
- Gummy and School Shark must be at least 45cm in length when measured from the rearmost gill slit to the ventral insertion of the caudal fin (see diagram overleaf).



Photo: AFMA.

- Skates and rays must not have skin or fillet removed from the carcass prior to being landed and received by an authorised fish receiver.

Table: Processing and landing requirements for shark species caught in the GABTF.

| SPECIES | HEAD | BELLY FLAPS | PECTORAL FINS | DORSAL FINS | CAUDAL FINS | PELVIC FINS | CLASPERS |
|----------------------------|------|-------------|---------------|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|----------|
| Sharks | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | ✗* | ✓ | ✓ |
| Angel sharks | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗* | ✓ | ✓ |
| Banjo sharks | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Dogfish (Family Squalidae) | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗* | ✓ | ✓ |
| Chimaeras (Elephantfish) | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ First dorsal may be removed | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ |

✓ May be removed

✗ Must not be removed

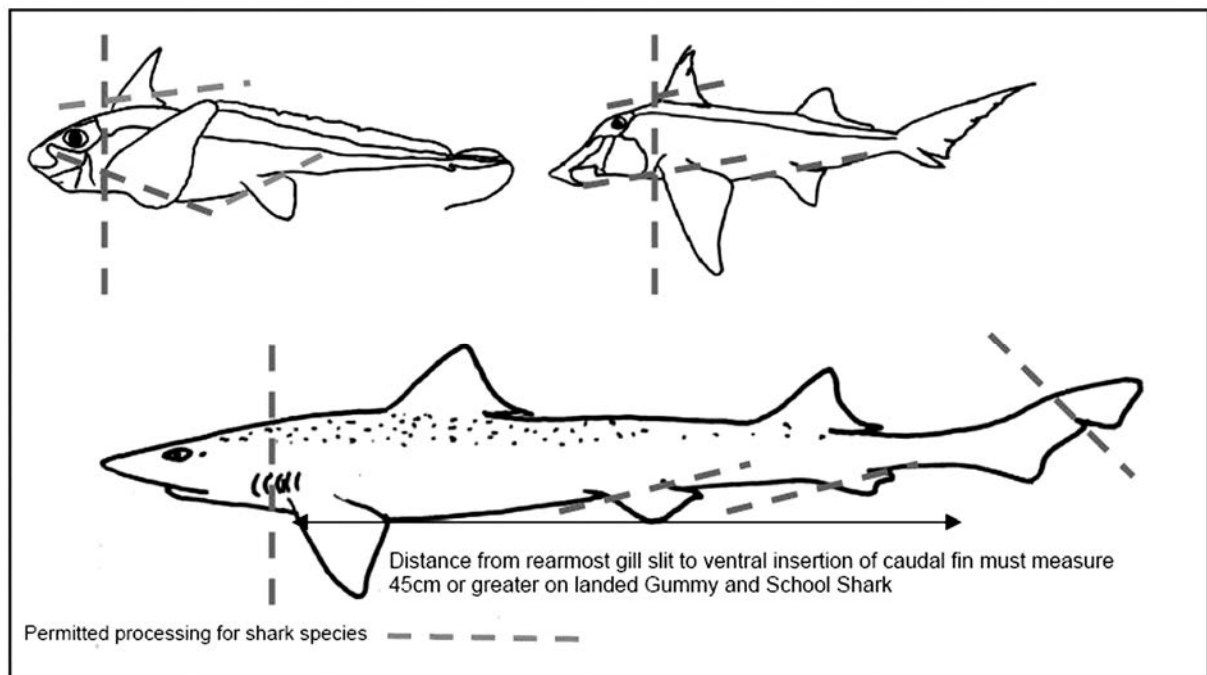
* Tail tip may be cut off at sub terminal notch

CARD 10B: LANDING AND PROCESSING CATCH (CONTINUED)

The following diagram shows permitted processing for shark species in the SESSF.

(a) and (b) show the standard processing cuts for all chimaeras.

(c) shows the standard processing cuts for all sharks.



YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Comply with the conditions on your fishing concessions for landing and processing catch.
- Do not process catch at sea.
- Do not fillet catch at sea without prior written authorisation from AFMA, and in addition with an AFMA observer present on your boat when the filleting occurs.

REFERENCES

Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery Management Plan 2003.

CONTACT DETAILS

AFMA SESSF section: 1300 723 621

CARD 10C: TRANSHIPPING AND UNLOADING CATCH

BACKGROUND

There are rules in place to prevent unauthorised transhipping and unloading of catch to unlicensed fish receivers. These help prevent quota evasion and maintain the integrity of the fishery.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Do not tranship fish caught by another boat without prior written authorisation from AFMA.
- Do not transfer your fish onto another boat without prior written authorisation from AFMA.
- Unload all fish from the GABTF within Australia or an External Territory, except if you have prior written authorisation from AFMA to unload elsewhere.
- Land fish to an authorised fish receiver holding a valid fish receiver permit.



Photo: AFMA.

REFERENCES

Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery Management Plan 2003.

CONTACT DETAILS

AFMA SESSF section: 1300 723 621

11



COMPLIANCE

CARD 11A: VESSEL MONITORING SYSTEMS

BACKGROUND

AFMA uses integrated computer vessel monitoring systems (ICVMS) to track the location of boats nominated to Commonwealth concessions. This offers a cost-effective way to monitor boats fishing in real time.

Any vessel nominated to your concession must be fitted with an ICVMS of a category specified in the register of AFMA approved automatic location communicators. This register can be found at <http://www.afma.gov.au/services-for-industry/vessel-monitoring-systems/register-of-afma-approved-automatic-location-communicators-vms-units/>

Manual reporting

If the ICVMS stops working, the concession holder must manually report the boat's position every four hours unless otherwise directed by AFMA. Reports should include boat name, distinguishing symbols, latitude and longitude, date and time.

Temporary switch off

Temporary switch off (TSO) is a formal arrangement that allows an ICVMS unit to be legitimately switched off, which may be appropriate if a boat is undergoing maintenance, is berthed for an extended period or there are other exceptional circumstances. To apply for a TSO you must submit the appropriate form to AFMA.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Ensure you have a working ICVMS before departing on a fishing trip.
- Do not interfere or tamper with the ICVMS.
- Do not switch off the ICVMS without prior approval from AFMA obtained through the Temporary Switch Off form.
- If the ICVMS stops working at sea, manually report the boat's position every four hours and comply with any further directions from AFMA.
- Do not switch off the ALC in port.
- Do not leave port if the ALC is not working. You must contact AFMA and wait until you have permission to depart.

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

REFERENCES

Fisheries Management (Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery) Regulations 2004.

AFMA website: <http://www.afma.gov.au/services-for-industry/vessel-monitoring-systems/>

CONTACT DETAILS

AFMA Compliance section: 1300 723 621

To report a problem with the ICVMS or for manual reporting:

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

Mobile: 0419 205 329

Fax: 02 6225 5440

Email: VMSreporting@afma.gov.au

CARD 11B: NAVIGATION REGULATION

BACKGROUND

When travelling through AFMA fishery closures you must comply with navigation rules made under the *Fisheries Management Regulations 1992*. These rules allow AFMA to monitor and enforce compliance with closures through VMS.

The deemed speed of a boat is calculated by taking the straight line distance between two consecutive VMS points, and dividing that distance by the time the boat has taken to travel between the two points. This means you are advised to take the most direct route when travelling through a closure.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Maintain a minimum speed of five knots when travelling through a closure.
- If the closure is in effect for less than 24 hours, either maintain a minimum speed of five knots or remain stationary.
- If you enter a closure, remain in that closure for a minimum of 30 minutes. This will allow boat speed to be calculated.
- When practical, take the most direct route when navigating through a closure.
- Read and understand the *Fisheries Management Regulations 1992*, including part 9A, regulations 37A-D.
- In some circumstances you may apply for an exemption, for example, due to an unforeseen emergency or circumstances beyond your control. To request an exemption contact the AFMA Duty Officer as soon as possible on 0419 205 329 and follow any directions given.

REFERENCES

Fisheries Management Regulations 1992.

AFMA website: <http://www.afma.gov.au/services-for-industry/notices-and-announcements/n20100315>

CONTACT DETAILS

AFMA Compliance section: 1300 723 621

AFMA Duty Officer: 0419 205 329



Photo: Peter Woods.

CARD 11C: ILLEGAL FISHING

BACKGROUND

Illegal fishing degrades the integrity of Australian fisheries. Everyone is responsible for reporting suspected illegal fishing activity, and all reports are treated in strict confidence.



YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Report any suspected illegal fishing operations as soon as possible. Reports can be made anonymously, and ideally should include:
 - the date, time and location that the activity took place;
 - names of any associated persons; and
 - any photographs or other evidence.

CONTACT DETAILS

Report suspected illegal fishing to one of the following:

CRIMFISH: 1800 274 634 or 1800 CRIMFISH

CRIMFISH website:

<http://www.afma.gov.au/managing-our-fisheries/compliance-activities/1800-crimfish>

AFMA's Duty Officer: 0419 205 329

GABIA EO: 0400 166 649

CARD 11D: FISHING GEAR

BACKGROUND

There are a number of fishing gear types that are permitted in the GABTF. These are demersal otter trawl, mid-water trawl and pair trawl. Demersal trawl is the primary method used in the fishery.

There are gear specifications for net mesh size to help reduce incidental catch of small fish. Fishing in the GABTF is prohibited unless using nets with a minimum mesh size of 90mm. GABIA has also introduced other gear requirements and specifications.



Above: Traditional codend. Notice the mesh is pulled in, reducing the opening.



Above: T90 codend. Notice the larger opening.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Fishing nets must have a minimum mesh size of 90mm.
- Use a T90 (straight mesh turned 90 degrees) or square mesh (turned on the bar) gear extension and/or codend configuration for all nets.
- Take all reasonable steps to minimise the loss of fishing gear.
- If you want to trial mid-water trawl using mesh smaller than 90mm ensure you have an appropriate concession. Applications for this concession should be sent to AFMA via the GABIA EO.
- Abide by GABIA ground gear specifications where steel bobbins and rubber discs should not exceed 15 inches (375mm) in diameter.
- Ensure that chafing mats, or any other type of wear reducing material, do not cover any part of the chosen bycatch reduction configuration.
- If you identify an alternative method for reducing incidental bycatch through gear modifications, report this to GABIA and AFMA for consideration.

REFERENCES

Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery (Minimum Gear Requirements) Direction 2010.

CONTACT DETAILS

AFMA Licensing section: 1300 723 621

GABIA EO: 0400 166 649

12

GABTF DEEPWATER MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

CARD 12A: GABTF DEEPWATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

12

BACKGROUND

A deepwater management strategy has been developed and implemented in the GABTF to ensure the sustainability of deepwater fishing, including for Orange Roughy. Deepwater environments are generally more vulnerable to fishing than shallow environments.

These arrangements include:

- establishing clearly defined deepwater management zones across the GABTF;
- implementing deepwater fishery closures to provide full protection of deepwater benthic habitats and species (refer to card 13a);
- implementing the Orange Roughy research zones for the protection and study of GABTF Orange Roughy stocks (refer to cards 12b and 13b);
- identifying research and management triggers for species caught in the deepwater management zones (not including Orange Roughy);
- setting a precautionary trigger limit for Orange Roughy of 10 tons for each deepwater management zone (outside of research zones); and
- industry agreements including restricting targeting of deepwater sharks, and no long tows (exceeding 5 hours) in waters deeper than 700m.

The deepwater management zones can be described as waters 700m and deeper to the edge of the exclusive economic zone and within the boundaries:

- eastern zone—138° 08' to 136° 00' E;
- central east zone—136° 00' to 133° 00' E;
- central west zone—133° 00' to 129° 00' E;
- western zone—129° 00' to 121° 00' E; and
- far west zone—121° 00' to 115° 08' E.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Understand and comply with the deepwater management strategy.
- Do not fish in closed waters.
- Do not target Orange Roughy in commercial fishing operations.

CONTACT DETAILS

AFMA SESSF section: 1300 723 621

GABIA EO: 0400 166 649

CARD 12B: MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS FOR ORANGE ROUGHY

12

BACKGROUND

In November 2006, Orange Roughy was listed as Conservation Dependant under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). The listing requires additional measures to address the specific objectives and requirements of the Orange Roughy Conservation Program. The Conservation Program was established to ensure that Orange Roughy does not become vulnerable, endangered or critically endangered, as defined by the EPBC Act, within a period of 5 years. Most importantly, Orange Roughy cannot be commercially targeted in the GABTF.

Annually, GABIA develops an Orange Roughy Research Plan to allow fishing under a scientific permit, granted upon application to AFMA, within the Orange Roughy research zones (Card 13b). The aim is to collect biological information on the age, size structure, sex ratio and sexual stage of Orange Roughy stocks and ultimately support assessment of the status of the stocks.

Information to support stock discrimination between the SETF and the GABTF, as well as within the GABTF, is also a major focus of this Research Plan.

This is achieved through the following objectives:

1. Full biological data (length, sex, gonad stage) must be collected from a minimum of 1000 individuals, and otoliths from a minimum of 500 individuals, from each Research Zone fished under a scientific permit;
2. The fishing vessel(s) should, on an opportunistic basis, conduct acoustic grid surveys of orange Roughy marks in a Research Zone with a Simrad ES60 echosounder; and
3. Stock discrimination (in the future) using biological samples, both within the GAB and between GAB and Tasmanian stocks.



Photo: GABIA

Information from other Orange Roughy fisheries indicates that individual shots may not be representative of the actual size/sex structure of the entire aggregation. It is better to collect the biological data from numerous small (5-10t) shots rather than one large (50t) shot. For this reason, whilst fishing under a scientific permit, skippers must endeavour to take catch data from a minimum of 5 shots in any one Research Zone.

Temperature logging

All vessels possessing an Orange Roughy scientific permit and undertaking shots for Orange Roughy as part of any GABTF Research Plan should endeavour to record water temperature at fishing depth and/or fit temperature loggers to the headline of the net to collect water temperature depth profiles.

Data handling and storage

GABIA ensures that all information collected under the GABTF Research Plan is made available to the appropriate research providers undertaking stock assessment of GABTF Orange Roughy.

CARD 12B: MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS FOR ORANGE ROUGHY (CONTINUED)

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Understand the information in this card, particularly that no commercial targeting of Orange Roughy is permitted in the GABTF.
- To access the Orange Roughy research zones, any boat must have applied for and received a scientific permit for the specific purpose of conducting Orange Roughy research.
- An Orange Roughy Research Plan applies under the Scientific Permit arrangements.
- Be aware that GABIA considers and agrees on the boat(s) to conduct Orange Roughy research each year.
- Boats undertaking Orange Roughy sampling must collect full biological data, otoliths and undertake temperature logging. Acoustic grid surveys are also required opportunistically.
- Be aware of:
 - i. details of the GABTF deepwater management strategy as set out in card 12a, including specific arrangements for Orange Roughy;
 - ii. the GABTF deepwater closures set out in card 13a;
 - iii. the Orange Roughy research zones set out in card 13b.

REFERENCES

GABIA's *Management strategy for sustainable deepwater fishing in the GABT*, March 2007.
GABIA's *Orange Roughy Research Plan for the GABTF*.

CONTACT DETAILS

AFMA SESSF section: 1300 723 621
GABIA EO: 0400 166 649

13



CLOSURES

CARD 13A: GABTF DEEPWATER CLOSURES

BACKGROUND

A deepwater management strategy has been developed and implemented in the GABTF to ensure the sustainability of deepwater fishing. Part of this strategy is spatial closures for demersal and otter trawling, which have been implemented in the following locations:

- central east zone—from 134°00' to 134°20', (refer to Schedule 24 of the *Scalefish and Shark Fishery (Closures) Direction No 4 2010*);
- Salisbury Canyon—closure outside 700m to demersal trawling (over Salisbury Canyon to exclusive economic zone) from 123° 20' to 123° 40' E (refer to Schedule 25 of the *Scalefish and Shark Fishery (Closures) Direction No. 4 2010*); and
- far west zone—closure outside 700m to demersal trawling from 120° 00' to 122° 00' E (refer to Schedule 26 of the *Scalefish and Shark Fishery (Closures) Direction No. 4 2010*). The far west zone closure adjoins the GAB far west Gulper Shark closure (refer to card 13e).

(Refer to the back of this card for a diagram).

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Be aware of areas closed to fishing.
- Do not engage in fishing using demersal otter trawl gear in the GABTF Deepwater Closures.
- Comply with the navigation regulation when navigating through these closures (refer to card 11b).

REFERENCES

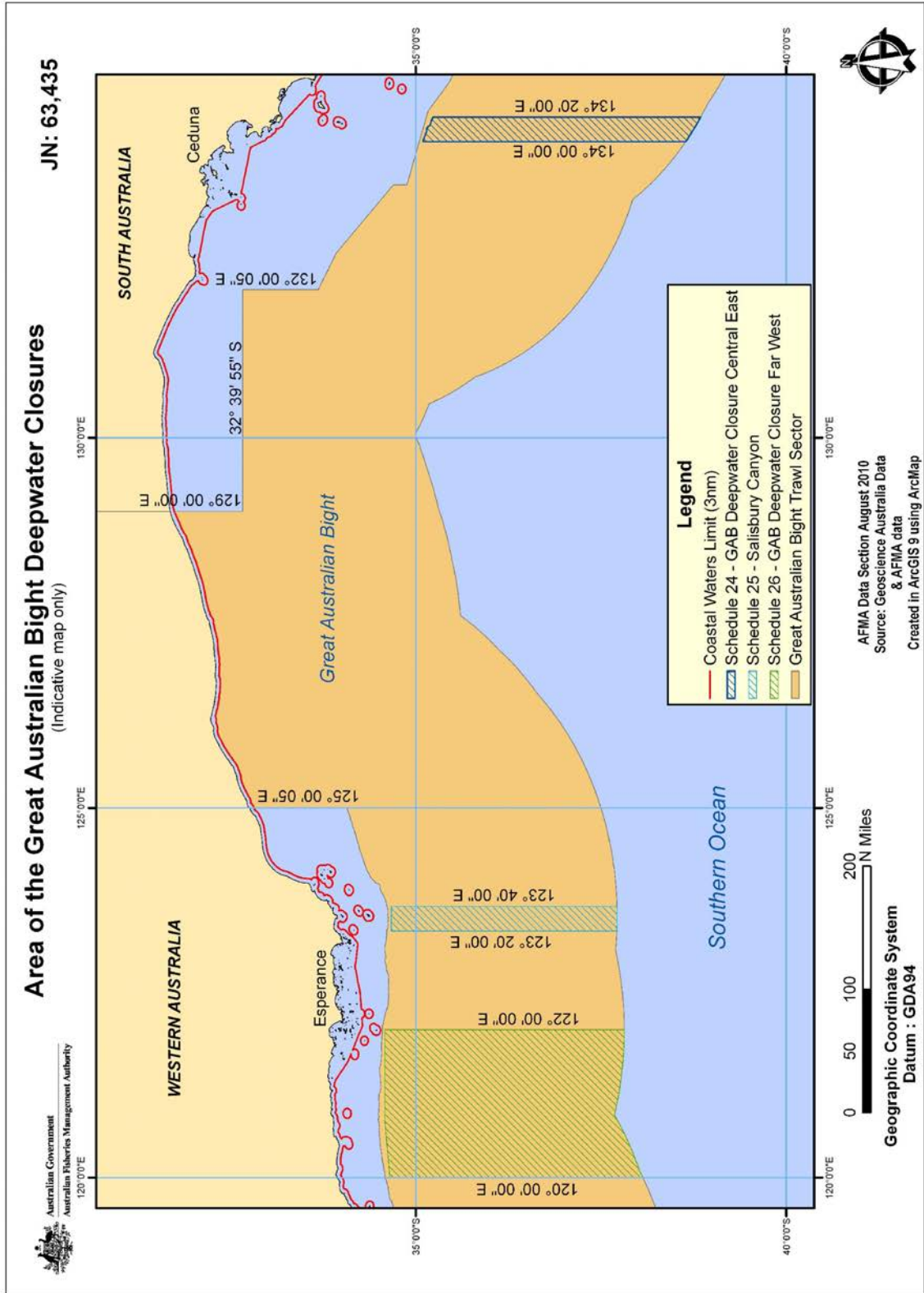
Scalefish and Shark Fishery (Closures) Direction No. 4, 2010, Schedules 24, 25 and 26, and any subsequent Directions.

CONTACT DETAILS

AFMA SESSF section: 1300 723 621

GABIA EO: 0400 166 649

CARD 13A: GABTF DEEPWATER CLOSURES (CONTINUED)



CARD 13B: ORANGE ROUGHY RESEARCH ZONES

BACKGROUND

Orange Roughy is listed as conservation dependent under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. It is important to comply with the Orange Roughy research zone closures to help ensure the long term survival of this species. The zones are closed to all trawl methods.

Fishing in the research zones is only permitted with a scientific permit under an agreed research proposal. The areas of the zones are bounded by:

Albany

118.167°E 35.400°S
118.733°E 35.133°S
118.733°E 35.500°S
118.167°E 35.767°S

United Nations

131.633°E 33.750°S
131.633°E 34.250°S
131.250°E 34.167°S
131.250°E 33.667°S

Bremmer

119.267°E 34.833°S
119.500°E 34.733°S
119.500°E 34.933°S
119.267°E 35.033°S

The Knob

132.433°E 34.383°S
133.000°E 34.683°S
133.000°E 34.983°S
132.433°E 34.683°S

Humdinger West

124.100°E 34.400°S
124.100°E 34.800°S
123.767°E 35.033°S
123.767°E 34.633°S

Kangaroo Is Hill

137.667°E 37.100°S
137.167°E 36.906°S
137.167°E 36.742°S
137.731°E 37.026°S

Humdinger / Magic

124.600°E 34.550°S
124.600°E 34.250°S
125.000°E 34.167°S
126.400°E 33.500°S
126.400°E 34.000°S
125.000°E 34.467°S

Racetrack / Hamburger

134.000°E 35.100°S
134.000°E 35.400°S
133.750°E 35.333°S
133.200°E 35.100°S
133.200°E 34.800°S
133.750°E 35.033°S

Lomvar Gully

129.667°E 33.533°S
130.100°E 33.433°S
130.100°E 33.733°S
129.667°E 33.833°S

(Refer to the back of this card for diagrams).

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Be aware of areas closed to fishing.
- Do not engage in fishing using trawl methods in the Orange Roughy Research Zones.
- Comply with the navigation regulation when navigating through these closures (refer to card 11b).

REFERENCES

Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery Closures Direction No. 4 2010, Schedules 27–35, and any subsequent Directions.

CONTACT DETAILS

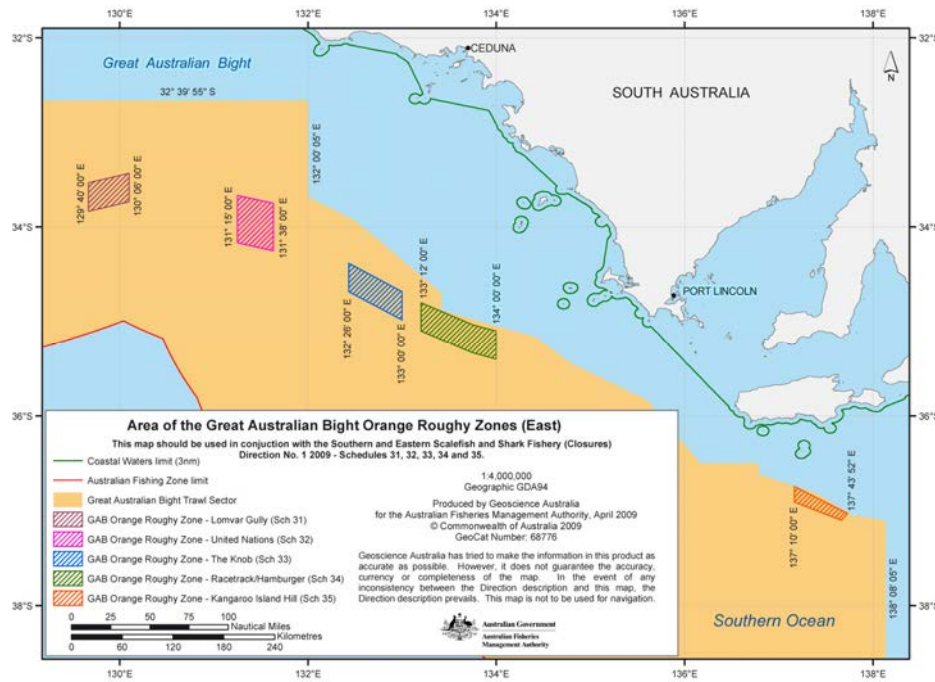
AFMA SESSF section: 1300 723 621
GABIA EO: 0400 166 649

CARD 13B: ORANGE ROUGHY RESEARCH ZONES (CONTINUED)

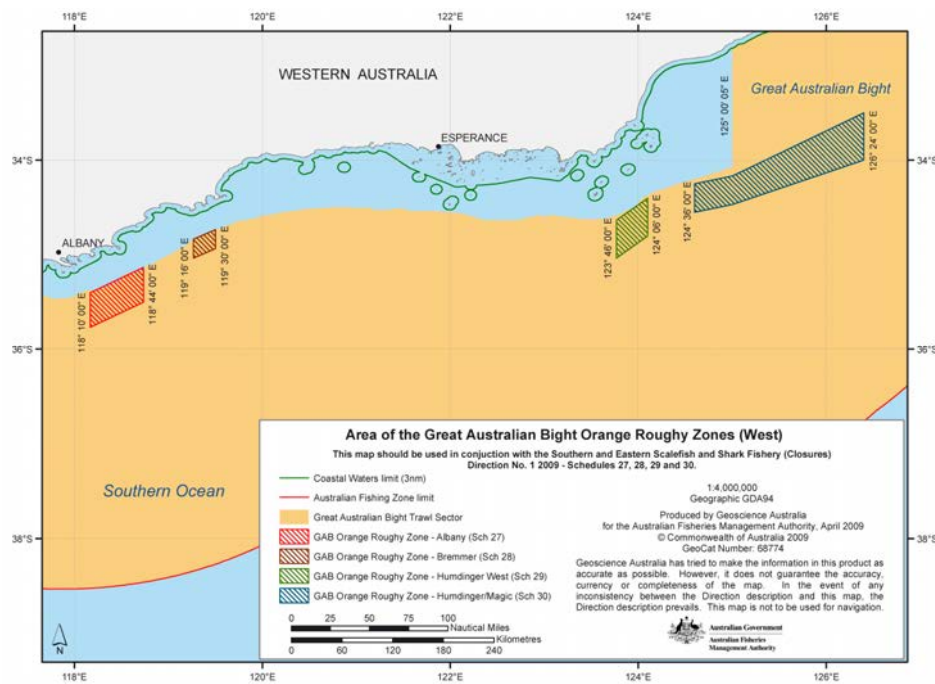
13

GABIA Orange Roughy research zone closures

a) East zones



b) West zones



CARD 13C: GREAT AUSTRALIAN BIGHT MARINE PARK CLOSURE

BACKGROUND

The Great Australian Bight Marine Park provides protection for Southern Right Whales and Australian Sea Lions, and also preserves a representative sample of the unique seafloor plants, animals and sediments of the area. It is made up of two zones:

1) The marine mammal protection zone

This area is seasonally closed to all boat access from 1 May to 31 October every year. However, you still have the right to travel through the area for innocent passage.

Commercial fishing outside of this seasonal closure may be allowed in accordance with a permit. Contact the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water Population and Community for more information.

2) The benthic protection zone

Demersal trawling is not allowed in this area, and it is closed to all Commonwealth GAB Trawl Sector boat SFRs.

Commercial fishing outside of this seasonal closure may be allowed in accordance with a permit. Contact the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water Population and Community for more information.

(Refer to the back of this card for a diagram).

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Be aware of areas closed to fishing.
- Do not fish in a closed area.

REFERENCES

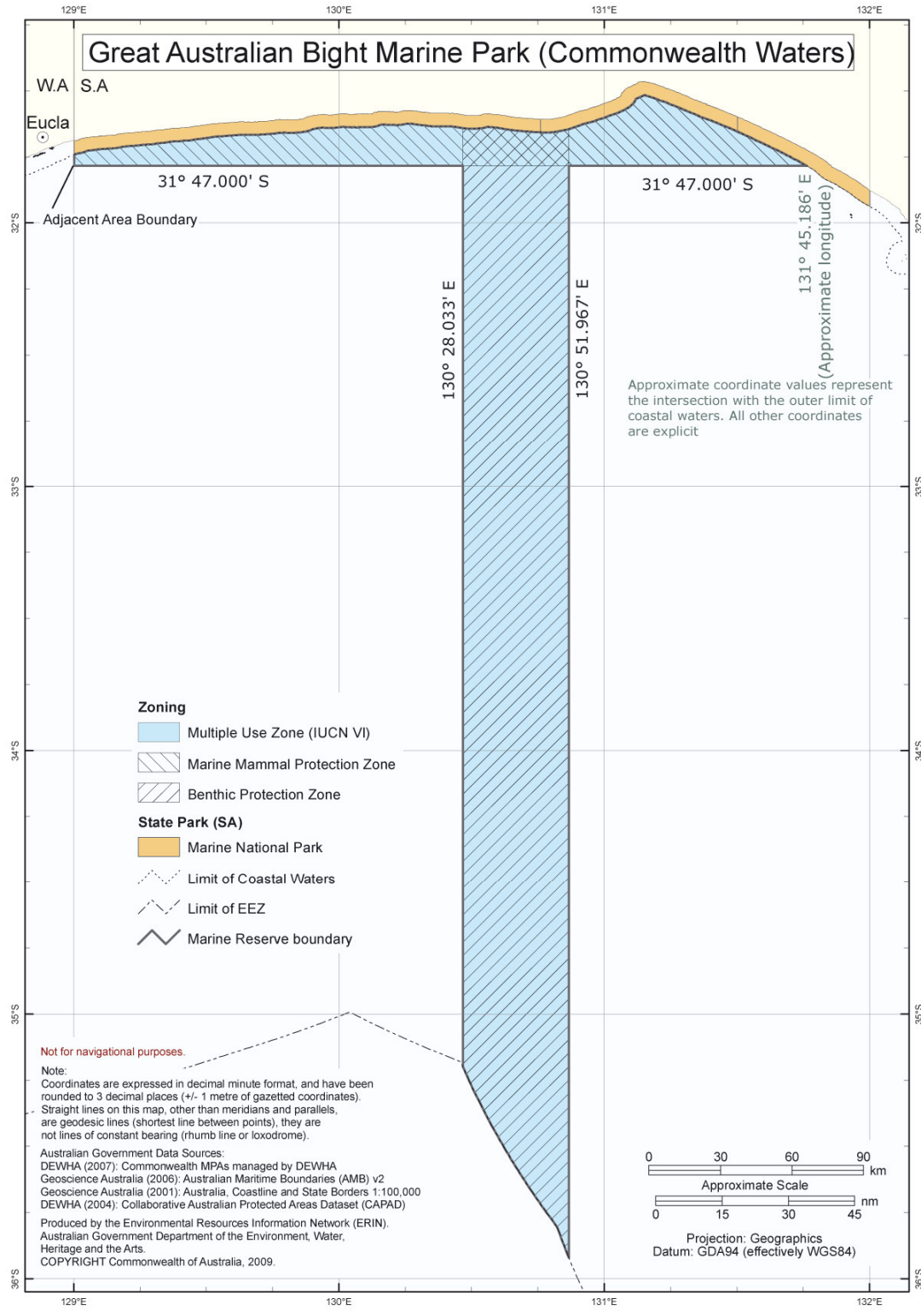
Department of Environment website:
<http://www.environment.gov.au/coasts/mpa/gab/maps/index.html>

CONTACT DETAILS

AFMA SESSF section: 1300 723 621
GABIA EO: 0400 166 649

CARD 13C: GREAT AUSTRALIAN BIGHT MARINE PARK CLOSURE (CONTINUED)

13



CARD 13D: MURRAY COMMONWEALTH MARINE RESERVE

BACKGROUND

The Murray Commonwealth Marine Reserve stretches south of the River Murray mouth off the South Australia coast from the inshore State waters to the edge of Australia's exclusive economic zone. This area aims to protect a sample of the key features in the area, including continental shelf and slope, abyssal plain and Sprigg Canyon. It also helps protect Australian Sea Lions, New Zealand Fur Seals, School Shark and Gulper Shark.

(Refer to the back of this card for a diagram).

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Be aware of areas closed to fishing.
- Do not fish in a closed area.

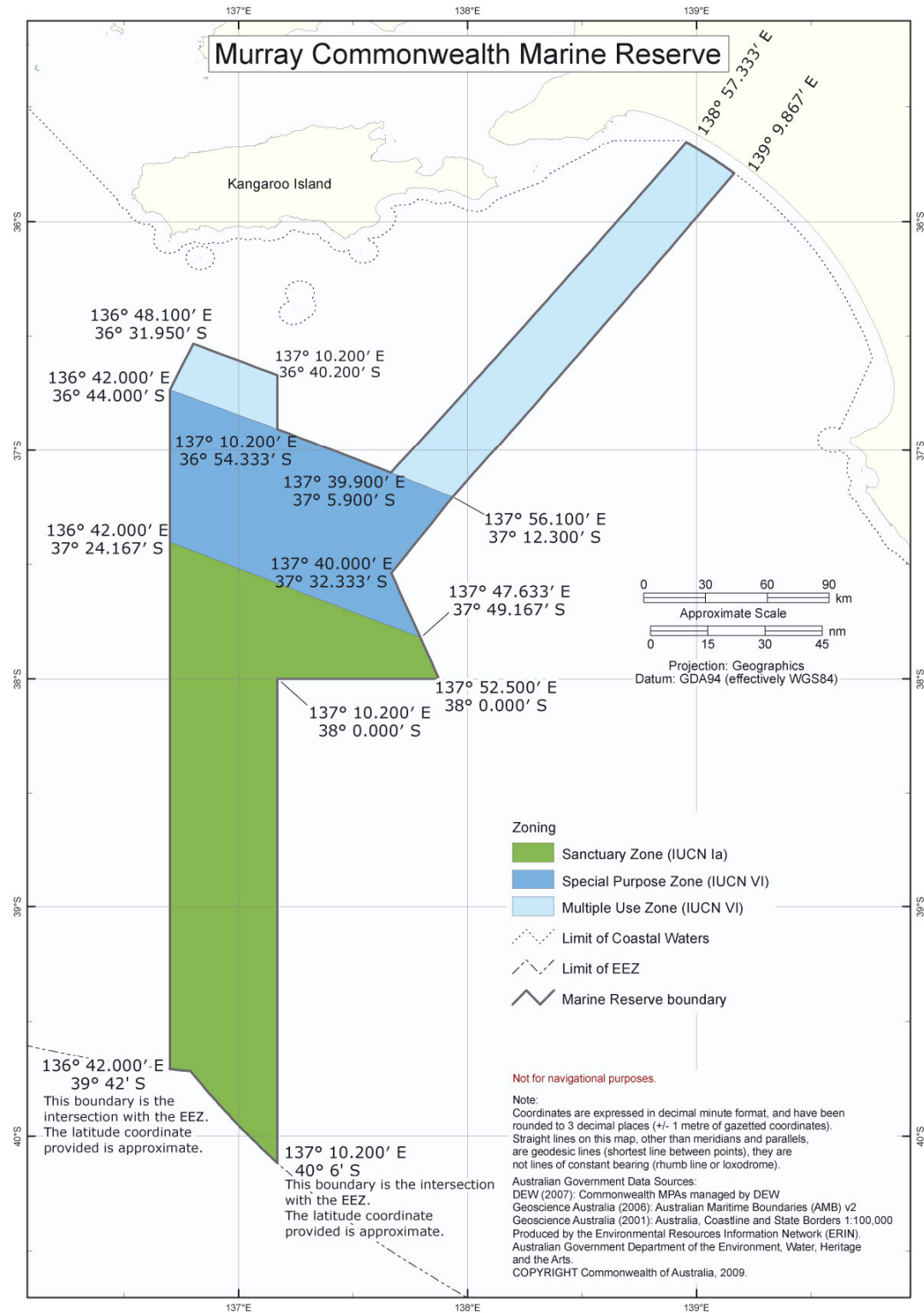
REFERENCES

Department of the Environment website:
<http://www.environment.gov.au/coasts/mpa/south-east/murray/index.html>

CONTACT DETAILS

AFMA SESSF section: 1300 723 621

CARD 13D: MURRAY COMMONWEALTH MARINE RESERVE (CONTINUED)



CARD 13E: GULPER SHARK CLOSURES AND MANAGEMENT

13

BACKGROUND

Gulper Sharks are slow growing species with low reproduction rates. This means they are particularly vulnerable to rapid stock depletion and are slow to recover. While research suggests they are lightly fished in the GABTF, stocks appear to have declined in other areas of the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery.

Southern Dogfish, Harrison's Dogfish and Endeavour Dogfish have been nominated for listing under the EPBC Act.

There are two closures in the GABTF to protect Southern Dogfish (*Centrophorus zeehaani*). These are:

- the GAB Trawl Sector Gulper Shark Closure-Southern Dogfish (refer to schedule 17 of the *Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery (Closures) Direction No. 4 2010*); and
- the GAB Far West Gulper Shark Closure (refer to schedule 36 of the *Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery (Closures) Direction No. 4 2010*). This closure adjoins the GAB Far West Zone Deepwater Closure (refer to card 13a and Schedule 26 of the *Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery (Closures) Direction No. 4 2010*).

(Refer to the diagrams found overleaf).

Additionally, GABIA has agreed to a voluntary annual incidental catch limit of 2 tonnes of Gulper Sharks, as a code of conduct not to target these species.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Be aware of areas closed to fishing.
- Do not engage in fishing using demersal otter trawl gear in the GAB Trawl Sector Gulper Shark Closure.
- Do not engage in fishing using trawl methods in the GAB Far West Gulper Shark Closure.

- Do not target Gulper Sharks.
- Return all live Gulper Sharks to the water carefully and quickly.
- Do not exceed catch limits of 15kg per day or 90kg per trip for trips over six days for Harrison's Dogfish, Southern Dogfish, Endeavour Dogfish and Greeneye Spurdog combined. This includes both retained and discarded catch.
- Be aware of the 4.5 tonne trigger limit for Harrison's Dogfish, Southern Dogfish and Endeavour Dogfish for the entire SESSF.
- Identify all Gulper Shark catch to the species level using the *Protected Species ID Kit* and the *Gulper Shark ID flier* (refer to the attached flier).
- Comply with the navigation regulation when navigating through these closures (refer to card 11b).

REFERENCES

Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery Closures Direction No. 4 2010, Schedules 17, 26 and 36, and any subsequent Directions.

Protected Species ID Guide, AFMA and the National Heritage Trust, 2006.

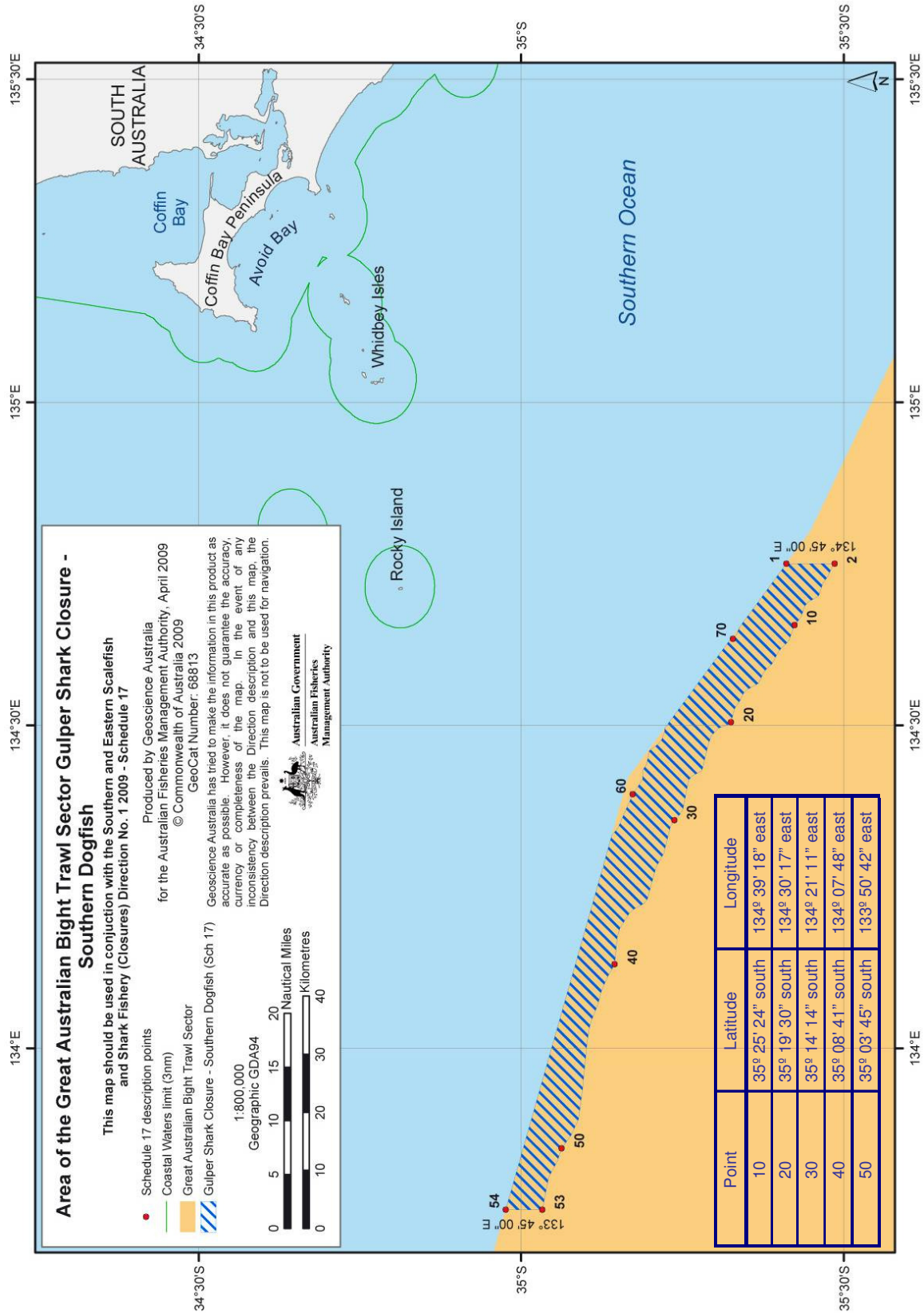
Daley, R, Knuckey, I., Dowdney, J., Williams, A., Bulma, C., Sporcic, M., Fuller, M., Smith, T. (2007). *Draft Ecological Risk Assessment for the Effects of Fishing. Report for the Great Australian Bight trawl sub-fishery of the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery.* Report for the Australian Fisheries Management Authority. Canberra, Australia.

CONTACT DETAILS

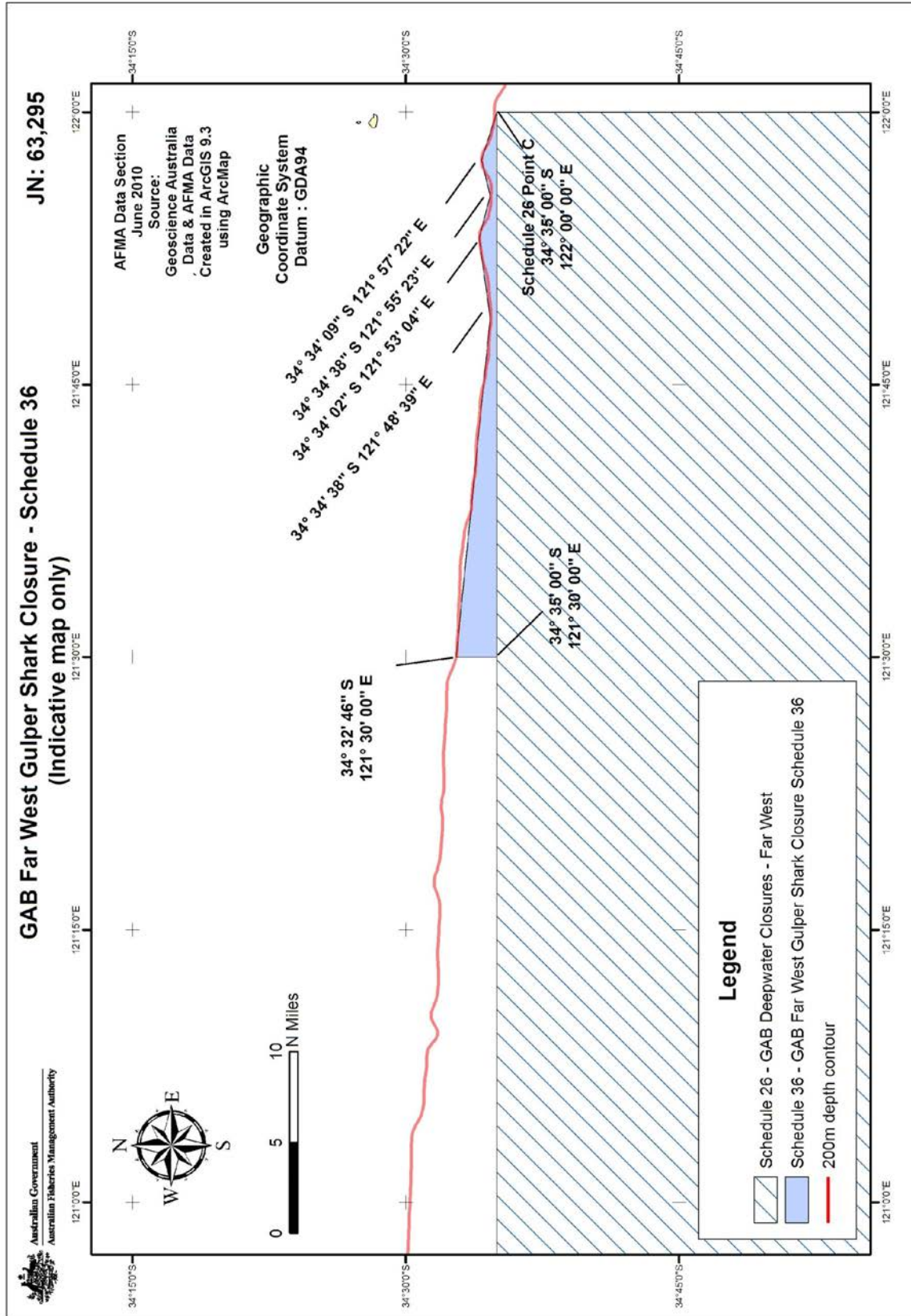
AFMA SESSF section: 1300 723 621

GABIA EO: 0400 166 649

CARD 13E: GULPER SHARK CLOSURES AND MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)



CARD 13E: GULPER SHARK CLOSURES AND MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)



CARD 13E: GULPER SHARK CLOSURES AND MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)

Gulper shark identification key

Gulper sharks can be distinguished from other sharks by having no anal fin, spines present on both dorsal fins that are about the same size, and a notch in their tail. Use this key to help identify your shark. If you identify a gulper shark, follow the instructions on the back of this poster to find out how to submit a sample and be in the running for a great prize.

Does the shark have?

- Anal fin absent**
 - NO → Other shark species
 - YES →
- Dorsal fins far apart**
 - NO → Bramble shark
 - YES →
- Large prickles absent**
 - NO → Prickly dogfish
 - YES →
- Spines on both dorsal fins**
 - NO → Black shark
 - YES →
- Notch in tail**
 - NO → Squalus spp.
 - YES →
- 2 big dorsal spines the same size**
 - NO → Rear dorsal spine larger than front spine
 - YES → Lantern or Platypus shark
 - NO → Smallspine dogfishes
 - YES →

Gulper sharks

- Relatively small second dorsal fin
 - YES → Endeavour dogfish
 - NO →
- Long snout and white back edge of dorsal fins → Harrison's dogfish
- Short snout and no white edge on fins → Southern dogfish
- White edge on fins → Long snout
- No white edge on fins → Short snout

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 Australian Government
 Fisheries Research and Development Corporation
 Australian Government
 Australian Fisheries Management Authority
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IMPORTANT DATES AND CONTACT LIST

CARD 14A: IMPORTANT DATES

The 2011 fishing season will be **for 12 months from 1 May 2011 to 30 April 2012.**

- **8 April 2011**—TACs finalised for 2011 fishing season. Quota transaction statements will be issued to operators in the week commencing 18 April 2011. Operators should now be keeping a close eye on their remaining quota holdings and catches for the 2010 fishing season (no change to current procedures).
- **30 April 2011**—is the end of the 2010 fishing season.
- **1 May 2011**—is the start of the 2011 fishing season.
- **By 6 May 2011**—you must have sent in all 2010 catch disposal records. AFMA will then generate a final quota transaction statement. If you are in an over quota position, you must balance all your excess catches of quota species by leasing or transferring in 2010 uncaught quota. You will need to lease or transfer sufficient 2010 uncaught quota to reduce your overcatch to the allowable overcatch percentage applicable to that species. If, upon receipt of the final quota transaction statement you feel that there is a discrepancy in the figures, you should contact AFMA immediately to rectify the issue.
- **29 May 2011**—All seasonal trading (leasing), including that to cover any over quota status closes at 5pm Eastern Standard Time. Once this date has passed AFMA will close off the 2010 season and conduct the over catch/under catch process. You will then be notified in writing of your end of 2010 quota position.
- **30 June 2011**—undercatch and overcatch is calculated by AFMA and a report for the 2010 season is posted to concession holders.
- **29 July 2011**—first quota and catch balancing (snapshot) date for the 2011 season.
- **12 August 2011**—final day to cover overcatch from first quota and catch balancing period.
- **28 October 2011**—second quota and catch balancing (snapshot) date for the 2011 season.
- **11 November 2011**—final day to cover overcatch from second quota and catch balancing period.
- **27 January 2012**—third quota and catch balancing (snapshot) date for the 2011 season.
- **10 February 2012**—final day to cover overcatch from third quota and catch balancing period.
- **6 April 2012**—last date for any permanent transfer of any SFR for the 2011 fishing season.
- **30 April 2012**—is the end of the 2011 fishing season.
- **1 May 2012**—is the start of the 2012 fishing season.

Note: GABIA members have agreed to trial continuous balancing of catch against quota holdings as part of the co-management arrangement between GABIA and AFMA.

CARD 14B: CONTACT LIST

AFMA

Phone: 1300 723 621
(This number can be used during business hours (8.30am–5.30pm) from anywhere in Australia for the cost of a local phone call).

or: (02) 6225 5555
Fax: (02) 6225 5500
Website: www.afma.gov.au
Post: Australian Fisheries Management Authority
PO Box 7051
Canberra BC
ACT 2610

GABTF MANAGEMENT TEAM AT AFMA

Ms Beth Gibson,
Senior Manager, Demersal and Midwater Trawl Fisheries
(02) 6225 5305
Mr Bradley Milic,
Manager, Commonwealth and GAB Trawl Fisheries
(02) 6225 5389
Fax (02) 6225 5441

GREAT AUSTRALIAN BIGHT FISHING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION (GABIA)

Executive Officer
Mr Jeff Moore
PO Box 277
BEGA NSW 2550
Telephone: 0400 166 649
Email: gabia@internode.on.net
Treasurer
Ms Marcia Valente
Telephone: 0413 453 965
Email: Valente@bigpond.net.au

STATE FISHERIES CONTACT DETAILS

Tasmania: Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment: (03) 6233 2147

South Australia: Department of Primary Industries and Resources: (08) 8204 1380

Victoria: Department of Primary Industries: 136 186

New South Wales: Department of Primary Industries – Fishing and Aquaculture: 1300 550 474

Queensland: Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries: 13 25 23

Western Australia: Department of Fisheries: (08) 9482 7333

Northern Territory: Department of Resources: (08) 8999 2144

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LICENCES, PERMITS AND OTHER FORMS

