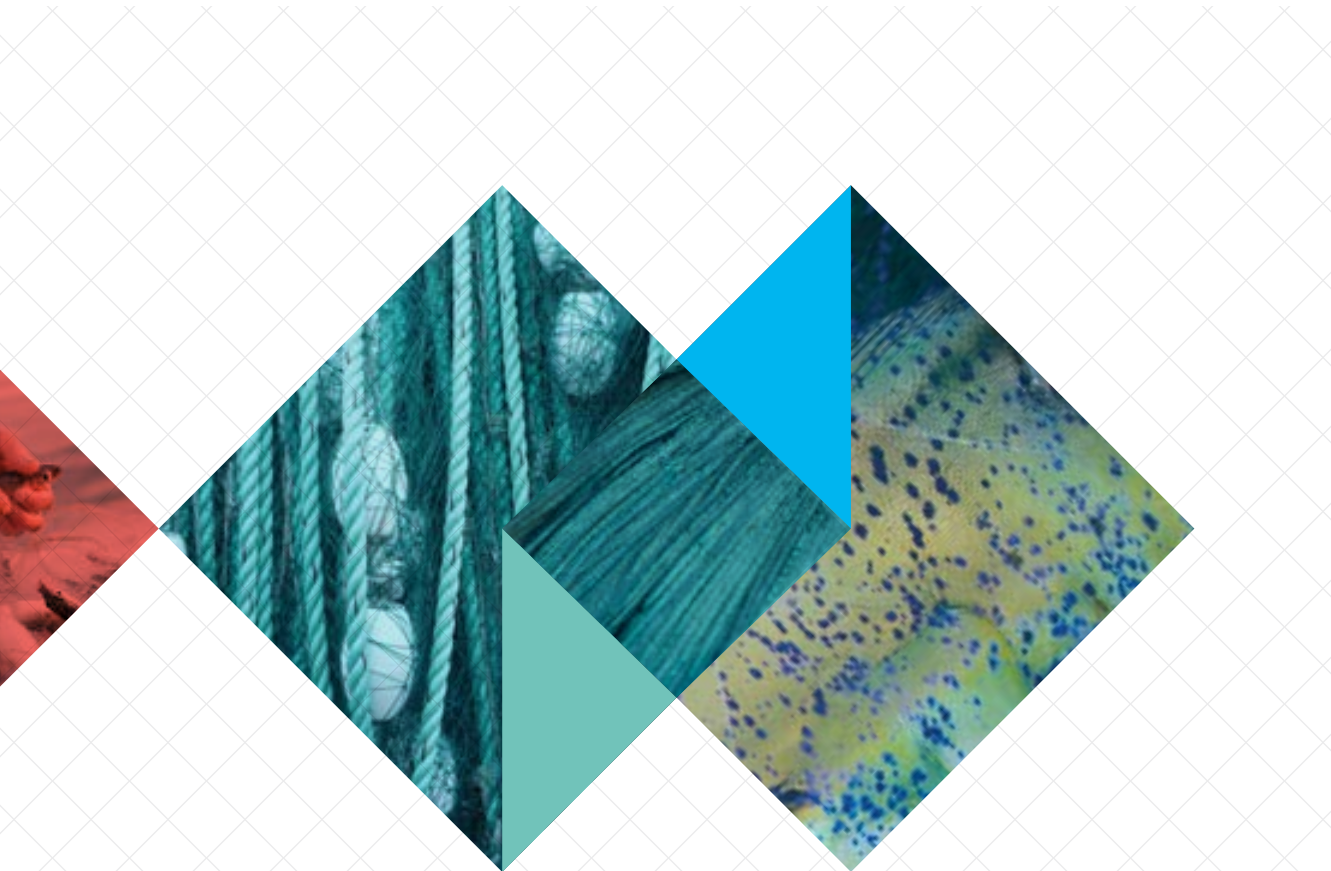




**Australian Government**

**Australian Fisheries Management Authority**



**ANNUAL  
REPORT  
13 ▸ 14**

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# Letter of transmittal



Australian Government  
Australian Fisheries Management Authority

13 October 2014

Senator the Hon. Richard Colbeck  
Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture  
PO BOX 6100  
Senate  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator

We have much pleasure in presenting to you the annual report of the Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) for the financial year ended 30 June 2014. In 2013-14, AFMA efficiently delivered regulatory and other services to Australian fishers and the broader community which strengthened the sustainable and profitable supply of seafood from Australia's marine domain, the world's third largest.

This report has been prepared under section 87 of the *Fisheries Administration Act 1991* and in accordance with the Requirements for Annual Reports 2013-14, approved by the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit.

In addition, and as required by the Commonwealth Fraud Control Guidelines 2011, we certify that we are satisfied that the Authority:

- has prepared fraud risk assessments and fraud control plans
- has in place appropriate fraud prevention, detection, investigation, reporting and data collection procedures and processes that meet the specific needs of the agency, and
- has taken all reasonable measures to minimise the incidence of fraud in the agency and to investigate and recover proceeds of fraud against the agency.

We give the report to you for your consideration and presentation to Parliament, required under subsection 87(1) of the *Fisheries Administration Act 1991*.

Yours sincerely

The Hon Norman Moore  
Chairman

Dr James Findlay  
Chief Executive Officer

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# User guide

This report provides details of the operations and performance of the Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) for the financial year ending 30 June 2014, as forecast in the Agriculture Portfolio Budget Statements 2013–14.

## **PART 1 – OVERVIEW**

Part 1 provides an overview of AFMA's roles and responsibilities and how it has performed throughout the year. This includes the Chairman's and Chief Executive Officer's (CEO) review, a look at our key achievements in 2013–14, as well as developments in our operating environment and an outlook for the year ahead.

## **PART 2 – PERFORMANCE REPORT**

Part 2 explains AFMA's performance management process, and then measures the agency's performance against performance indicators and strategies developed prior to the reporting period.

## **PART 3 – MANAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

Part 3 covers AFMA's governance arrangements. This includes financial management, human resource management activities and risk management practices, and stakeholder communications.

## **PART 4 – OUR FISHERIES**

Part 4 produces a snapshot of each fishery that AFMA manages, and where applicable, includes a report on the effectiveness of statutory management plans.

## **PART 5 – FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

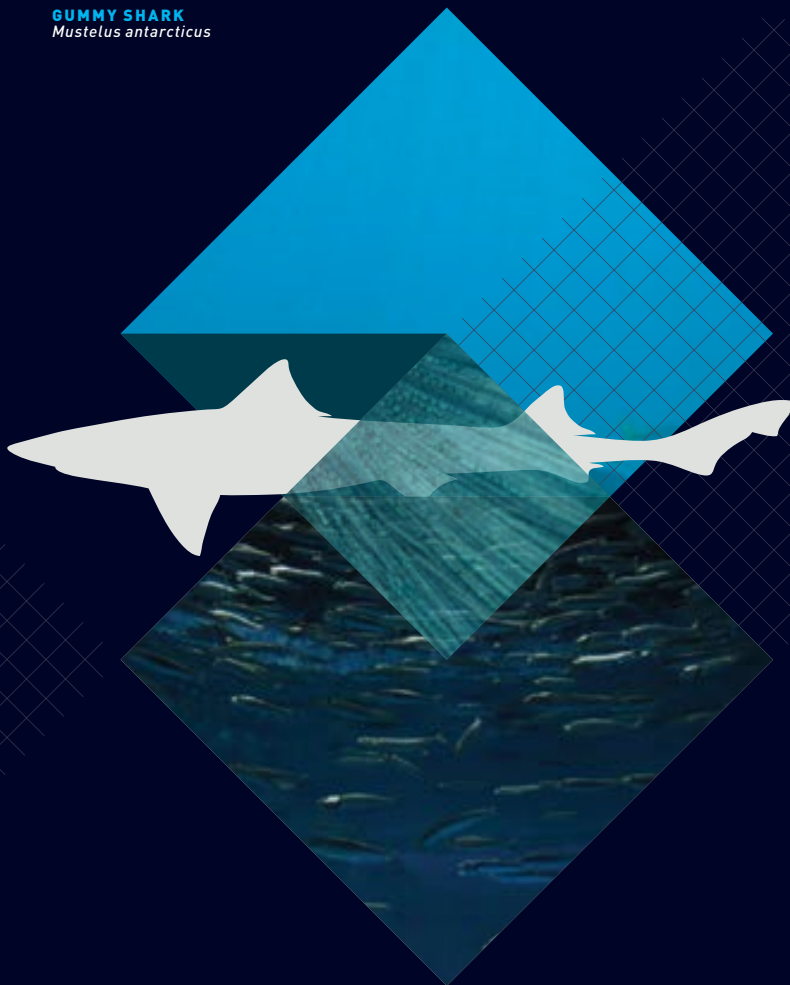
Part 5 consists of AFMA's financial statements for the 2013–14 financial year, as independently audited by the Australian National Audit Office. These statements include financial performance, financial position and cash flows during the year.

## **APPENDICES**

The appendices includes reporting requirements such as civil litigation outcomes, progress against Ministerial Direction, details of the Commission and executive committees, management advisory committee memberships, ecologically sustainable development and environmental performance, consultancy services, and work health and safety.



**GUMMY SHARK**  
*Mustelus antarcticus*



**OTHER COMMON NAMES:** FLAKE  
**SIZE:** UP TO 1.75 METRES  
**STOCK STATUS:** SUSTAINABLE

Smaller sharks have sweet and delicious flesh, and are popular for their boneless and thick flakes. They have been commonly used for the traditional "fish and chips" but should not be overlooked for barbecuing, poaching, braising and baking. Marinate first in oil and lemon to tenderise the flesh.

Remove the skin before cooking, particularly when barbecuing, to prevent it shrinking and tearing the flesh. Make good use of the firm flesh and enhance the flavour by cooking slowly with strong tomato and herb sauce.



**PART 1**  
**OVERVIEW**

Chairman's and CEO's review

# Chairman's and CEO's review

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013-14

In 2013-14 AFMA focused on strengthening arrangements to continue the long term supply of fresh Australian seafood from Commonwealth fisheries. AFMA also played a central role in keeping illegal foreign fishing at bay and continued to deliver strong domestic compliance to underpin fisheries management arrangements. These actions have resulted in increased available catch and value of Australia's Commonwealth fisheries. The continued improvements in fish stocks is a result of strong science based management and stakeholders dedicated to the long term sustainability of Commonwealth fisheries. Key achievements include:

- increased efficiency through the use of technology to deliver services and receive information
- increased sustainability through healthier fish stocks
- improved seafood security through international cooperation on illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing.

AFMA's management has maintained and/or improved the health of fish stocks that are the 'natural capital' that underpins Commonwealth-managed fishing businesses. AFMA in conjunction with initiatives by industry has managed key risks that commercial fishing posed to the ecosystem. For example, in 2013-14 no Australian sea lions were recorded killed in AFMA managed fisheries and world leading measures were put in place to reduce seabird interactions in the South East Trawl Fishery by up to 75 per cent.

## FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

AFMA is very cost focused and has worked extensively with industry over the past few years to minimise the financial burden placed on industry. AFMA has made a promise to industry to keep the levy costs below the 2005-06 level until the 2009-10 financial year and then keeping cost increases in line with the consumer price index since then. While there have been cost increases for some fisheries from this period, the overall result has seen industry levy costs in 2013-14 below the cumulative consumer price index once indexed from the 2009-10 financial year.

AFMA delivered an operating loss for 2013-14 of \$3.550 million against an allowable loss of \$3.771 million. The total expenditure across the agency was \$44.481 million, which includes \$3.336 million in administered expenditure for the caretaking and disposal of illegal foreign fishing boats.

Combined expenditure across the agency for 2013-14 has increased by \$3.361 million over the previous year. This increase mostly relates to an increase in departmental activity and change in AFMA's long service leave provision calculations that added \$0.960 million in expenditure.

## BUDGET OUTLOOK

AFMA has budgeted for a small approved loss in the 2014-15 financial year of \$1.798 million. This loss represents AFMA's depreciation funding.

Administered expenditure is anticipated to remain at current levels, approximately \$3 million to \$4 million, but this is highly dependent on activity with regards to illegal foreign fishing vessel caretaking and disposal activities.

## **OUR OPERATING ENVIRONMENT**

While fisheries management involves making decisions based on often incomplete information about complex natural systems, our knowledge of the size and condition of fish stocks and the health and resilience of marine ecosystems is comparatively good by global and Australian standards. We continue to use the best available scientific and other information to support our decision making and apply a risk weighted approach to prioritise our activities.

## **ECONOMIC AND MARKET FACTORS**

Australian Commonwealth fisheries comprise a range of businesses, from the small owner-operator to the larger businesses, with many specialising in particular species or markets, including international markets. They are comparatively a high performing industry, showing productivity growth over much of the last decade and becoming progressively more environmentally sustainable. Most of the cost and revenue drivers are stable, at least in the medium to long term. Our role is to implement management arrangements maximising net economic returns to the Australian community, subject to external factors, and we will continue to do this into the future.

## **FISHERIES MANAGEMENT FUNDING**

Government, industry and community expectations regarding fisheries management outcomes are increasing and this places pressure on AFMA's resources. While the sustainability of Commonwealth fisheries is reasonably well assured through current and planned management practices, keeping management costs commensurate with beneficial outcomes to the fishing industry and the community is a constant challenge. This means that AFMA must regularly decide where to best invest its limited resources.

## **GOVERNMENT REVIEWS OF FISHERIES POLICY**

The Australian Government is currently considering a number of fisheries reviews including the review of the Commonwealth Fisheries Harvest Strategy Policy and Guidelines and the review of the Commonwealth Policy on Fisheries Bycatch. Depending on their outcomes they may impact on AFMA's operations and the operating environment for key stakeholders in future years.

In addition, the Productivity Commission's report on Regulator Audit Framework and the Australian National Audit Office's Guidelines on Regulator Performance, are likely to influence AFMA's priorities including information gathering, analysis and reporting of AFMA's performance.

## OUTLOOK FOR 2014-15

AFMA's Annual Operational Plan sets out the following as key priorities for 2014-15:

- implementing fisheries management in pursuit of sustainable and profitable fisheries
- simplifying regulation
- managing ecological and compliance risks
- engaging with industry, other stakeholders and the community in the responsible management of fisheries resources.

AFMA's focus in 2014-15 continues to be the delivery of fisheries management that pursues sustainable and profitable fisheries that produce Australian seafood now and into the future.

## ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

Under the *Fisheries Management Act 1991*, our role is to ensure that the management of fisheries is conducted in a way that is consistent with the principles of ecologically sustainable development and the exercise of the precautionary principle. In this context, AFMA manages the impact of fishing on key commercial species, by-product, bycatch and the broader marine ecosystem.

In addition, all Commonwealth managed fisheries are accredited under Part 10 (Strategic assessment), Part 13 (Wildlife interaction) and Part 13A (Export approval) of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

This means that all AFMA managed fishery operations have been assessed as to their impact on matters of national environmental significance, in particular the Commonwealth marine environment. Interactions with protected species are not an offence provided they are in accordance with the accredited management arrangements. Exports from the fishery are permitted for the period of accreditation.



Photo courtesy of Sydney Fish Markets

## Improvements to industry services

**In 2013–14 AFMA commenced a broad strategy to improve services to industry and to reduce red-tape in line with Australian government policy. AFMA implemented a number of initiatives from the strategy that were well received by industry and more work is underway.**

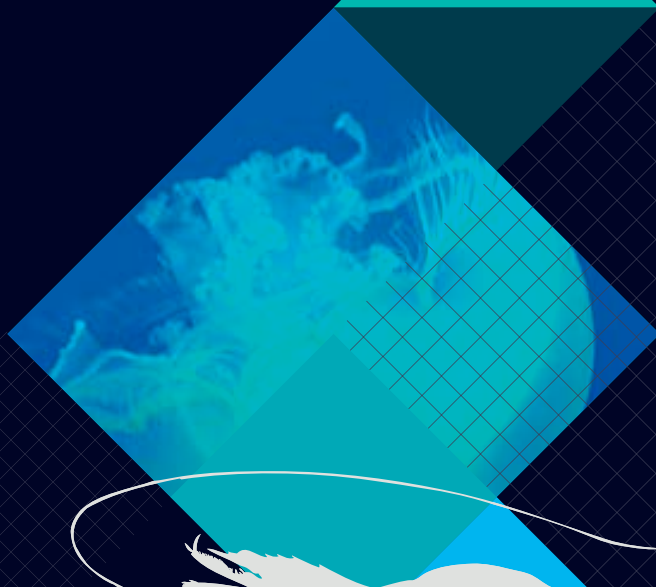
The improvements focused on improving AFMA's online concessions and quota management tool GOFish including:

- Implementing software that allows clients to reapply for their fishing permit online. This provides industry the opportunity to save over \$100 000 in fee for service charges per annum.
- Simplifying the process to register a lease of Statutory Fishing Rights and individual transferable quota units. Similar to internet banking, clients can now register a lease without input of the lessee.
- Introducing functionality allowing for GOFish users to set up a lease to be registered at a time in the future or for multiple seasons. Not only does this provide greater flexibility to industry but it has the potential to reduce costs as fishers will no longer need to submit new leasing documentation at the beginning of each season.

AFMA will be implementing further improvements over the coming year such as the removal of the scientific permit application fees; simplified boat nominations, which will allow fishers to pool quota allocations rather than nominate them to vessels; and the significant enhancement of the electronic delivery of correspondence, which aims to harness online tools such as GOFish to deliver more tailored correspondence that suits individual fisher's needs and cuts down on paper correspondence sent out by AFMA each year.

AFMA recently signed a contract with Archipelago Marine Research for the provision of electronic monitoring services in the Gillnet Hook and Trap and the Eastern and Western Tuna and Billfish fisheries. The introduction of electronic monitoring in these fisheries will significantly enhance AFMA's ability to reduce regulatory burden through better targeted management approaches, offer improved logbook and monitoring data and reduce the costs associated with the capture, management, analysis and reporting of fisheries data.

**BANANA PRAWN**  
*Penaeus merguensis*



**OTHER COMMON NAMES:** COMMON OR WHITE BANANA PRAWN  
**SIZE:** FEMALES GROW TO 240MM TOTAL LENGTH AND MALES TO 200MM  
**STOCK STATUS:** SUSTAINABLE

Banana prawns are a rising favourite for Australians due to their light, sweet flavour. They present well as they retain their shape when cooked. Banana prawns are more commonly used in hot dishes rather than in cold salads or platters.

The traditional cooking methods for other species of prawn (such as shallow frying and barbecuing) can be used for banana prawns. They are also ideal for use in seafood dishes such as prawn cakes or terrines.

# PART 2 PERFORMANCE REPORT

Performance measurement framework

Report against intended actions

Report against services and deliverables

Report against key performance indicators



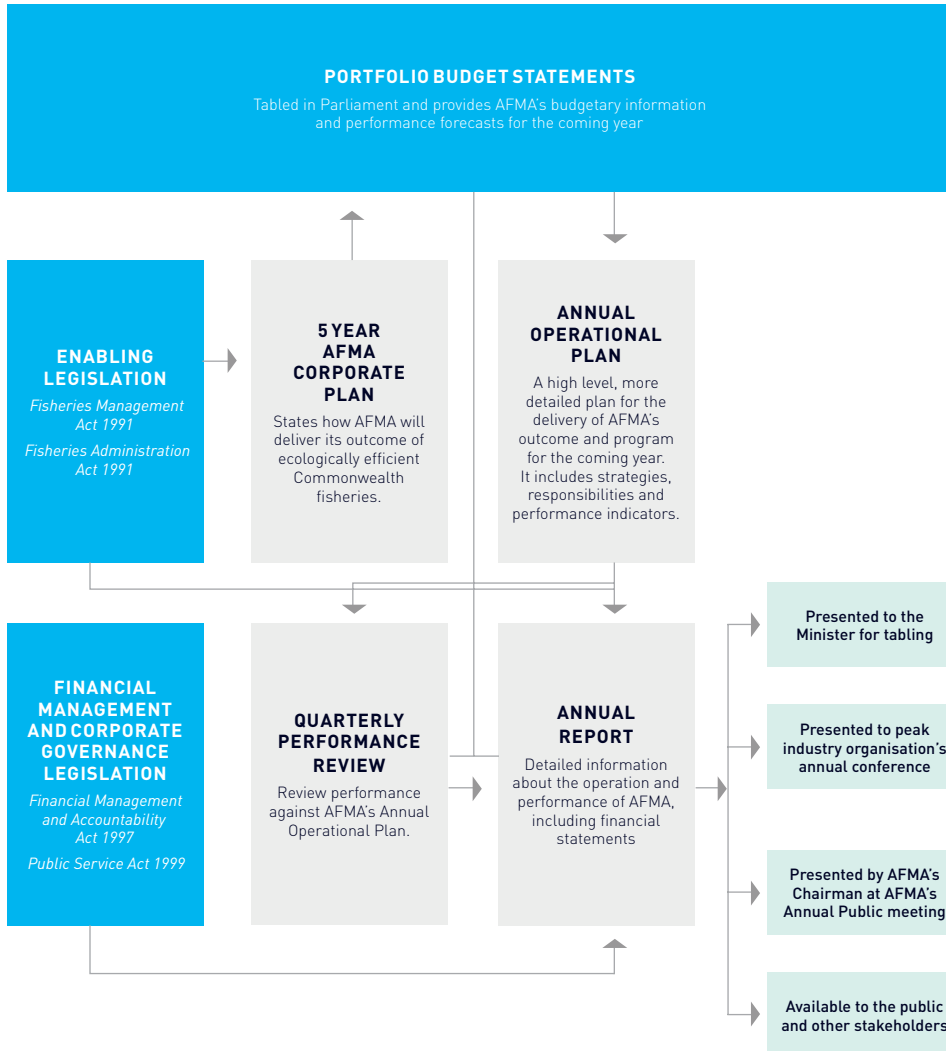
# Performance measurement framework

**Table 1:** Corporate Plan 2013–2018 goals and strategies

GOAL	STRATEGY
Complete the implementation of the Australian Government's policy preference for management by output controls in the form of individual transferable quota. <sup>1</sup>	Improve the efficiency of quota management for Commonwealth fisheries in line with government policy and decide whether individual transferable quota management arrangements should be introduced in the Northern Prawn Fishery.
Deliver sustainable fisheries, including preventing overfishing and recovering overfished stocks and improving the net economic returns of Commonwealth fisheries.	Manage all fisheries in-line with the Commonwealth Fisheries Harvest Strategy Policy and Guidelines. <sup>2</sup>
Prevent unacceptable impacts of Commonwealth fisheries on marine ecosystems and organisms.	Assess risks and apply management measures under AFMA's Ecological Risk Management Framework. Manage all fisheries in-line with the Commonwealth Policy on Bycatch (Bycatch Policy). <sup>3</sup>
Implement management arrangements and framework that are both cost effective and encourage compliance.	Where feasible make fisheries management arrangements more uniform, understandable and enforceable.
Effectively deter illegal fishing in Commonwealth fisheries and the Australian Fishing Zone.	Conduct and enable compliance programs that target identified risks.
Continuously improve the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of fisheries administration.	Adopt business processes and technologies that match the core needs of AFMA and its stakeholders.
Facilitate co-management in Commonwealth fisheries. <sup>4</sup>	For fisheries under the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1991</i> apply lessons from co-management trials.
Continually improve consultative processes.	Enhance industry and other stakeholders' role in the management of commercial fisheries and improve public accountability.

1. Unless there is a strong case that can be made that this would not be cost effective or would be otherwise detrimental.
2. Noting that the Commonwealth Fisheries Harvest Strategy Policy and Guidelines is currently under review and may be updated in the future. This may not apply to internationally managed fisheries.
3. Noting that the Bycatch Policy is currently under review and may be updated in the future and this may not apply to internationally managed fisheries.
4. Fisheries co-management is an arrangement in which responsibilities and obligations for sustainable fisheries management are negotiated, shared and potentially delegated between government, fishers and other stakeholders where appropriate.

**Table 2:** Planning and reporting structure



# Report against intended actions

**Goal: Complete the implementation of the Australian Government's policy preference for management by output controls in the form of individual transferable quota<sup>1</sup>**

**Strategy: Improve the efficiency of quota management for Commonwealth fisheries in line with government policy decide whether individual transferable quota management arrangements should be introduced in the Northern Prawn Fishery**

Managing Commonwealth fisheries through individual transferable quota is a long-standing policy of the Australian Government.

Generally individual transferable quota enables AFMA to regulate catches of key commercial species to achieve sustainability and maximise net economic returns from Commonwealth fisheries to the Australian community. The intended actions were targeted at improving the effectiveness of the administration of AFMA's quota system across Commonwealth quota-managed fisheries.

In 2013-14, AFMA managed eight fisheries that were under individual transferable quota management arrangements. These included the Heard Island and McDonald Islands Fishery, the Macquarie Island Toothfish Fishery, the Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery, the Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery, the Bass Strait Central Zone Scallop Fishery, the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery, the Small Pelagic Fishery and the Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery.

To improve the cost-effectiveness and efficiency of the quota system in use in the eight fisheries, the AFMA Commission introduced a new Quota Administration Policy in 2013. Quota reconciliation practices were changed in early 2013 to reflect this policy. The capacity to take fish caught during commercial fishing for personal use without accounting for it against quota was also removed from certain fisheries. We will continue to implement other elements of the policy in 2014-15.

Following the completion of a significant body of work, AFMA determined that a quota management system will not be introduced in the Northern Prawn Fishery. This decision was reached after extensive consultation with stakeholders, including the Northern Prawn Fishery Industry Pty Ltd, the Northern Prawn Fishery Management Advisory Committee, the Northern Prawn Fishery Resource Assessment Group, scientists and economists. We are now taking steps to implement a highly modified effort control system and to review the use of these controls and other management options in the future as additional information becomes available.

---

<sup>1</sup> Unless there is a strong case that can be made that this would not be cost effective or would be otherwise detrimental.

INTENDED ACTIONS IN 2013–14	ACHIEVED [✓/ ✗]	COMMENT
Implement a revised Quota Administration Policy for all quota managed fisheries.	✓	The first two parts of the Quota Administration Policy, 28 day quota reconciliation and the removal of personal use allowances have been implemented.
Determine the amended <i>Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995</i> implementing revised management arrangements.	✓	The capacity to effectively manage the Northern Prawn Fishery through individual transferable quotas was extensively investigated. It was found that using highly modified effort controls in the Northern Prawn Fishery would currently be more effective in maximising net economic returns to the Australian community from the fishery.
Consider fishery amalgamations linked to fisheries management plans.	✓	<p>AFMA is investigating this concept in the Gillnet, Hook and Trap Sector of the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery. The first proposed step is implementing more flexible fishing arrangements to allow different gear to be used on one fishing concession. AFMA is currently consulting on these arrangements.</p> <p>As part of the Internal Audit Program for 2013–14, an audit of fishery management plans was undertaken to assess current effectiveness and provide advice on future use.</p>



**Goal: Deliver sustainable fisheries, including preventing overfishing and recovering overfished stocks and improving the net economic returns of Commonwealth fisheries**

**Strategy: Manage all fisheries in-line with the Commonwealth Fisheries Harvest Strategy Policy and Guidelines<sup>1</sup>**

The Commonwealth Fisheries Harvest Strategy Policy and Guidelines require AFMA to pursue maximum economic yields from Commonwealth fisheries. This target was adopted for fisheries management to improve revenues and requires a fish stock to be maintained above the level capable of generating maximum sustainable yield, and is generally a more precautionary target.

For several years, we have been working to increase the number of fishery harvest strategies that have targets based on maximising economic yield. In 2013–14 AFMA made the following changes to harvest strategies:

- the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery Harvest Strategy was updated to support the setting of multi-year total allowable catch limit
- the Northern Prawn Fishery Harvest Strategy was updated to include maximum economic yield targets for white banana prawns
- the Eastern Tuna Harvest Strategy was updated to include limit reference points and maximum economic yield targets for both broadbill swordfish and striped marlin
- a new harvest strategy for the Bass Strait Central Zone Scallop Fishery that enabled more flexible annual catch setting depending on available biomass estimates.

The Commonwealth Fisheries Harvest Strategy Policy and Guidelines are widely regarded as a successful initiative for improving the sustainability of Commonwealth fisheries and remains a strong foundation for Commonwealth fisheries management. The policy and guidelines meet or exceed the standards of relevant international obligations and continue to represent best practice in most respects.

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<sup>1</sup> Noting that the Commonwealth Fisheries Harvest Strategy Policy and Guidelines is currently under review and may be updated in the future, and this may not apply to internationally managed fisheries.

INTENDED ACTIONS IN 2013–14	ACHIEVED (✓/✗)	COMMENT
<p>Commission assessments and targeted research to underpin well informed management decisions.</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>AFMA establishes research priorities for Commonwealth fisheries and arranges for research to be undertaken to address these priorities each year. The majority of research is undertaken by AFMA including undertaking and improving fishery assessments. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ biological and economic assessments of key commercial stocks</li> <li>▶ risk assessments for bycatch species and fishery impacts on the ecosystem</li> <li>▶ identifying strategies to ensure the sustainable use of fishery resources and address information gaps to ensure the effective management of these fisheries.</li> </ul> <p>The following key assessments were completed in 2013–14:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ the Northern Prawn Fishery Tiger Prawn Fishery bio-economic model.</li> </ul> <p>In 2013–14 the following assessments were completed in the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ assessments were completed for all Small Pelagic Fishery species and other fisheries species including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– blue grenadier</li> <li>– deepwater flathead</li> <li>– flathead, gemfish (west)</li> <li>– gummy shark</li> <li>– pink ling</li> <li>– alfonsino</li> <li>– john dory</li> <li>– mirror dory</li> <li>– blue eye trevalla</li> <li>– blue warehou</li> <li>– deepwater sharks (east)</li> <li>– deepwater sharks (west)</li> <li>– elephant fish</li> <li>– ocean perch</li> <li>– oreos</li> <li>– redfish</li> <li>– ribaldo</li> <li>– royal red prawn</li> <li>– saw shark</li> <li>– silver trevally.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The completed research is used by AFMA to underpin its fishery management decisions.</p>
<p>Implement harvest strategies which have targets based on maximum economic yield or the best available proxy.</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>Maximum economic yield targets for white banana prawns were introduced in the Northern Prawn Fishery in April 2014. The revised harvest strategy now employs a maximum economic yield target for all key species.</p> <p>Other fisheries, such as the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery, have maximum economic yield targets that have been in operation for a number of years.</p>

INTENDED ACTIONS IN 2013-14	ACHIEVED (✓/ ✗)	COMMENT
Set total allowable catch or total allowable effort at levels that will achieve targets and prevent overfishing.	✓	<p>Total allowable catches (or total allowable effort in some cases) were set for the following fisheries in accordance with the relevant harvest strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Southern and Eastern Scalegfish and Shark Fishery</li> <li>▶ Bass Strait Central Zone Scallop Fishery</li> <li>▶ Macquarie Island Toothfish Fishery</li> <li>▶ Heard Island and McDonald Islands Fishery</li> <li>▶ Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery</li> <li>▶ Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery</li> <li>▶ Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery</li> <li>▶ Northern Prawn Fishery</li> <li>▶ Small Pelagic Fishery</li> <li>▶ Southern Squid Jig Fishery.</li> </ul> <p>Total allowable catches for quota species are set at sustainable levels.</p> <p>Total allowable catches for stocks below limit reference points are set in accordance with stock rebuilding strategies with no targeted fishing.</p>
Implement stock rebuilding strategies for species assessed as being below agreed limit reference points.	✓	<p>Rebuilding strategies are in place and being implemented for Eastern gemfish, school shark and blue warehou.</p> <p>The Gulper Shark Management Strategy was implemented in 2013 to support the rebuilding of Harrison's and Southern dogfish.</p> <p>Stock rebuilding strategies have been implemented for all species below their agreed limit reference points.</p> <p>Rebuilding of orange roughy is supported by the Orange Roughy Conservation Program.</p> <p>A detailed assessment of orange roughy off Eastern Tasmania is currently being conducted.</p> <p>The Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna has implemented an interim rebuilding strategy for Southern bluefin tuna aimed at increasing the spawning biomass to 20 per cent of its original level by 2035.</p> <p>Australia's domestic management arrangements reflect these objectives.</p>
Provide support for management of regional and international fisheries.	✓	<p>AFMA has continued to support the Department of Agriculture by contributing to a number of meetings of regional and international fisheries organisations including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission</li> <li>▶ Indian Ocean Tuna Commission</li> <li>▶ South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation</li> <li>▶ Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources</li> <li>▶ Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna.</li> </ul> <p>All obligations arising from these meetings were given effect in domestic fisheries.</p>
Implement new harvest strategy policy within available resources and priorities.	n/a	<p>A review of the Commonwealth Harvest Strategy Policy and Guidelines was completed by the Department of Agriculture, but is yet to be considered by the government.</p>



## Goal: Prevent unacceptable impacts of Commonwealth fisheries on marine ecosystems and organisms

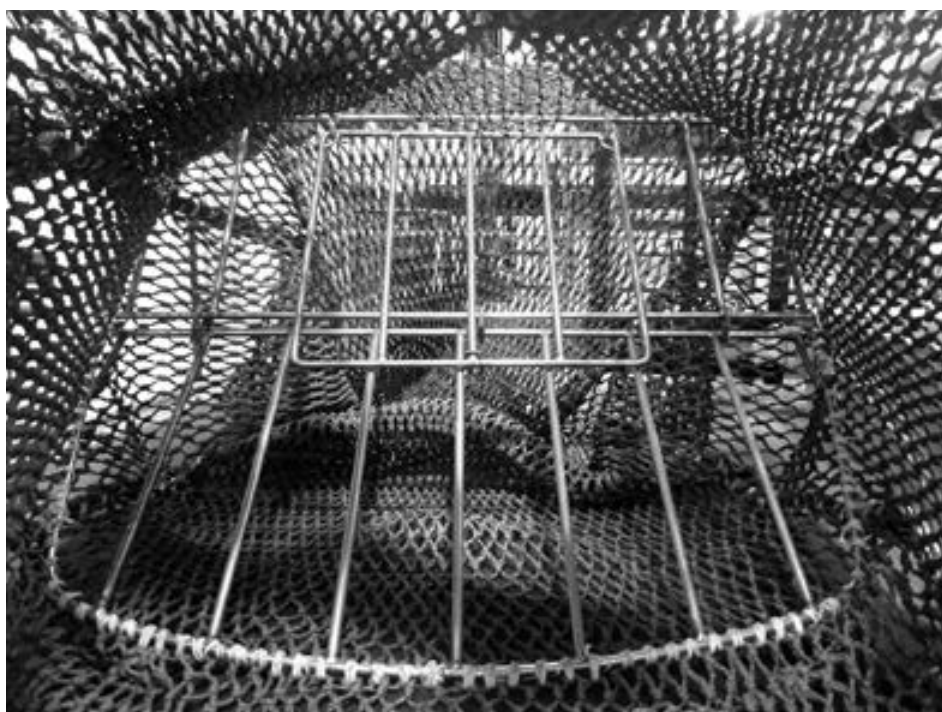
### Strategy: Assess risks and apply management measures under AFMA's Ecological Risk Management Framework


AFMA's Ecological Risk Management Framework requires that ecological risk management reports for each fishery outline how we will address the impacts that fishing activities have on key commercial species, bycatch and discard species, threatened, endangered and protected species.

A review of the effectiveness of our current approach in identifying and responding to any ecological risks to the marine environment caused by fishing is currently underway with revised Ecological Risk Assessment Guidelines to apply from 2015-16.

INTENDED ACTIONS IN 2013-14	ACHIEVED {✓/ ✗}	COMMENT
Further development of ecological risk assessment and risk management framework including habitats and communities.	✓	An independent business/risk analyst has reviewed AFMA's Ecological Risk Assessment and Risk Management Framework, evaluated the everyday risks that AFMA takes in managing its fisheries and recommended an improved framework for clear and transparent decision making, auditing and approving environmental decisions.  The consultant's recommendations have been considered by AFMA as at 30 June 2014 and several are the subject further investigations that will be completed in 2014-15.
Progress implementation of ecological risk management responses.	✓	Updated ecological risk management responses have been developed in the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery in conjunction with stakeholders.  Other fisheries continue to implement existing ecological risk management responses. These fisheries will be reassessed in line with the framework for reviewing, auditing and approving environmental decisions once it is completed.
Determine the appropriateness of introducing output controls for bycatch and threatened, endangered and protected species.	✓	Output controls for threatened endangered and protected species were considered when developing the Dolphin Strategy for the Gillnet, Hook and Trap Sector. The strategy proposes interaction rates and numbers to trigger a management response.  AFMA contributed to the development of the Seabird Threat Abatement Plan prepared by the Australian Antarctic Division. AFMA provided comments on management arrangements to address how to respond to breaches. The plan is expected to be considered by the Minister for the Environment in early 2014-15.

INTENDED ACTIONS IN 2013-14	ACHIEVED (✓/✗)	COMMENT
Continue to educate fishing concession holders to encourage responsible fishing practices and raise awareness of reporting obligations.	✓	<p>Reporting obligations have continued to be communicated to skippers in the South East and Great Australian Bight Trawl sectors focussing on reporting of protected species interactions.</p> <p>AFMA ran workshops in conjunction with industry and crews working in the Gillnet, Hook and Trap Sector Auto Longline Sector as well as Gillnet Sector. The workshops aimed to reinforce the requirements for the deployment of mitigation measures, encourage responsible fishing practices and encourage the adoption of improved operations to minimise fishing impacts on the environment.</p>
Implement new bycatch policy within available resources and priorities.	n/a	<p>The Department of Agriculture completed its report into the Review of the Commonwealth Bycatch Policy. This is published on the department's website.</p> <p>The government is considering its response to these reviews.</p>





BIG EYE  
OCEAN  
PERCH

\$ 13.99  
(Product of Australia) kg

## The move to 'MYTACs' in South Eastern Fisheries

**In 2013-14 AFMA increased the use of 'MYTACs' or multi-year total allowable catches to promote stability for industry members and also create a more cost effective total allowable catch setting process.**

Traditionally AFMA sets sustainable catch limits each year based on the latest scientific assessments. This creates uncertainty for industry when trying to plan their operations. In the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery work was undertaken by AFMA and resource assessment groups to enable multi-year total allowable catches to be set for 21 of the 34 quota species. Some of the key species under multi-year total allowable catches include popular table fish such as flathead, blue grenadier, gummy shark and pink ling.

The multi-year approach is good news for industry as it provides operators with more certainty for their businesses. It increases stability within the fishery by reducing the number of total allowable catch changes and lowers assessment and management costs. Furthermore, it reduces the number of fish that AFMA and fisheries scientists assess each year allowing more attention to be focused on species considered to be at higher risk.

Multi-year total allowable catches are accompanied with 'break out rules', triggers to re-look at a fish species if something out of the ordinary happens. Break out rules prevent undesirable impacts arising from dramatic changes in fish abundance and errors in the stock assessment estimate.

AFMA is currently supporting research to further improve the use of multi-year total allowable catches and ensure that monitoring and data collection supports their use.

## Goal: Implement management arrangements and framework that are both cost effective and encourage compliance

### Strategy: Where feasible make fisheries management arrangements more uniform, understandable and enforceable

AFMA uses a 'best practice approach' to compliance and enforcement that aims to encourage the fishing community to stay away from conscious non-compliance and operate in the area of willing or voluntary compliance.

Optimising the level of voluntary compliance, through consultation with the fishing industry and other stakeholders, is an important step. The fisheries management rules and the reasons for them need to be clearly communicated to and understood by the fishing industry.

We also aim to ensure that the rules are concise, easy to understand and where possible, consistent across fisheries.

The Commission endorsed a three year program aimed at reducing regulatory burden in accordance with Australia Government policy.

INTENDED ACTIONS IN 2013-14	ACHIEVED (✓/✗)	COMMENT
Continue to reform fishery management rules to reduce complexity, minimise cost burdens and support a vibrant and efficient industry.	✓	<p>As part of the Quota Administration Policy, AFMA has implemented a standard 28 day reconciling period for quota across its quota managed fisheries.</p> <p>AFMA identified and presented, to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, a number of process based red tape initiatives to reduce the time and cost effort for fishers to transact with AFMA.</p> <p>AFMA is implementing measures to make licensing and quota administration more efficient, such as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ simplified boat nominations</li> <li>▶ the ability to register multi-season leases</li> <li>▶ the online renewal of permits</li> <li>▶ removal of fees for scientific permits</li> <li>▶ enhanced online delivery of correspondence, conditions and notices.</li> </ul> <p>A number of Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery quota species have moved to multi-year total allowable catches. This increases stability within the fishery by reducing the number of total allowable catch changes and lowers assessment and management costs.</p>

INTENDED ACTIONS IN 2013–14	ACHIEVED [✓/ ✗]	COMMENT
Engage in international meetings to ensure agreed outcomes can be implemented by Australia.	✓	<p>In 2013–14 AFMA staff attended a range of international meetings and workshops including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ The 19th meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna Scientific Committee in September 2013.</li> <li>▶ Technical Compliance Committee for the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission and the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission Catch Documentation Scheme Intercessional Working Group in late September to early October 2013.</li> <li>▶ The 8th meeting of Compliance Committee and the 20th meeting of Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna in October 2013.</li> <li>▶ The 32nd meeting of Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources in late October 2013.</li> <li>▶ The 6th meeting of the Coordination Committee Meeting of the Regional Plan of Action to promote responsible fishing practices in November 2013.</li> <li>▶ The 10th meeting of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission in December 2013.</li> <li>▶ A Quadrilateral Defence Coordination Group working group meeting in December 2013.</li> <li>▶ The 2nd meeting of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation Commission meeting in January 2014.</li> <li>▶ AFMA presented the results of work being conducted in Australia to the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission Workshop in March 2014.</li> <li>▶ An AFMA staff member led the Australia delegation at the meeting of Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agencies Monitor Control and Surveillance Working Group in March 2014.</li> <li>▶ A bilateral meeting between Australian and European Union, held in April 2013. Australia hosted delegates from the EU's Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries for this two day meeting.</li> <li>▶ An Australian delegation to Wellington led by the Department of Agriculture for bi-lateral talks with New Zealand on a range of fisheries matters of common interest in June 2014.</li> <li>▶ The 18th session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission in June 2014.</li> </ul> <p>All obligations arising from these meetings were given effect in domestic fisheries.</p>

## **Goal: Effectively deter illegal fishing in Commonwealth fisheries and the Australian Fishing Zone**

### **Strategy: Conduct and enable compliance programs that target identified risks**

To maximise resources and enable compliance and enforcement activities to be targeted to the area of most need, AFMA continued to apply a risk-based National Compliance Program. In 2013–14 AFMA's domestic compliance focus shifted to the issues of quota evasion and vessel monitoring system compliance.

The issue of quota evasion was the focus of four dedicated Compliance Risk Management teams. These teams focused on three different aspects of quota evasion including misreporting, substitution and concealment and fish receiver fraud, with the fourth team, a dedicated taskforce, to investigate major and systemic incidences of quota evasion.

Vessel monitoring system compliance was the focus of another Compliance Risk Management team, with an enhanced enforcement program developed and implemented in 2013–14. The average compliance rate for the 2013–14 period was 97.7 per cent, which was an improvement on the 2012–13 average of 96.7 per cent. Annual average compliance rate continues to show improvement from year to year due to incremental changes in the Vessel Monitoring System Compliance Program.

In addition to the risk treatment model, AFMA maintained a general presence/deterrence program involving in port and at sea targeted inspections in order to discourage non-compliant behaviour by fishers. In 2012–13 AFMA inspected 4.14 per cent of total catch landed in Commonwealth fisheries. This represented 84 fish receiver premises inspections and visits to 15 different ports around Australia on 50 separate occasions to inspect 166 boats. The level of compliance continued to improve with only six Commonwealth Fisheries Infringement Notices and 36 caution/warnings issued compared to 15 and 47 respectively, in the previous year. AFMA also kept a 'watching brief' on previously targeted risks such as 28 day quota reconciliation and Threat Abatement Plan compliance.



During 2013–14 AFMA finalised nine prosecutions before various courts across Australia. Sentences handed down included \$26 700 in fines, \$22 239.28 in reparation orders and \$41 598.70 in forfeiture orders associated with seized catch; in all penalties totalling \$90 537.98. In addition to the court matters, AFMA also finalised a further 95 matters through a range of administrative actions including the issuing of either Commonwealth Fisheries Infringement Notices, warnings, cautions, applying suspension or taking no further action due to lack of evidence.

In 2013–14, AFMA's Foreign Compliance Program continued to keep the incidences of illegal foreign fishing in the Australian Fishing Zone at very low levels. The deterrence program involved AFMA and other Australian Government departments cooperating to deter illegal foreign fishing, through the interception and prosecution of offenders together with the confiscation and destruction of foreign fishing vessels. Regional efforts and collaborative partnerships, including capacity building initiatives, also contributed to the prevention of illegal, unreported and unregulated operators undertaking forays into the Australian Fishing Zone.

AFMA shared surveillance information on unreported and unregulated fishing vessels; sought cooperation in denying unreported and unregulated fishing vessels access to foreign ports and conducted capacity building programs in Australia and across the region involving Indonesian, Papua New Guinean, East Timorese and Kiribati fisheries. These officers undertook fisheries management and compliance training and participated in patrols at sea.

AFMA officers also continued to participate in multilateral fisheries surveillance operations with regional partners in the Pacific and South East Asian waters to deter unreported and unregulated fishing and provided on the job capacity development for fisheries compliance officers from partner countries.

During 2013–14, there were 26 apprehensions of illegal foreign fishing vessels compared to seven in 2012–13. These numbers are a marked reduction from the peak levels which saw 367 foreign vessels apprehended in 2005–06.

INTENDED ACTIONS IN 2013–14	ACHIEVED {✓/ ✗}	COMMENT
Undertake compliance activities in accordance with priority areas established through risk assessments.	✓	Compliance Risk Management teams were again established 2013–14 to develop and implement intervention and mitigation measures for the two key identified risks in AFMA's domestic fisheries. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Vessel monitoring system average compliance rates for the Commonwealth fleet 97.7 per cent.</li> <li>▶ General Deterrence Program inspected 4.14 per cent of total Commonwealth catch landed, 84 fish receiver premises and 166 boats.</li> <li>▶ Nine prosecutions finalised resulting in penalties totalling \$90 537.98</li> <li>▶ AFMA also inspected 19 Northern Territory Timor Reef and Demersal fisheries vessels in line with contract services to the Northern Territory Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries.</li> </ul>
Develop a compliance intelligence capacity that is fully effective.	✓	Supporting intelligence and case management systems have been implemented to target potential areas of non-compliance such as vessel monitoring system and quota evasion compliance. AFMA monitors and maintains compliance data.



INTENDED ACTIONS IN 2013-14	ACHIEVED (✓/✗)	COMMENT
<p>Collaborate with like-minded agencies on deterring illegal, unreported and unregulated activity and developing fisheries management arrangements and capacity building.</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>AFMA is currently strengthening strategic alliances with Commonwealth, state, Northern Territory and New Zealand enforcement and fisheries agencies to foster cooperation and mutual assistance in monitoring, control and surveillance of shared fish stocks.</p> <p>AFMA established vessel monitoring system service provision agreements with Parks Australia. These services will be delivered in 2014-15 and include monitoring of vessels, reporting of vessel activity and alert systems in relation to Commonwealth Marine Reserves. AFMA also provided vessel monitoring system monitoring services to the Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries in the Northern Territory for their Timor Reef and Demersal Fisheries.</p> <p>AFMA participated in regional co-operative surveillance activities under the auspices of the South East Asian Regional Plan of Action to Promote Responsible Fishing Practices including combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing in the region and the Pacific Regional Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Strategy.</p> <p>Two illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing vessels were detained in Malaysia as a result of notifications generated by Australia.</p>
<p>Review and develop options to amend the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1991</i> structure for the domestic compliance regime, including powers, incentives, offences, and administrative and criminal penalties.</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>AFMA recommenced work in September 2013 with the Department of Agriculture to review and develop options to amend the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1991</i> to incorporate a broader suite of compliance and enforcement measures to improve efficiency and effectiveness.</p>



## Protected Zone Joint Authority Stakeholder meeting and Protected Zone Joint Authority meeting

**The Protected Zone Joint Authority is responsible for jointly managing commercial and traditional fishing in the Australian area of the Torres Strait Protected Zone and designated adjacent Torres Strait waters.**

A meeting of the Protected Zone Joint Authority and an associated stakeholder meeting was held on 8 to 9 April 2014 on Thursday Island in the Torres Strait. Attendees included the Chair of the Protected Zone Joint Authority Senator the Hon. Richard Colbeck, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, the Chair of the Torres Strait Regional Authority Mr Joseph Elu AO, the Queensland Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry the Hon. Dr John McVeigh, the Minister for Indigenous Affairs, Senator the Hon. Nigel Scullion. A delegation from the Papua New Guinea National Fisheries Authority also observed at the meeting.

The stakeholder meeting was held on the first day and provided an opportunity for fishers, and traditional owners to discuss current fisheries issues with Protected Zone Joint Authority members and officials. The main topics raised were aspirations of Torres Strait Islanders and Aboriginal people living in the Torres Strait for 100 per cent ownership of fisheries resources.

Stakeholders warmly received a presentation from the CEO of the New Zealand Maori Trust, Te Ohu Kaimoana, on the lessons learned from the establishment of the New Zealand model for Maori ownership of fisheries resources.

The Protected Zone Joint Authority met on the following day and the Authority recognised and supported 100 per cent ownership aspirations and agreed that over the next six to twelve months Protected Zone Joint Authority agencies will focus on working with stakeholders to develop a pathway towards this, while also recognising the existing rights of non-traditional fishers in the Torres Strait.

The gathering of ministers and senior officials highlighted the importance of the region and the Australian Government commitment to improving the fisheries outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders. AFMA is the Protected Zone Joint Authority Secretariat and works closely with Authority agencies, the consultative forums and stakeholders to pursue good management of fisheries in the Torres Strait Protected Zone. For further information on the Protected Zone Joint Authority please visit [pzja.gov.au](http://pzja.gov.au).

## Goal: Continuously improve the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of fisheries administration

### Strategy: Adopt business processes and technologies that match the core needs of AFMA and its stakeholders

In 2012–13 AFMA revised its Fee for Service Policy for licensing and logbook services. The revised policy, which took effect from 1 July 2013, allows operators to choose how they access services and how to get the most cost effective options for their business. We expect this increased flexibility will boost the use of electronic service options and reduce the costs to the fishing industry.

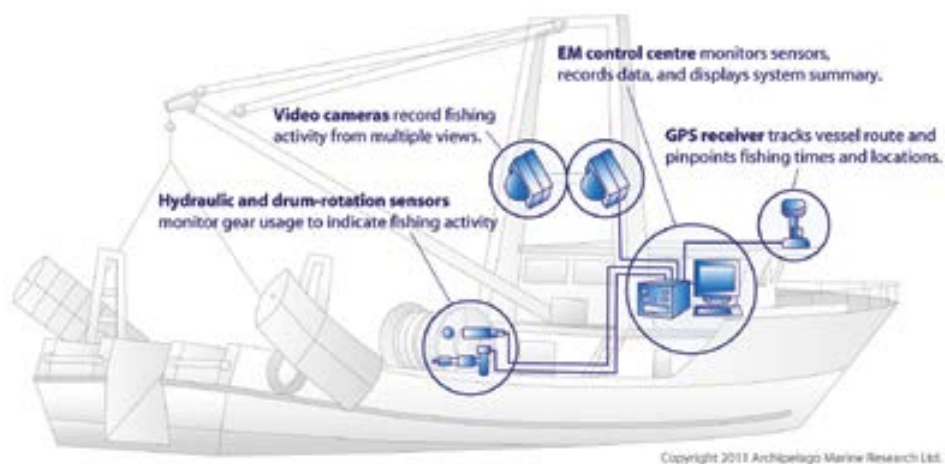
AFMA has previously trialled electronic monitoring in a number of Commonwealth fisheries and found it to be a cost effective data collection tool. We have now engaged a service provider to develop and implement an Electronic Monitoring Program which is expected to be delivered in the Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery, Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery and the Gillnet, Hook and Trap Sector in 2014–15. See diagram illustrating electronic monitoring on page 25.

After a comprehensive review, AFMA has decided to seek expressions of interest for the provision of the Observer Program and is currently undertaking the preparatory work for this review. A final decision on contracting out the Observer Program is anticipated in 2014–15.

INTENDED ACTIONS IN 2013–14	ACHIEVED (✓/✗)	COMMENT
Investigate further options to improve the cost effective fisheries management arrangements in Torres Strait fisheries on behalf of the Protected Zone Joint Authority, including development of management plans.	✓	AFMA worked to strengthen its relationship with Torres Strait communities by improving stakeholder engagement on developing fisheries management arrangements. A Stakeholder Forum was held in April 2014, bringing stakeholders together with members of the Protected Zone Joint Authority to discuss economic development from fisheries resources and a management plan for the Tropical Rock Lobster Fishery. A Protected Zone Joint Authority meeting followed the stakeholder forum where members recognised and supported the aspirations of Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal people of the region to own and use Torres Strait fisheries resources. AFMA supported key fisheries representative bodies to further improve engagement capacity. AFMA worked with agencies towards rationalising key functions to achieve more streamlined administration of Torres Strait Fisheries.
Encourage key fishing industry associations to increase the uptake of electronic logbooks and GOFish (electronic online licensing program).	✓	Of the number of transactions that can be performed online, more than 85 per cent are now done through GOFish.  Twenty-four per cent of operators used electronic logbooks to report daily fishing logs in 2013–14, an increase of 7 per cent from 2012–13. Refer to feature story on improvements to industry services on page 5.
Continue to improve cost effectiveness of independent monitoring and data collection programs.	✓	Significant progress was made in terms of e-monitoring with a contract being negotiated and signed between AFMA and a service provider. This will lead to more efficient and cost-effective management of Commonwealth fisheries. Areas such as research on by-catch and discarding and stock assessment will benefit greatly.

INTENDED ACTIONS IN 2013–14	ACHIEVED [✓/ ✗]	COMMENT
Continue to implement the Fee for Service Program.	✓	Fee for service paper logbooks and online transactions were implemented in the 2013–14 financial year. Improvements to systems, such as the implementation of one step transactions in GOFish, are ongoing to ensure continual end-user benefits and value for money.
Contribute to the implementation of the Australian Government's response to the review of the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> .	✓	<p>AFMA is considering whether these processes can be applied to the accreditation of its management framework under the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>. Accreditation would streamline environmental assessments of Commonwealth fisheries.</p> <p>The development of accreditation standards has been identified as a research priority for the 2015–16 Commonwealth Fisheries Research Advisory Body research priorities.</p> <p>AFMA engaged a consultant to review its environmental risk assessment and environmental risk management practices and is currently working with the consultant to implement the recommendations.</p>
Review AFMA programs in accordance with a schedule agreed by the Commonwealth Fisheries Association and AFMA.	✓	The Cost Efficiency Working Group, comprised of AFMA and the Commonwealth Fisheries Association, continues to consider various AFMA programs to ensure the most efficient use of resources including the Observer Program, electronic monitoring and research.

**Diagram:** Illustrating electronic monitoring



## Goal: Facilitate co-management in Commonwealth fisheries<sup>1</sup>

### Strategy: For fisheries under the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* apply lessons from co-management trials

Fisheries co-management is an arrangement in which responsibilities and obligations for sustainable fisheries management are negotiated, shared and delegated between government, fishers and other stakeholders where appropriate.

The Northern Prawn Fishing Industry Pty Ltd and the Great Australian Bight Trawl Fishery Industry Association are working collaboratively with AFMA under co-management arrangements. The Northern Prawn Fishing Industry Pty Ltd continues to identify areas of fisheries management where it can play a greater leadership role and increase its capacity as an industry representative body. Co-management has a positive effect in management outcomes in these fisheries, including increasing stewardship over fisheries resources and the marine environment. The longer term goal is to see industry and government working together in the most cost-effective way to manage commercial fisheries.

AFMA and the Northern Prawn Fishery Industry Pty Ltd looked at expanding co-management by having the Northern Prawn Fishery Industry Pty Ltd administer an outsourced Scientific Observer Program. While the assessment of costs and benefits did not support the option to outsource, valuable lessons were learnt by both parties. These experiences have now been captured in a draft report delivered to the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation which should be available during 2014–15.

INTENDED ACTIONS IN 2013–14	ACHIEVED (✓/✗)	COMMENT
Utilise outcome from the co-management trials to maintain, and expand where appropriate, co-management arrangements with industry groups.	✓	<p>Co-management arrangements were continued in the Northern Prawn Fishery and Great Australian Bight Trawl Sector.</p> <p>Co-management is also now being used to solve fishery specific sustainability issues.</p> <p>AFMA and the South East Trawl Fishery Industry Association commenced development of a co-management arrangement to sustainably manage incidental catches of snapper.</p> <p>AFMA is also collaborating with the South East Trawl Fishery Industry Association and the Great Australian Bight Industry Association to develop more effective methods to protect seabirds from coming into contact with fishing gear.</p>

<sup>1</sup> Fisheries co-management is an arrangement in which responsibilities and obligations for sustainable fisheries management are negotiated, shared and potentially delegated between government, fishers and other stakeholders where appropriate.

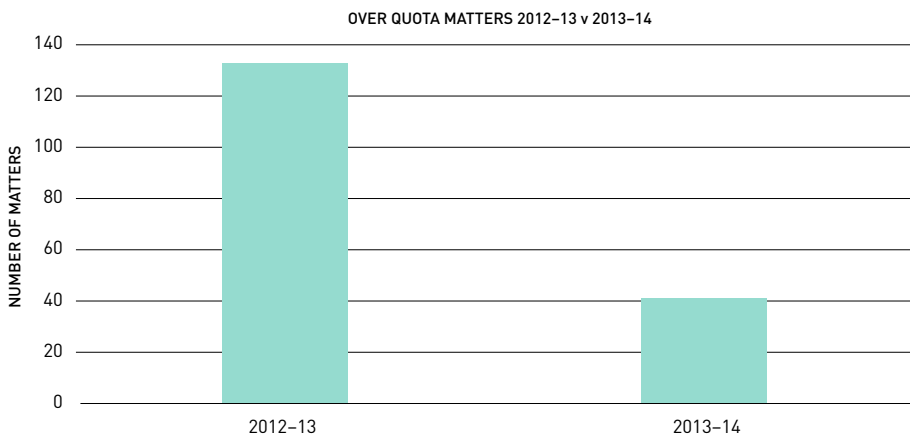
## 28 Day Quota reconciliation

**AFMA's new 28 day reconciliation process, means that fishers now have 28 days from the date of landing to reconcile their catch against their quota holdings. The previous process required quarterly reconciliation.**

The new policy brought uniformity to the quota reconciliation process across all fisheries and assisted fishers to avoid being caught in over quota positions. Importantly, fishers with access to GOFish are able to query their quota balances and transfer quota on line. This reduces the amount of manual handling and minimises the amount of red tape required to conduct these transactions.

The new policy states that AFMA can suspend fishers who go over quota and suspended fishers are required to balance all of their outstanding catches against quota before they are allowed to fish again. This provides incentives for fishers to ensure that their quota positions are more accurately managed.

We have seen an overall reduction in the number of over quota matters arising. In the previous 2012 fishing season, AFMA dealt with 133 over quota matters. This was reduced to 41 matters in the 2013 fishing season under the new arrangements. This contributes to ensuring sustainability of Commonwealth fisheries, cost effective management and making sure that there will be fish and healthy seafood around for future generations to enjoy.



**Goal: Continually improve consultative processes****Strategy: Enhance industry and other stakeholder roles in the management of commercial fisheries and improve public accountability**

AFMA has sought to update the governance structures of management advisory committees and resource assessment groups. The membership of the committees and groups were renewed and training was given to both chairs and members. The key document guiding the operations of resource assessment groups, Fisheries Administration Paper 12, was reviewed and updated. Fisheries Management Paper 1 guiding the operations of management advisory committee operations will be reviewed in 2014–15.

Commonwealth legislation, dealing with public interest disclosures, work health and safety and the governance of public entities, also was enacted. When fully operational it will provide further guidance to AFMA's management advisory committees and resource assessment groups.

AFMA held a Management Advisory Committee Workshop in June 2014 to discuss the AFMA Commission's requirements in relation to management advisory committee advice, the relationship between management advisory committees and resource assessment groups, the responsibilities and operational procedures of management advisory committees and changes to relevant legislation and policies and how they impact on management advisory committee functions, including awareness on the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* and the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2013*. Participants included management advisory committee and resource assessment group chairs and members, and a number of prospective committee members also took the opportunity to participate. Throughout the two days members also had the opportunity to provide AFMA with their views around possible improvements to management advisory committee management arrangements. The workshop concluded with a stock assessment workshop for participants.

In addition to these formal groups, AFMA engages with a range of stakeholders through issue specific groups, such as the Marine Mammal Working Group and through the Recreational Fishing Forum and our regular meetings with environmental groups and the commercial fishing sector. AFMA also works with the Commonwealth Fisheries Association in developing budgets and monitoring costs through the Cost Efficiency Working Group.

INTENDED ACTIONS IN 2013–14	ACHIEVED [✓/ ✗]	COMMENT
Stakeholder and broader community engagement through various media.	✓	During 2013–14 AFMA developed and updated its Communications and Stakeholder Engagement Strategy. Online forums and focussed stakeholder meetings and presentations were used to progress major initiatives of the agency. AFMA Updates and media releases continued to be published in the reporting period.
Formal engagement with recreational industry and environmental non-government organisations.	✓	<p>During 2013–14 AFMA held two liaison meetings involving environmental non-government organisations, the Commonwealth Fisheries Association and government agencies.</p> <p>The policy by which AFMA administers resource assessment groups, Fisheries Administration Paper No. 12, was revised. Updates include changes to membership categories and remuneration to support greater engagement in AFMA's processes with all stakeholders.</p> <p>AFMA held two formal meetings with representatives of the recreational fishing sector during 2013–14. AFMA and the Australian Recreational Fishing Foundation agreed for an AFMA officer to be seconded to the Foundation for a period of up to 12 months to further engage with the sector and assist in policy development.</p>





INTENDED ACTIONS IN 2013-14	ACHIEVED (✓/✗)	COMMENT
<p>Establish scientific review processes for all AFMA commissioned research.</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>AFMA and the resources assessment groups have regularly sought independent reviews of key aspects of research, e.g. Eastern pink ling, orange roughy and school shark.</p> <p>AFMA facilitated a workshop attended by scientists from Australia and New Zealand to review approaches to assessing orange roughy. The workshop outcomes were incorporated into the 2014 orange roughy stock assessment for the Eastern zone of the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery.</p> <p>AFMA commissioned the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation to review possible indicators of abundance for school shark. This work was required to assist AFMA and the Commonwealth Fisheries Research Advisory Body to identify research priorities.</p> <p>To ensure full probity a peer review was conducted by an experienced independent scientist at the Victoria University of Wellington. The peer review was considered alongside the report commissioned by AFMA when research proposals were assessed.</p> <p>A formal evaluation of the Management Strategy Evaluation for the Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery Harvest Strategy has commenced.</p> <p>The AFMA Research Committee plays a key role in coordinating and reviewing core fisheries research priorities and proposals in consultation with management advisory committees and resource assessment groups. This includes projects such as stock assessments, fishery independent surveys, fish ageing and management strategy evaluations.</p> <p>AFMA also plays a key role in coordinating and reviewing Fisheries Research and Development Corporation funded, strategic, Commonwealth fisheries research priorities and proposals through the Commonwealth Fisheries Research Advisory Body. The Fisheries Research and Development Corporation funded scientific fisheries research projects are generally subject to independent reviews.</p> <p>AFMA is a participant in the development of a nationally relevant and broadly applicable scientific standard that includes both peer review and quality assurance.</p> <p>The project has received Fisheries Research and Development Corporation funding for 2014-15 and will be completed by late December 2015.</p>
<p>Develop and implement research standards.</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>AFMA is a participant in the development of a nationally relevant and broadly applicable scientific standard that includes both peer review and quality assurance.</p> <p>The project has received Fisheries Research and Development Corporation funding for 2014-15 and will be completed by late December 2015.</p>

## Regional cooperation slams illegal fishing

Regional cooperation between Australia and Papua New Guinea in combatting illegal fishing in the Torres Strait has a long and successful history. The commitment of both countries in protecting the resources of the Torres Strait fisheries was again demonstrated in 2013–14 with targeted operations this year involving Australian Customs and Border Protection Service, the Royal Australian Navy and AFMA's fisheries officers, together with Papua New Guinea fisheries officers and the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary.

The operations were planned in response to a steady increase in illegal harvesting of beche de mer activity on Warrior Reef within the Torres Strait Protected Zone fuelled by higher prices being paid by buyers. Supported by Coastwatch aircrews, multiple surface assets operated by Australian Customs and Border Protection Service and the Royal Australian Navy, with fisheries officers from both Australia and Papua New Guinea on board, converged on groups suspected of illegal fishers.

Catch in excess of one tonne was recovered from some vessels, much of which was still live when returned to the sea. A total of ten boats were intercepted and subsequently seized.

Apprehended fishers were then transported to Daru, Western Province Papua New Guinea, where Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary officers took custody of the offenders and received evidence packs prepared at sea by the fisheries officers involved in the apprehensions.

A total of 65 fishers have been prosecuted by the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary and National Fisheries Authority Papua New Guinea in the Daru district court with penalties ranging from \$200 fines to prison sentences of up to three months being handed down. In total, ten boats were confiscated by AFMA with fishing equipment and catch being seized from another seven.

# Report against services and deliverables

DELIVERABLES AND SERVICES	2012-13 PREDICTED	2012-13 ACTUAL	2013-14 PREDICTED	2013-14 ACTUAL	COMMENT
Completed research projects including Torres Strait fisheries <sup>1</sup> .	10	7	10	14	Four Torres Strait research projects were completed in 2013-14, in line with recommendations from the Torres Strait Scientific Advisory Committee. Ten essential stock assessment related research projects recommended by AFMA's Research Committee for AFMA funding were completed in 2013-14.
Completion of annual domestic risk assessment.	100 %	100 %	100 %	N/A	AFMA has moved to a biennial risk assessment process which covers the 2013-15 period, as such no risk assessment was conducted in 2013-14.
Completed fishery independent surveys.	10	9	10	10	<p>Two surveys were conducted in the Northern Prawn Fishery, a winter survey in July 2013 and a pre-season recruitment survey in February 2014. The benefits to AFMA will be an understanding of the stock dynamics for tiger prawns.</p> <p>An aerial survey of Southern bluefin tuna in the Great Australian Bight Sector was conducted in April 2014. This is an integral component of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna stock assessment and the 2011 adopted management procedure which guides the setting of global catch limits.</p> <p>A trawl survey was undertaken in the Heard Island and McDonald Islands Fishery in May to June 2014 to monitor the abundance of icefish and Patagonian toothfish.</p>

<sup>1</sup> Includes only research projects that AFMA administers contracts with the research provider. It does not include research projects administered by other agencies in which AFMA co-invests

DELIVERABLES AND SERVICES	2012-13 PREDICTED	2012-13 ACTUAL	2013-14 PREDICTED	2013-14 ACTUAL	COMMENT
Completed fishery independent surveys (continued).					<p>The data collected forms the basis of the annual stock assessments carried out by Australian scientists and reviewed by the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources.</p> <p>A survey to determine the biomass estimates of two scallop beds in Bass Strait was undertaken in late July 2014. This is used as the basis for assessing the stock, closing one or more areas to fishing and setting the total allowable catch.</p> <p>Two surveys were undertaken in the Small Pelagic Fishery to assess the spawning stock of sardines and jack mackerel on the off the South East coast of Australia.</p> <p>A fishery-independent survey was undertaken in the area of the Torres Strait Tropical Rock Lobster Fishery in June 2014. The data collected forms the basis of the annual stock assessments.</p> <p>Fishery independent surveys in the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery and the Great Australian Bight Trawl Sector were commenced in 2013-14 and will be completed in 2014-15.</p>
Regulate fisheries including Torres Strait fisheries under plans of management.	12	12	12	12	<p>Plans of management apply to the following fisheries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Northern Prawn Fishery</li> <li>▶ Torres Strait Prawn Fishery</li> <li>▶ Torres Strait Finfish Fishery</li> <li>▶ Bass Strait Central Zone Scallop Fishery</li> <li>▶ Heard Island and McDonald Islands Fishery</li> <li>▶ Macquarie Island Toothfish Fishery</li> <li>▶ Small Pelagic Fishery</li> <li>▶ Southern Squid Jig Fishery</li> <li>▶ Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery</li> <li>▶ Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery</li> <li>▶ Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery</li> <li>▶ Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery.</li> </ul> <p>These along with other instruments, such as fisheries regulations, regulate activity in these fisheries.</p>

DELIVERABLES AND SERVICES	2012-13 PREDICTED	2012-13 ACTUAL	2013-14 PREDICTED	2013-14 ACTUAL	COMMENT
Apply harvest strategies.	11	13	11	13	The following fisheries have harvest strategies that are applied: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Northern Prawn Fishery</li> <li>▶ Torres Strait Prawn Fishery</li> <li>▶ North West Slope Trawl Fishery</li> <li>▶ Western Deepwater Trawl Fishery</li> <li>▶ Coral Sea Fishery</li> <li>▶ Bass Strait Central Zone Scallop Fishery</li> <li>▶ Sub Antarctic fisheries</li> <li>▶ Small Pelagic Fishery</li> <li>▶ Southern Squid Jig Fishery</li> <li>▶ Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery</li> <li>▶ Skipjack Fishery</li> <li>▶ Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery</li> <li>▶ Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery.</li> </ul>
<b>Completed licensing transactions</b>					
Manual completed transactions.	1 269	1 120	400	828	In 2014-15 work on automating fishing permit re-grants and GOFish agent permissions is likely to significantly reduce this figure.
Automated completed transactions.	3 946	1 943	2 500	2 158	The percentage of transactions completed online increased from 82 per cent to 85 per cent in 2013-14.
Collect levies.	Greater than 99 % of levies collected.	99.2 %	Greater than 99 % of levies collected.	99.8 %	The increase reflects improved client liaison and follow up for debt recovery.
Prosecute illegal foreign fishers.	Note <sup>1</sup>	10	Note <sup>2</sup>	26	Of the 26 foreign fishing vessels apprehended, six were Vietnamese vessels targeting giant clam shells and beche de mer, ten were Indonesian vessels targeting finfish and beche de mer and ten were Papua New Guinea vessels targeting beche de mer.  Masters of the six Vietnamese boats were successfully prosecuted. They received fines of up to \$10 000 with one master receiving a six month suspended prison sentence.

1. Performance cannot be forecast reliably.

2. Expressed as a proportion of forfeited vessels brought to AFMA commissioned caretaking and disposal facilities. The actual numbers depend on the number apprehended and brought to the disposal facilities through the Civil Maritime Surveillance and Response Program (Customs and Border Security Program 1.4), and cannot be forecast reliably.

DELIVERABLES AND SERVICES	2012-13 PREDICTED	2012-13 ACTUAL	2013-14 PREDICTED	2013-14 ACTUAL	COMMENT
Prosecute illegal foreign fishers (continued).	Note <sup>1</sup>	10	Note <sup>2</sup>	31	<p>Eight masters and 17 per cent repeat offender crew members from eight of the ten Indonesian vessels targeting finfish and beche de mer were all successfully prosecuted with fines of up to \$12 000 being imposed. Of the remaining two Indonesian vessels one was investigated and released and one case remains to be heard before the courts.</p> <p>Masters and crew of the ten Papua New Guinea vessels targeting beche de mer were handed over to the Papua New Guinea authorities under the Torres Strait Treaty arrangements, where the majority were successfully prosecuted with fines, and in some cases, custodial sentences of three months being applied.</p>
Dispose of illegal foreign fishing vessels.	Note <sup>2</sup>	7	Note <sup>2</sup>	18	Of the 26 foreign fishing vessels apprehended, 18 were disposed of by AFMA, six sunk whilst under tow, one was released due to insufficient evidence to prosecute and one remains on Thursday Island pending disposal action.
<b>Administered: Illegal foreign fishing vessel caretaking and disposal</b>					
Forfeited vessels disposed of <sup>1</sup> .	100 %	100 %	100 %	95 %	Eighteen of the 19 fishing vessels that were received by AFMA were disposed of.

1. Performance cannot be forecast reliably.
2. Expressed as a proportion of forfeited vessels brought to AFMA commissioned caretaking and disposal facilities. The actual numbers depend on the number apprehended and brought to the disposal facilities through the Civil Maritime Surveillance and Response Program (Customs and Border Security Program 1.4), and cannot be forecast reliably.



## Foreign incursions continued to be under control

AFMA experienced a sudden and irregular surge in illegal foreign fishing activity when vessels originating from Vietnam were intercepted by Australian Border Protection Command assets between November 2013 and April 2014. The fishers were targeting endangered giant clams for their meat and shells to sell on the foreign market. Swift action was taken by AFMA and Border Protection Command and the vessels were apprehended resulting in a return to low levels of illegal foreign fishing activity in Australia's northern waters.

It is important that Australian fish stocks are protected from uncontrolled exploitation by illegal foreign fishing vessels. Australian fish stocks are very well managed by world standards and it is important that stocks and the marine environment are protected from illegal foreign fishing. .

Australian Fisheries Management Authority fisheries officers regularly participate in patrols of Australia's maritime borders by Australian Customs and Border Protection Service and the Royal Australian Navy Patrol boats. These patrols are a strong deterrent to illegal foreign fishers especially when they face being fined and losing their boats.

In 2005-2006 there were 367 illegal foreign fishing vessels apprehended and in 2013-14 this decreased to only 26. This is positive news for Australia's fisheries resources and shows the good work done by AFMA in conjunction with other Australian authorities to protect our marine environment and further seafood supplies.

Worldwide Australia supports strong international measures to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing. While on patrol AFMA officers intercept a range of illegal fishing activities including the illegal catch of sharks and their fins, endangered giant clams and sea turtles, beche de mer (sea cucumbers) and tropical reef fish species.

Continuing rigorous surveillance, enforcement, education programs and capacity building initiatives in our neighbouring countries is essential to deter illegal fishers taking fish from Australia's sustainable fisheries.

Know where your fish comes from! If you suspect illegal fishing or black-market fish supply to be occurring in your area please contact 1800 CRIMFISH (1800 274 634).

# Report against key performance indicators

The Commonwealth Fisheries Harvest Strategy Policy and Guidelines provides a framework to maintain key commercial stocks at ecologically sustainable levels and aim to maximise net economic returns.

The indicators are developed based on the latest understanding of the fish stock status, predicted future research and research needs for each fishery. Maximum economic yield is a target that utilises the fish stocks at the most efficient harvest point and is a more precautionary target than a maximum sustainable yield target. For indicator 1, economically significant stocks, it shows an increase in the number of stock being on target (a) this indicates strong science is supporting management decisions, likewise a reduction in the number of species not on target to meet their reference points (b) is a positive sign for these resources.

## The effectiveness of AFMA's harvest strategies in meeting the objectives of the Commonwealth Fisheries Harvest Strategy Policy and Guidelines

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	2013-14 FORECAST	2013-14 ACTUAL
For economically significant stocks <sup>1</sup> .		
Maximise the number of key commercial stocks with harvest strategy targets based on maximum economic yield or the best available proxy <sup>2</sup> .	19	19
Improve the number of stocks in (a) assessed as being on target.	13	13
For those stocks in (a) that are assessed as not on target, improve the number that are heading towards their target reference point.	6	6

1. The top 32 fish stocks contribute to the gross value of production of Commonwealth fisheries.
2. Where higher and lower value species are caught together, different targets for the lower value species may maximise net economic returns over all.



KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	2013-14 FORECAST	2013-14 ACTUAL	COMMENT
Minimise the number of fish stocks subject to overfishing <sup>1</sup> .	0	0	The 2013 Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences Status Report notes that no stock managed solely by the Australian Government was subject to overfishing.
Minimise the number of species assessed as remaining at high risk after mitigation <sup>2</sup> .	69	69	The Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery re-assessment under the Environmental Risk Assessment Framework has been completed and is awaiting final approval. The total number of species on the potential high risk species list remains at 69, however, it is expected to increase once the results of the environmental risk assessment are finalised.  AFMA develops ecological risk management strategies for each fishery that implement management arrangements to minimise the risk to these species. The outcomes of these management strategies are measured by reductions in high risk species at the periodic review of the environmental risk assessment.
Maximise the disposal of apprehended foreign illegal unregulated and unreported vessels and suspected illegal entry vessels.	100 %	95 %	Nineteen foreign illegal fishing vessels and one suspected illegal entry vessel were brought to land for disposal.  Two of the fishing vessels were disposed of by gifting them to the Government of Papua New Guinea, one remains on Thursday Island awaiting disposal and the remainder were disposed of.
% of treatment targets for priority domestic compliance risks met.	90 %	76 %	Sixteen of 28 treatment targets were met. Seven targets were unable to be measured and five were not met due to refocusing of resources to address emerging risks.

1. In AFMA managed fisheries, not including jointly and internationally managed fisheries.
2. Ecological risk assessments for 30 Commonwealth managed fisheries and sub-fisheries have been completed covering 1184 species. The number of species estimated at high risk has decreased from that reported in 2009-10 due to the completion of higher level assessments and the application of residual risk guidelines. All species identified as being at high risk are the subject of mitigation measures. Further assessments are scheduled during the reporting period which may identify additional high risk species – because of the use of more precautionary reference points for shark species. Later assessments should reflect the outcome of mitigation measures.





**SPANISH MACKEREL**  
*Scomberomorus commerson*

**OTHER COMMON NAMES:** SPANIARD, NARROW-BARRED SPANISH MACKEREL  
**SIZE:** UP TO 2.4 METRES  
**STOCK STATUS:** SUSTAINABLE

Mackerels have a thin, edible skin with few scales—making them very popular to enjoy when dining out or at home. Spanish mackerel, an especially good eating finfish, produces an attractive plate-size cutlet or an essentially boneless fillet.

Mackerel can be fried, baked, poached, grilled, marinated, smoked and barbecued—it is considered by some to be the best barbecue fish in the South Pacific. One should always take particular care not to overcook mackerel, and if the mackerel is being fried it should first be lightly salted. Mackerel frames are excellent for fish stock.

**PART 3**

# MANAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Our agency  
Corporate governance practices  
People management  
Stakeholder satisfaction

# Our agency

## HISTORY AND ESTABLISHMENT

The *Fisheries Administration Act 1991* established AFMA in February 1992 to manage Australia's Commonwealth fisheries and apply the provisions of the *Fisheries Management Act 1991*. Together, these two Acts created a statutory authority model for the day-to-day management of Commonwealth fisheries.

Our portfolio department, the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, retained responsibility for strategic fisheries policy advice and leading international and inter-jurisdictional negotiations.

The AFMA Commission is responsible for domestic fisheries management, and the CEO is also a Commissioner responsible for foreign compliance and assisting the Commission. For the reporting period AFMA was governed by the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997* and the *Public Service Act 1999*.

From July to September 2013 our minister was the Hon. Joel Fitzgibbon, the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

During September 2013 to June 2014 our minister was the Hon. Barnaby Joyce MP, the Minister for Agriculture. During this period Senator the Hon. Richard Colbeck was the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture with responsibility for fisheries.

## ROLE AND FUNCTIONS

Our role is to manage Australia's Commonwealth fisheries on behalf of the Australian community and people with an interest in Commonwealth fisheries.

AFMA generally manages commercial fisheries from three nautical miles offshore to the boundary of the Australian Fishing Zone. State and territory governments manage fisheries within their borders and inside three nautical miles from shore, except where Offshore Constitutional Settlements exist between AFMA and state governments to further simplify fisheries management.

The Commonwealth is also responsible for international fisheries matters, including preventing illegal foreign fishing in the Australian Fishing Zone and managing high seas fishing by Australian operators. Our involvement in managing fish stocks on the high seas is also increasing. Since ratifying the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement, Australia has been actively involved in negotiating regional arrangements to manage a range of highly migratory, straddling stocks and international stocks.

Australia's Commonwealth fisheries are managed in accordance with government cost recovery policy. The commercial fishing industry pays for costs directly attributed to, and recoverable from, the fishing industry, while the government pays for activities that benefit the broader community. Costs are recovered on a fishery-by-fishery basis.

Our stakeholders include the commercial fishing industry, researchers, environment/conservation organisations, recreational fishing, Indigenous groups, and other government agencies. We have built a partnership approach with our stakeholders and involve them in developing policies and actions, encouraging them to share responsibility for fisheries management.

### AFMA'S OBJECTIVES

The objectives we must pursue in performing our functions are set out in the *Fisheries Administration Act 1991* and are in essence:

#### EFFICIENT AND COST-EFFECTIVE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

*Implement efficient and cost-effective fisheries management arrangements.  
Ensure such arrangements and related activities implement Australia's obligations under relevant international agreements.*

#### ECOLOGICALLY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

*Ensure fishing and related activity is consistent with the principles of ecologically sustainable development, including exercise of the precautionary principle, with regard to the long term sustainability of the marine environment.*

#### MAXIMISE NET ECONOMIC RETURNS

*Maximise net economic returns to the Australian community from the management of Australian fisheries.*

#### ACCOUNTABILITY

*Ensure accountability to the fishing industry and to the Australian community in our management of fisheries resources.*

#### COST RECOVERY

*Achieve government targets in relation to recovery of costs.*

## OUR VALUES

We underpin our service, partnerships and accountability to stakeholders by adhering to the principles of public sector governance:

- impartial
- committed to service
- accountable
- respectful
- ethical.

As part of the Australian Public Service (APS), AFMA and its staff are bound by the APS Values and Code of Conduct.

## ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

Figure 1: Organisational structure



## AFMA OFFICE LOCATIONS

STREET ADDRESS	POSTAL ADDRESS	ENQUIRIES
<b>Canberra office</b>		
Level 6 73 Northbourne Ave CANBERRA ACT 2600	PO BOX 7051 Canberra Business Centre CANBERRA ACT 2610	Ph: (02) 6225 5555 Fax: (02) 6225 5500 AFMA Direct: 1300 723 621
<b>Darwin office</b>		
Level 6 NT House 22 Mitchell Street DARWIN NT 0800	GPO Box 131 DARWIN NT 0801	Ph: (08) 8943 0333 Fax: (08) 8942 2897
<b>Thursday Island office</b>		
Level 2 Pearls Building 38 Victoria Parade THURSDAY ISLAND QLD 4875	PO Box 376 THURSDAY ISLAND QLD 4875	Ph: (07) 4069 1990 Fax: (07) 4069 1277

AFMA has offices at three locations – Canberra, Darwin and Thursday Island.

The largest of these is our Canberra office, and employs 147 people managing most of AFMA's functions including fisheries management, licensing, environment and research, national compliance operations, foreign compliance policy, and corporate services.

The Darwin office employs 33 staff, with a focus on our foreign compliance and international engagement functions.

The Thursday Island office manages the Torres Strait Fisheries and employs five staff.

We also employ 19 casual field observers.



## AFMA community and stakeholder engagement

AFMA is further building and developing our relationship with stakeholders and improving our two-way communication and engagement with the community. AFMA has worked hard to establish solid working relationships with our stakeholders through formal working groups like our management advisory committees and resource assessment groups, as well as port visits, and regular consultation with agencies and environmental groups on science, issues and policies.

Building on these existing relationships we are:

- listening to what stakeholders want from us and what they are saying about AFMA
- being more transparent about how we do things and why
- using additional channels of communication to reach our stakeholders.

Key achievements so far as a result of our engagement include:

- commissioning the redesign of our website to make it easier to find information about fish species, the health of fish and the fishing industry
- upgrading our GOFish app for fishing operators to seek and lodge information and transact with us
- expanding the forums held with the commercial and recreational fishing sector, agencies and environmental groups
- aggregating fishery and related data on a single website ([data.gov.au](http://data.gov.au))

Further developments in 2014–15 to improve our engagement are expected to include the launch of the new website – with interactive tools, industry only access to parts of the website and use of infographics and other tools in social media to improve the communities understanding of the management of Commonwealth Fisheries.

# Corporate governance practices

## GOVERNING BODY

As provided in the *Fisheries Administration Act 1991*, AFMA was established to manage Commonwealth fisheries. During the reporting period the Authority was a body corporate which could sue and be sued, however the Authority could not hold money and all financial liabilities are taken to be liabilities of the Commonwealth.

AFMA's domestic fisheries management functions and powers are the responsibility of the Commission. The CEO is responsible for assisting the Commission, including giving effect to its decisions.

The CEO is separately responsible for exercising the Authority's foreign compliance functions and powers, and the Chief Executive's responsibilities under the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997* and *Public Service Act 1999*. The CEO and staff constitute a Statutory Agency under the *Public Service Act 1999*.

The Minister for Agriculture appoints the chairman, part-time commissioners and the CEO. Following advice from the chairman, the minister appoints a part-time commissioner as deputy-chairperson.

The Commission is subject to limited government policy direction as stated in the *Fisheries Administration Act 1991* s91. The minister is the approving authority for AFMA's Corporate Plan, Annual Operational Plan and all Fishery Management Plans determined by AFMA.

The CEO is subject to Ministerial Direction with regard to the Authority's foreign compliance functions, and under the *Public Service Act 1999* is required to be responsive to government in implementing the government's policies and programs.

During the reporting period the terms of appointment of the following AFMA Commissioners, the Hon. Michael Egan (Chairman), Mr Richard Stevens OAM (Deputy Chair), Prof Keith Sainsbury, Mr Ian Cartwright, Ms Elizabeth Montano, Ms Denise North, Ms Jennifer Goddard and Dr John Glaister expired on 28 February 2014. These terms were extended until 30 June 2014 to allow the assessment and appointment of a new AFMA Commission from July 1 2014.

For more information about AFMA's Commissioners and fisheries management advisory committees, see Appendix 3 on page 169.

## CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Commissioners must disclose to the minister any pecuniary or other interest that may relate to their AFMA functions, both prior to appointment and if such interests arise during their terms of office. Disclosures of interests are kept on a register of interests held by the CEO, and, unless the Commission otherwise determines following disclosure, a commissioner must not take part in any deliberation or decision in which he/she has such an interest.

## PERFORMANCE REVIEW

The Commission reviews its performance at each commission meeting. Matters reviewed may include its success in pursuing AFMA's objectives, strategic direction and committee effectiveness.

## INTERNAL SCRUTINY

### RISK MANAGEMENT

AFMA's corporate risk management approach has been in place since 2008 and its processes are embedded in our planning, project management and fraud control processes. The Risk Management Framework and Corporate Risk Registers are reviewed twice annually. Following the August 2012 review, the internal Risk Management Committee undertook a substantial revision of the framework and risk registers. These revisions fed into the last review of the register, which was conducted in August 2013. AFMA is currently reviewing its risk management policies, procedures and documentation in line with requirements under the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* and the Commonwealth Government Risk Management Policy.

Changes to risk registers are communicated through the Risk Management Committee and updated registers are ratified by AFMA's Executive, as part of the review process. The risk management process is monitored by AFMA's Audit and Risk Committee, while AFMA Commission meetings have a standing agenda item to consider significant and current issues that potentially affect AFMA's operations or reputation, and consider advice from its Audit and Risk Committee.

### BUSINESS CONTINUITY

AFMA's Business Continuity Plan identifies essential business activities and provides guidance in establishing alternative arrangements in the event of unexpected disruption to normal service delivery. The plan enables the priority allocation of resources to critical business processes to ensure that we continue to function effectively following a disaster. The plan includes cyclone response procedures for the Darwin and Thursday Island offices, information and communications technology disaster recovery and AFMA's Pandemic Plan.

The Business Continuity Plan was implemented in 2010 and is updated annually to accommodate operational changes. AFMA's Audit and Risk Committee monitors the maintenance and testing of the plan. No event occurred within the reporting period that activated the plan.

### FRAUD CONTROL

In accordance with the Commonwealth Fraud Control Guidelines 2011, we produced the AFMA Fraud Control Plan 2012–14 in 2012. This plan incorporates information relating to our approach to fraud control, the Fraud Risk Assessment and Strategies for fraud minimisation arising from risk treatment recommendations. AFMA is currently reviewing the Fraud Control Plan 2012–14, and updating the Fraud Risk Assessment and Strategies with recent data.

AFMA investigated 108 external fraud related matters during the 2013–14 period primarily associated with breaches of the domestic quota management arrangements and failure to complete log books. Twenty-eight external fraud matters were carried over from the previous year.

AFMA finalised 104 external fraud matters as a result of instituting either administrative or prosecution action. There are 32 matters currently under investigation, referred to the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions, in court or otherwise in the process of finalisation.

Additionally there were 33 foreign matters consisting of 26 apprehensions and seven forfeitures over the 2013–14 period.

AFMA's Audit and Risk Committee monitors the status of the Fraud Control Plan and its recommendations.

### AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

AFMA's Audit and Risk Committee was established under the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997* by the CEO. The purpose of the committee is to provide independent assurance and assistance to the CEO and the Commission on our Risk, Control, and Compliance Framework, and our external accountability responsibilities. AFMA is currently reviewing the membership and terms of reference of the Audit and Risk Committee to ensure consistency with the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*.

For further information on the Audit and Risk Committee see page 165 to 166.



## EXTERNAL SCRUTINY

There were no reports made to the Attorney General of Parliamentary Committee in relation to AFMA. Three separate complaints to the Commonwealth Ombudsman remained unresolved from the previous year. Two complaints were resolved and the remaining complainant has sought an ex gratia payment following claims for further recompense being declined. To our knowledge no additional reports were made or are outstanding.

AFMA's financial statements and financial controls are scrutinised annually by the Australian National Audit Office. The audit office examines internal controls and the validity of our financial statements. Audits ensure that the financial statements represent a true, accurate and fair view of AFMA's financial position and performance indicators.

AFMA's performance is also subject to review through means of Senate Estimates.

In addition, AFMA engages independent internal auditors to undertake audits of business programs and controls, identified in the biennial Assurance Map and Controls Framework Review.

Outcomes of judicial and administrative tribunals are referenced at Appendix 1: Civil Litigation Outcomes on page 162.

## PURCHASING AND ASSET MANAGEMENT

### PURCHASING

During 2013–14 purchasing has been conducted individually by each branch in accordance with AFMA's Chief Executive Instructions and AFMA's Procurement Rules.

AFMA's Procurement Rules specify two thresholds amounts:

- Major procurements over \$80 000 in value must be undertaken through a request for tender unless there is a specific exemption.
- Procurements under \$80 000 must be undertaken in accordance with the minimum quotation and documentation rules set out within the AFMA Chief Executive Instructions and Procurement Rules as they apply to the value and risk of a proposed procurement.

In some cases, major procurements were undertaken using panel arrangements established by other Commonwealth agencies. Major procurements undertaken during the year include:

- research proposals
- illegal foreign fishing related arrangements
- observer services
- electronic monitoring services.

During 2013–14 AFMA prepared to implement the requirements of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act), which became effective as of 1 July 2014. This includes issuing new Accountable Authority Instructions, which reference the Commonwealth Procurement Rules.

### ASSET MANAGEMENT

During 2013–14 AFMA managed its assets in accordance with the relevant *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997* requirements, accounting standards, Finance Ministers Orders and Chief Executive Instructions. From 1 July 2014 these are managed in accordance with the relevant *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* requirements, accounting standards, and relevant Accountable Authority Instructions.

Departmental assets total \$26.563 million and this includes, cash, receivables, land, buildings, property, plant and equipment, intangibles and other assets. Administered assets total \$866 000 and this includes vessel disposal facilities, cash and receivables.

AFMA maintains an asset register in its financial management system for all assets with a value greater than \$2000. The Australian Valuation Office undertook an asset stocktake and asset revaluation for AFMA in the 2012–13 financial year and AFMA internally reviewed asset classes at fair value during the 2013–14 financial year. The results of the stocktake and valuation are evident in AFMA's 2013–14 Financial Statements.

### CONTRACTS

During the 2013–14 financial year AFMA entered into contracts with a range of suppliers for the provision of goods and services. AFMA maintains a contracts register within its financial management system for all contracts entered into that are above \$10 000 in value. For procurement reporting AFMA:

- publishes all contracts over \$10 000 on the AusTender website
- publishes a list of all contracts that exceed \$100 000 on AFMA's internet site twice a year.

During 2013–14, AFMA entered into 51 consultancy contracts valued at \$4.837 million. This is because the specialised or professional skills were either not present or available internally or where there was a need for an independent third party was appropriate. Further information on AFMA's consultancy contracts is on the AusTender website [tenders.gov.au](http://tenders.gov.au)

### ADVERTISING AND MARKET RESEARCH

During the 2013–14 financial year AFMA spent \$6000 on advertising. This expenditure primarily related to recruitment and fishery notices. AFMA together with the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation also had a contract for media monitoring services. There were no individual payments above \$3000.

### DISCRETIONARY GRANTS

AFMA does not administer any discretionary grants.

## CORPORATE AND OPERATIONAL PLANNING AND REVIEW

AFMA's Planning and Reporting Framework consists of obligations under the *Fisheries Administration Act 1991*, whole-of-government requirements, and internal documents we produce for the purpose of good governance. The key elements are:

### CORPORATE PLAN

This plan identifies factors in AFMA's operating environment that may affect AFMA's operations, and sets out AFMA's principal goals for the next three, four and five years. The plan also outlines the strategies AFMA will use to pursue those goals and key performance indicators for measuring our performance. We have reported against the key result areas identified in our Corporate Plan 2013–18 on pages 10 to 30.

### ANNUAL OPERATIONAL PLAN

The Annual Operational Plan covers 12 months and gives detail to the strategies identified in the relevant Corporate Plan. A report against the key performance indicators described in our Annual Operational Plan 2013–14 is on pages 37 to 38.



### PORTFOLIO BUDGET STATEMENTS

AFMA contributes to the Department of Agriculture's Portfolio Budget Statements. The purpose of the Portfolio Budget Statements is to inform senators and members of Parliament of the proposed allocation of resources to government outcomes. Within this document, AFMA sets out its broad strategic direction, budget estimates against specific outputs, and key performance indicators.

### INTERNAL REPORTING

Each quarter, AFMA reports to its CEO and Commission against the key result areas, strategies and key performance indicators identified in its corporate and annual operational plans. This ensures that progress is monitored, and simplifies the process of annual reporting.

### ANNUAL REPORT

The Annual Report provides information on AFMA's operations and performance, including reporting against the measures set out in the Corporate Plan, Annual Operational Plan and Portfolio Budget Statements.

The system of corporate plans and performance reporting is under review in accordance with the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*.



## Stopping illegal foreign fishing through regional capacity building

**Taking a joint approach to combat illegal foreign fishing, in 2013–14 AFMA continued our work with Malaysian authorities to catch illegal foreign fishers attempting to offload millions of dollars' worth of illegal fish in South-East Asia.**

In April 2014, Australian authorities came in to contact with two illegal foreign fishing boats, the *Ming 5* (previously *Thunder*) and *Tai Shan*. Both vessels, which have a long history of illegal fishing in the Southern Ocean, had changed their names to evade authorities. These vessels were detected heading towards the South-East Asian region. AFMA quickly alerted neighbouring authorities requesting that these boats be denied access to port.

Forewarned and forearmed, Malaysian authorities discovered the vessels illegally anchored in Malaysian waters whilst conducting a routine patrol. The Malaysian authorities nabbed the two boats, making it the fifth time in recent years that Malaysia has taken action against illegal boats seeking to access their ports. Both boats now face prosecution through the courts for customs, fishing and other shipping offences.

Since all fish must come to port to enter into trade, stopping boats carrying illegal fish from accessing ports is an effective way to combat illegal fishing. This not only prevents illegal fish from reaching the plates of consumers but also increases costs for illegal operators making it increasingly difficult for them to turn a profit.

The strong regional collaboration between Australian and Malaysian authorities is not only catching illegal fishers but helping to deter others.

Australia and our neighbours in the South-East Asian region recognise the threat that illegal fishing poses to sustainable fisheries. Since 2007, Australia has been working hard to increase engagement and cooperation in the region. Through a network of 11 like-minded countries, including Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore and Australia we have worked to share information and deny port access to vessels suspected of being involved in illegal fishing activities.

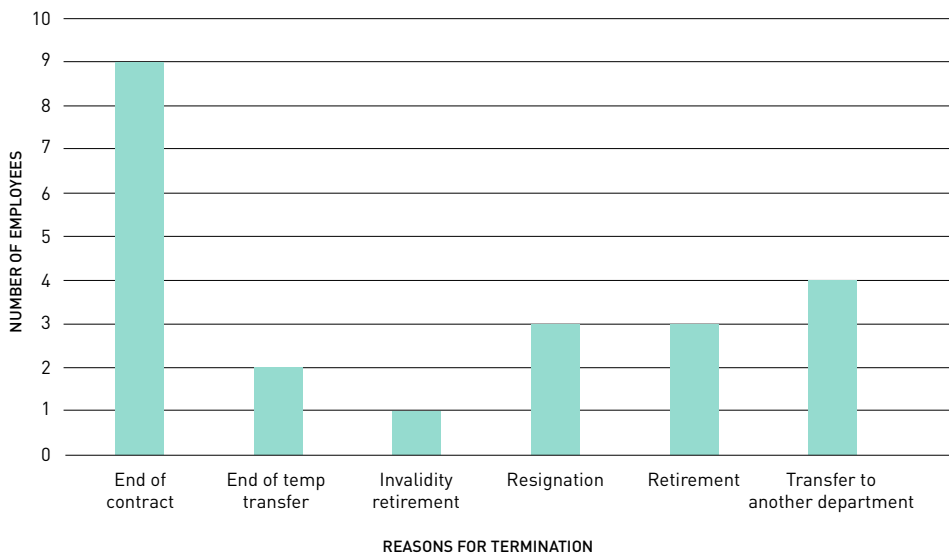


# People management

## OUR STAFF

At 30 June 2014, AFMA employed 199 staff (179 ongoing and 20 non-ongoing). The majority of staff were located in the Canberra office, with 33 staff located in the Darwin office, five on Thursday Island, and 19 casual field observers undertaking duties on commercial fishing vessels around Australia. The total of 199 also included two employees on long-term leave.

**Figure 2:** Terminations – 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014



AFMA's employment profile has not changed significantly from 2012-13. The proportion of part-time staff has decreased slightly to 12 per cent in 2013-14 from 14.4 per cent in 2012-13.

The proportion of females has remained static at 34 per cent in 2013-14. The percentage of women at EL1-2 levels for 2013-14 was 26 per cent. This is an increase of 3 per cent from the previous year.

There has been slight decrease in the number of staff from non-English speaking backgrounds from six to five with an increase in the number of staff whose parents come from a non-English speaking background from 12 to 14. The number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff members has increased from four to six from the previous year. There was no change to the four employees who identified as having a disability 2012-13.

**Table 3:** Equal opportunity profile of AFMA staff as at June 30 2014

LEVEL	NESB1	NESB2	PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY	ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER	WOMEN	MEN	TOTAL STAFF AT LEVEL
APS 2-4	0	4	1	5	23	41	64
APS 5-6	5	9	2	1	33	48	81
EL1	0	1	0	0	8	25	33
EL2	0	0	1	0	5	12	17
SES	0	0	0	0	0	4	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>199</b>

NESB1: Persons from a non-English speaking background who were born overseas

NESB2: Persons whose parents are from a non-English speaking background

**Table 4:** Non-ongoing staff employed by location, gender and employment status as at June 30 2014

LEVEL	LOCATION	WOMEN		MEN		TOTAL STAFF AT LEVEL
		PART TIME	FULL TIME	PART TIME	FULL TIME	
APS 1-2	Canberra	0	0	14	0	14
	Darwin	0	0	0	0	0
	Thursday Island	0	0	0	0	0
APS 3-4	Canberra	0	1	5	0	6
	Darwin	0	0	0	0	0
	Thursday Island	0	0	0	0	0
APS 5-6	Canberra	0	0	0	0	0
	Darwin	0	0	0	0	0
	Thursday Island	0	0	0	0	0
EL1	Canberra	0	0	0	0	0
	Darwin	0	0	0	0	0
	Thursday Island	0	0	0	0	0
EL2	Canberra	0	0	0	0	0
	Darwin	0	0	0	0	0
	Thursday Island	0	0	0	0	0
SES	Canberra	0	0	0	0	0
	Darwin	0	0	0	0	0
	Thursday Island	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20</b>

\* These figures include 19 observers who are engaged as intermittent/irregular (casual) employees.

**Table 5:** Ongoing staff employed by location, gender and employment status as at June 30 2014

LEVEL	LOCATION	FEMALE		MALE		TOTAL STAFF AT LEVEL
		PART TIME	FULL TIME	PART TIME	FULL TIME	
APS 1-2	Canberra	2	1	0	1	4
	Darwin	1	0	0	1	2
	Thursday Island	0	0	0	0	0
APS 3-4	Canberra	4	9	0	14	27
	Darwin	0	4	0	5	9
	Thursday Island	0	1	0	1	2
APS 5-6	Canberra	8	22	5	28	63
	Darwin	0	3	0	14	17
	Thursday Island	0	0	0	1	1
EL1	Canberra	2	5	0	21	28
	Darwin	0	1	0	3	4
	Thursday Island	0	0	0	1	1
EL2	Canberra	1	4	1	10	16
	Darwin	0	0	0	1	1
	Thursday Island	0	0	0	0	0
SES	Canberra	0	0	0	3	3
	Darwin	0	0	0	1	1
	Thursday Island	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>18</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>179</b>

\* This table includes 2 staff on long-term leave. It does not include AFMA employees on temporary transfer to other Australian Public Service agencies. These figures relate to the nominal occupants of the position and not employees who may be acting as at 30 June 2014. This SES figure also includes AFMA's CEO.

## OUR HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

AFMA has drafted a workforce strategy which sets out a number of actions to shape the workforce to be in a position to deliver the Corporate Plan strategies. The workforce strategy seeks to ensure that AFMA will be flexible enough to respond to changes in government policy and structural agendas and will also identify areas of risk to the future function and form of AFMA.

In May 2014, AFMA staff participated in the Australian Public Service Employee Census. For the 2014 census AFMA nominated to include an additional 10 questions that directly related to the agency. These questions focused on organisational effectiveness, stakeholder engagement, performance management and recruitment and selection. To achieve a temporal comparison for change, the same 10 agency specific questions were used from the 2013 Census. The questions were developed in consultation with AFMA's People Initiatives Committee and AFMA's Executive. The information collected from AFMA's 2013 and 2014 Census will assist in evaluating the findings from AFMA's 2011 all staff survey.

AFMA's high performing staff members were acknowledged through a number of rewards and recognition programs throughout the year. Each year AFMA offers staff the opportunity to nominate for a development award. The intention of the award is to recognise and reward performance of the individual whilst at the same time providing an opportunity for personal development that will ultimately benefit both the individual and AFMA. The Annual Achievement Awards were presented in December 2013 to the team/s and the individual/s that had made a significant contribution to AFMA during the year.

In 2013 there was one recipient of the individual outstanding achievement award. Libby Jenkins, Senior Manager, Human Resources was recognised for her outstanding commitment and leadership of the Human Resources Section.

The team outstanding achievement award was presented to members of the National Investigation Taskforce Team. The National Investigation Taskforce is a small dedicated team of fisheries officers located in both AFMA's Canberra and Darwin offices focusing on combatting illegal fishing activity associated with quota fraud and evasion. During 2013 the team collectively displayed a commitment to delivering on AFMA's Annual Operating Plan as well as promoting the agencies Operational Plans vision and values. Their engagement both internally and externally has seen AFMA's reputation as a professional competent fisheries management regulator promoted across both government and industry alike.

A number of important amendments to the *Public Service Act 1999* came into effect on 1 July 2013. The changes included the establishment of new APS Values and APS Employment Principles and changes to the APS Code of Conduct. Significant work was undertaken to ensure that AFMA policies, procedures and guidelines reflected the legislative changes. This included reviewing and amending all related policies and procedures including changes to the Recruitment and Selection Policy, AFMA's Conduct and Ethics Policy, AFMA's Review of Actions and AFMA's Procedures for Determining and Reporting Breaches of the Code of Conduct. Information sessions were conducted on the key changes affecting AFMA and staff.

## Australian Sea Lion Management Strategy

**The Australian Sea Lion Management Strategy has been highly successful in reducing gillnet fishing impacts on sea lions with no Australian sea lion mortalities recorded in AFMA managed fisheries in 2013–14.**

A scientific study conducted in 2010 estimated that approximately 374 Australian sea lions were being captured each 18 month breeding cycle by gillnetters in the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery. The study also advised that the deaths of just a few sea lions from small colonies could risk the survival of those colonies.

In response, AFMA and gillnet fishers implemented large spatial closures around colonies at most risk and strengthened independent observer coverage in April 2011. These measures led to the closure of 18 500 square kilometres of traditional fishing grounds.

Measures were strengthened in 2012 after eight sea lion mortalities were reported in the previous year. The new measures included further closures to protect key habitat areas if conservative sea lion mortality levels were exceeded. After six further mortalities were reported in early 2012 an additional 102 451 square kilometres was closed. Furthermore AFMA made it a requirement for every fishing trip to be independently monitored.

Since the last closure in April 2012 there has only been one sea lion mortality reported in the fishery. This has allowed for closed areas to be reopened and only closures immediately adjacent to colonies now remain in place. AFMA's quick intervention along with cooperation from the fishing industry, has provided immediate and comprehensive protection for sea lions, with the South Australian Research and Development Institute's marine mammal expert Associate Professor Simon Goldsworthy saying that this sets a benchmark for other fisheries.

"Globally, this is now seen as an important case study," Associate Professor Goldsworthy said.

Although the closures were necessary, AFMA recognised that they had a major impact on the fishing industry and has enabled for gillnet fishers affected by closures to use hook fishing methods which pose a lesser risk to sea lions. Industry also continues to work with AFMA on future management arrangements for the fishery to further reduce the impact of fishing on marine mammals and ensure its economic viability.

## OUR TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

The conditions of employment for all AFMA staff, except Senior Executives, are covered by AFMA's Enterprise Agreement 2011 and associated policies. The current Enterprise Agreement has a nominal expiry date of 30 June 2014 and outlines a broad range of matters such as:

- rates of pay
- employment conditions, e.g. hours of work, meal breaks, overtime
- consultative mechanisms
- dispute resolution procedures.

A new agreement will be negotiated in accordance with the Australian Government Public Sector Workplace Bargaining Policy which was announced by the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Public Service, Senator the Hon. Eric Abetz on 28 March 2014.

The Workplace Consultative Committee meets quarterly and has the primary responsibility for ongoing employee participation and consultation regarding matters covered by the current agreement and any associated guidelines and policies, and any associated variations. Employee representatives canvass views from staff within their branch and contributes to the decision making process.

Employees covered by the agreement may agree to make an Individual Flexibility Agreement to vary the effect of terms of the agreement if the arrangement deals with one or more of the following matters:

- arrangements about when work is performed
- overtime rates
- penalty rates
- allowances
- remuneration
- leave
- the arrangement meets the genuine needs of the Agency and employee.

AFMA made Individual Flexibility Agreements for 38 staff during 2013-2014. The details of the agreements made since the Enterprise Agreement came into effect are shown in the below table.

**Table 6:** Individual Flexibility Agreements for 2013-14

CLASSIFICATION	NUMBER
APS 1	0
APS 2	3
APS 3	0
APS 4	8
APS 5	3
APS 6	10
EL1	7
EL2	7

AFMA made five individual determinations under section 24(1) of the *Public Service Act 1999*. These determinations were in relation to SES employment.

## REMUNERATION

AFMA's salary ranges are contained in AFMA's Enterprise Agreement 2011. The salary minimum and maximum amounts at each classification as at 30 June 2014 are shown in the below table.

**Table 7:** Collective agreement salary ranges as at 30 June 2014

CLASSIFICATION	MINIMUM	MAXIMUM
APS 1	\$37 827	\$48 278
APS 2	\$51 759	\$55 245
APS 3	\$56 656	\$61 574
APS 4	\$64 032	\$68 460
APS 5	\$70 568	\$74 741
APS 6	\$78 912	\$87 263
EL1	\$97 073	\$107 891
EL2	\$113 887	\$132 775

In accordance with AFMA's Enterprise Agreement the CEO may approve additional salary of up to 20 per cent under an Individual Flexibility Agreement.

AFMA does not have performance bonuses.

AFMA's salary ranges for Senior Executive staff are contained in AFMA's Executive Remuneration Policy. The salary amounts as at 30 June 2014 are shown in the below table.

**Table 8:** AFMA Senior Executive Remuneration Policy salary ranges as at 30 June 2014

CLASSIFICATION	MINIMUM	MAXIMUM
SES Band 1	\$162 283	\$183 762
SES Band 2	\$205 632	\$227 970

The remuneration of Senior Executives is determined with reference to the Remuneration Survey published by the Australian Public Service Commission and is commensurate with the assessed complexity of their work. Senior Executives are not eligible for a bonus amount after a performance assessment by the CEO. In addition to the salary ranges above, and as part of their total remuneration package, Senior Executive officers are also eligible to access additional provisions including salary in lieu of a vehicle and car parking. Due to the small numbers of Senior Executives within AFMA, further breakdown of Senior Executive remuneration packages are not made available to avoid identification of individuals.

Remuneration for the CEO is determined by the Remuneration Tribunal. Details are available from the Remuneration Tribunal website.

AFMA did not generally make use of any non-salary benefits in 2013–14.

## TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

AFMA continued to offer a wide range of training and development opportunities to ensure we have a capable workforce. In 2013–14 we had a particular focus on training in the following areas:

- Leadership and Management
- Project Management
- Work, Health and Safety for Managers
- Certificate IV Government (Investigations)
- Certificate IV Training and Assessment
- Essential Writing Skills
- Getting the Selection Right
- Media Skills
- Giving and Receiving Feedback
- Influencing and Negotiation in the APS
- Defensive Techniques
- Minute Taking
- Personal Efficiency Program (PEP)
- Strategic Thinking
- Using Microsoft Excel – Introductory to Advanced
- First Aid and Fire Warden Training.

Training needs are identified through annual performance capability plans which identify both essential and desirable training for each staff member. Training identified in the plans is compiled to assess the agency's training requirements. Individuals can also nominate or be nominated by a manager for any specific training.

AFMA continues to support employees undertaking part-time tertiary study through the Studies Assistance Policy, which provides assistance in the form of funding and/or study leave. In 2013–2014, thirteen staff members were granted studies assistance for studies in various areas including maritime studies and safety, applied science, language studies, marketing, diplomacy and trade, law and environmental science.

In 2013–14 AFMA was committed to organisational and team leadership programs for all staff. In November 2013, AFMA staff participated in a whole-of-agency Leadership Program. The workshops explored and developed leaders and teams in effective ways in which aimed to build a shared vision for culture and how to work together as a team. In addition to the leadership workshops, 36 staff were selected for stage two of the leadership program that expanded on the key learnings in stage one of the program.

In 2013–14 AFMA provided the opportunity for senior management to undertake the Personal Efficiency Program (PEP). This program provided one-on-one coaching and group workshops focused on work habits, effectiveness and team interaction. The program received positive feedback and participants said they were able to successfully apply the strategies learned in the program to their own roles and working styles across the agency.





## WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY PERFORMANCE

For details on our work health and safety performance see Appendix 5.

## ETHICAL STANDARDS

In working towards AFMA's goals and objectives, staff are expected to maintain the highest standards of business and personal ethics. These expectations are underpinned by:

- APS Code of Conduct
- APS Values
- AFMA Code of Conduct
- Respect: ensuring a positive workplace culture free from bullying and harassment.

# Stakeholder satisfaction

## OUR STAKEHOLDERS

When developing and implementing fisheries management arrangements, AFMA works in partnership with key stakeholders including commercial fishing operators and associations, researchers, environment and conservation organisations and where appropriate recreational/charter fishing and Indigenous stakeholders and others who have an interest in how Australia's Commonwealth fisheries are managed. AFMA engages with stakeholder groups through a variety of avenues, including management advisory committees, resource assessment groups, port visits, newsletters and direct mail across all major Commonwealth fisheries. These mechanisms provide an important advisory function and maintain an open dialogue between AFMA and those with an interest in the management of Commonwealth fisheries.

## COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

The *Fisheries Management Act 1991* contains specific provisions on the communication and consultation processes and channels for communicating information about regulation.

AFMA communicates formally in writing with all Commonwealth fishing concession holders regarding regulation of their access to Commonwealth fisheries.

In addition to statutory processes, AFMA consults extensively with stakeholders on management decisions. The main point of contact with stakeholders is through the committees for each of the major fisheries.

Stakeholders are regularly updated about changes to regulations, Commission decisions and other changes via AFMA's website, and through our monthly newsletter, the AFMA Update, which is sent directly to subscribers and also made available on our website.

AFMA conveys information about regulations during port visits and at public meetings.

AFMA also uses Integrated Computer Vessel Monitoring Systems, a satellite based system, to communicate with fishing vessels via text message/email anywhere in the world.

The AFMA Commission and the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture endorsed AFMA's Community and Stakeholder Engagement Strategy in 2013–14. The strategy outlines the transactional, tactical and technological tools that AFMA proposes to deploy to improve communication of information to stakeholders. A significant redesign of AFMA's website architecture to improve accessibility and navigability for the community and stakeholders commenced in 2013–14.

## MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Management advisory committees are a major source of advice to AFMA, reflecting the experience and expertise of the range of stakeholders with interest in the fishery or fisheries covered by the management advisory committees. Management advisory committees play a vital role in helping AFMA to fulfil its legislative functions and effectively pursue its objectives by acting as the main advisory body and link between AFMA and those with an interest in the fishery. The committees also provide advice to AFMA on a variety of issues including fisheries management arrangements, research, compliance and management costs.

Generally, management advisory committees are made up of members from commercial industry, fisheries management, the scientific community, the environment/conservation sector, recreational fisheries and, in some instances, the state governments. A typical management advisory committee consists of an independent chairperson, an AFMA member, a research member, an environment/conservation member, recreational members and up to four industry members. Each management advisory committee has an executive officer responsible to the Chairperson.

When developing and implementing fisheries management arrangements, we work in partnership with the public and key stakeholders who have an interest in how Australia's Commonwealth fisheries are managed. This includes commercial fishing operators, Indigenous stakeholders, prescribed peak industry body – the Commonwealth Fisheries Association, and sectoral associations, recreational/charter fishing bodies, research organisations and environmental/conservation organisations.

During the year we hosted a workshop for management advisory committees. The workshop provided an opportunity for topics like government's fisheries policy, proposals to streamline strategic assessments under environmental legislation, the latest developments in fisheries management and new government legislation affecting management advisory committees to be discussed. A special workshop was also held for prospective members from the commercial, recreational and environmental sectors with a view to encourage new members with a range of expertise to contribute to these important advisory groups. AFMA considers these partnership arrangements especially important as we continue to encourage our stakeholders to take more active roles in managing fisheries to ensure their sustainability.

## Excellence in records and information management

### Congratulations to AFMA for winning the 2014 Rob Barnett Award for Excellence in Records and Information Management.

The award, presented by the ACT Branch Council of the Records and Information Management Professionals Australasia on 23 July 2014, showcases excellence and innovation in the records and information management industry. Competing in this category were agencies across the Public Service and private sector in the Australian Capital Territory.

The success is acknowledgement of AFMA's cross discipline approach to records and information management and the integration of good information governance into our digital management.

The award was presented to Graham Hill, Thomas Kaufhold, John Kozman and Michelle Wilson. In accepting the award, the team acknowledged that they represented just the 'tip of the iceberg' and there had been many key contributors to the exciting and challenging project to improve AFMA's information management.

The award is in honour of the late Rob Barnett who was involved with the ACT Branch Council, the NSW Branch Council and the National Board of the Records and Information Management Professionals Australasia Association.



## CLIENT SERVICE CHARTER

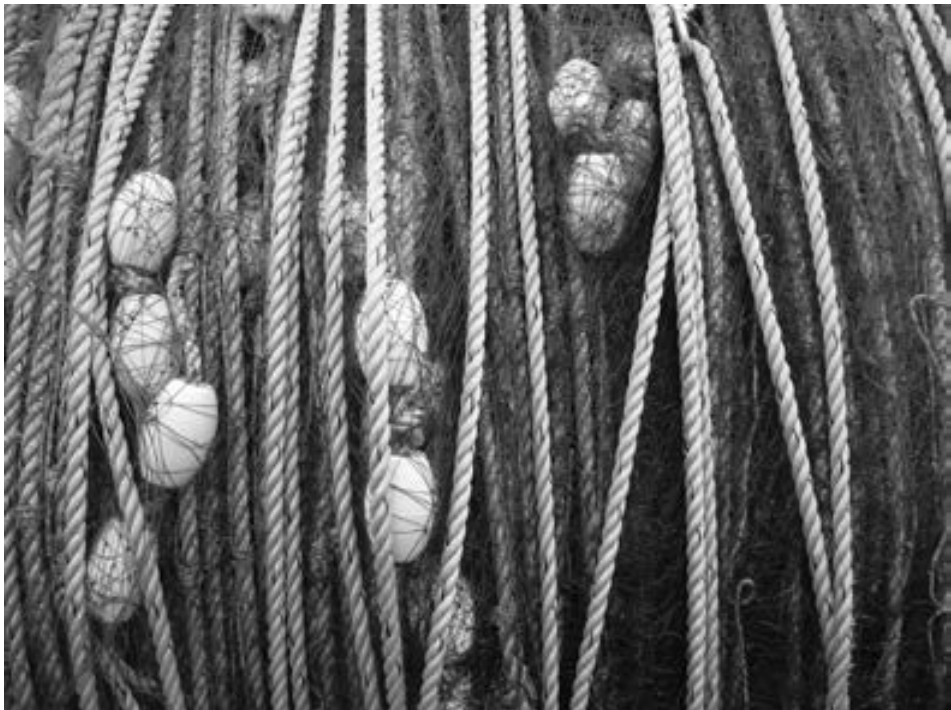
AFMA's Client Service Charter sets out the services and standards that all clients or stakeholders can expect from AFMA. It applies to all of AFMA's fisheries administration and corporate services functions, including our licensing function. Our service charter is available on our website.

During 2013-2014, AFMA received one written complaint which was responded to in writing and resolved in line with the requirements of the service charter.

AFMA has performed well against the customer service standards in our service charter and continues to streamline processes to improve customer service. In 2013-14, AFMA's electronic licensing system GOFish continued to assist in improving the timeliness of responses for licensing transactions. The system allows concession holders to lease and transfer concessions and nominate a selected boat without the involvement of AFMA licensing staff.

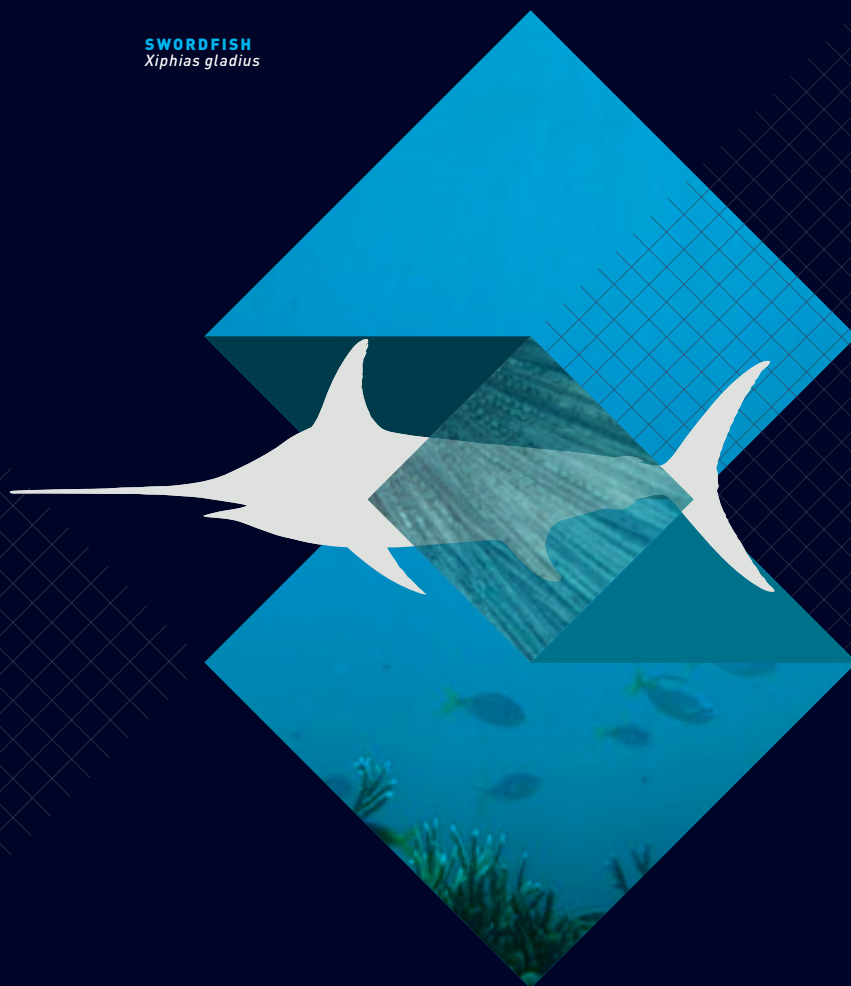
More than 85 per cent of fishing transactions that can be completed online were completed through AFMA's online licensing and quota management portal, GOFish, during 2013-14. This exceeded the target of 80 per cent, however, AFMA has implemented a range of improvements to further increase use of the system. These include the ability to renew fishing permits online, simplifying leasing procedures and allowing multi-season leases. Additional changes are planned throughout 2014-15 as part of AFMA's efforts to reduce the unnecessary regulatory burden on industry.

Of the licensing transactions completed manually, 98 per cent were within the timeframes provided in the client service charter. This figure relates to manual transactions submitted by concession holders and responses to correspondence and information requests.





**SWORDFISH**  
*Xiphias gladius*



**OTHER COMMON NAMES:** BROADBILL SWORDFISH, BROADBILL  
**SIZE:** MAXIMUM SIZE AROUND 4.50 METRES AND 540 KILOGRAMS IN WEIGHT  
IN THE MEDITERRANEAN, ADULTS GROW UP TO 230KG, UP TO 320KG IN  
THE WESTERN ATLANTIC AND UP TO 537KG IN THE SOUTH-EASTERN PACIFIC.  
**STOCK STATUS:** SUSTAINABLE

Swordfish is often described as the most "meat-like" of all fishes. The steaks have very high oil content, with a dense, meaty texture and a slightly sweet taste.

The flavour is not overpowering, allowing for stronger flavours to be used in its preparation. Use an olive oil based marinade, chargrill and serve with lemon, salt and herbs.

## PART 4

# OUR FISHERIES

Quick Reference Guide to Domestic Fisheries 2013–14

Antarctic Fishery

Coral Sea Fishery

Norfolk Island Fishery

Northern Prawn Fishery

North West Slope and Western Deepwater Trawl Fisheries

Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery

Bass Strait Central Zone Scallop Fishery

Southern Squid Jig Fishery

Skipjack Tuna Fishery

Small Pelagic Fishery

Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery

Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery

Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery

High Seas Permits Fishery



- A** Performance target met or exceeded for 2013–14  
**B** Performance target partially met for 2013–14  
**C** Performance target not met for 2013–14

## QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE TO DOMESTIC FISHERIES 2013–14

FISHERY	FISHERIES MANAGEMENT				SCIENCE BASED DECISION MAKING				RESEARCH AND INFORMATION	
	EFFECTIVENESS OF MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS	MANAGEMENT PLAN	BYCATCH ACTION PLAN	HARVEST STRATEGY	ECOLOGICAL RISK ASSESSMENT	STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT	STRATEGIC RESEARCH PLAN	DATA ACQUISITION PLAN		
Bass Strait Central Zone Scallop Fishery	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Coral Sea Fishery	A	n/a	A	A	B	B	B	B	B	B
Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Heard Island and McDonald Islands Fishery	A	A	n/a	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Macquarie Island Toothfish Fishery	A	A	n/a	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Norfolk Island Fisheries	A	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Northern Prawn Fishery	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	B	B	A
North West Slope Trawl Fishery	A	n/a	A	A	A	A	A	n/a	n/a	A
Skipjack Tuna Fishery	A	n/a	n/a	A	A	A	A	n/a	n/a	n/a
Small Pelagic Fishery	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery	A	A	A	n/a	A	A	A	B	B	A
Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Southern Squid Jig Fishery	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	B	B	A
Western Deepwater Trawl Fishery	A	n/a	A	A	A	A	A	n/a	n/a	A
Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	B	B	A

Figure 3: Map of Commonwealth Fisheries

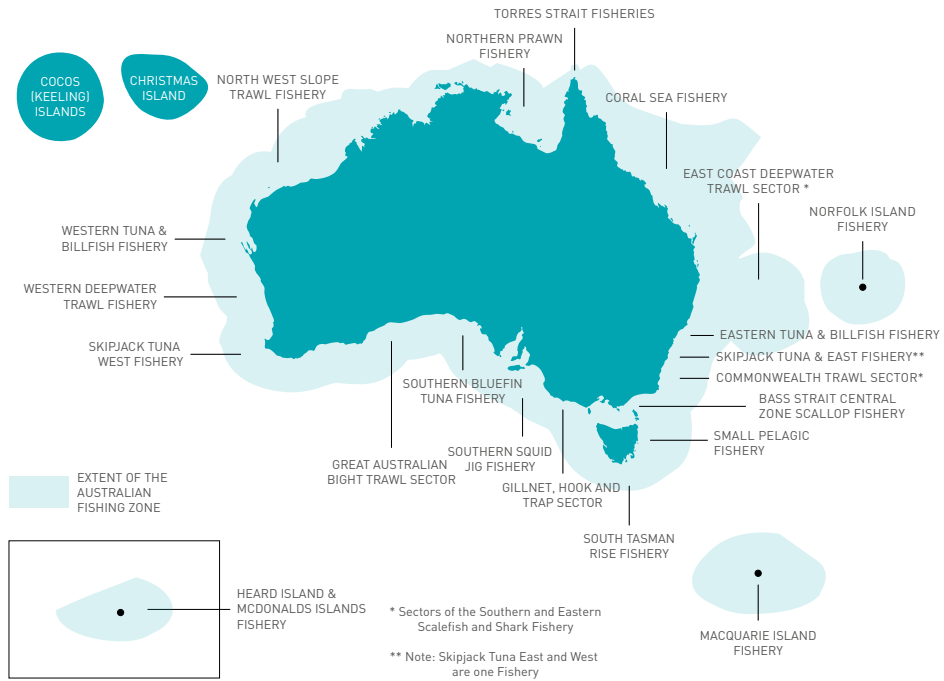
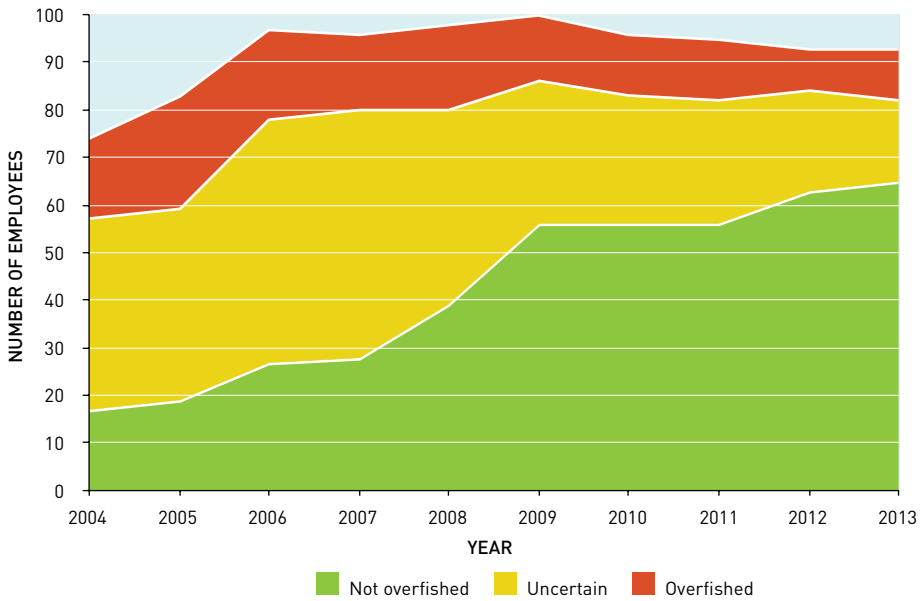


Figure 4: Fish stock status (source: ABARES status reports 2013)



## STOCK STATUS OF TARGET SPECIES

<span style="color: green;">■</span>	Not overfished/not subject to overfishing
<span style="color: yellow;">■</span>	Uncertain
<span style="color: orange;">■</span>	Overfished/subject to overfishing

Source: Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences *Fishery Status Report 2012*

FISHERY	COMMON NAME (SCIENTIFIC NAME)	STATUS			
		2012		2013	
		FISHING MORTALITY	BIOMASS	FISHING MORTALITY	BIOMASS
<b>Stocks managed solely by the Australian Government</b>					
Bass Strait Central Zone Scallop Fishery	Commercial scallop ( <i>Pecten fumatus</i> )	<span style="color: yellow;">■</span>	<span style="color: yellow;">■</span>	<span style="color: yellow;">■</span>	<span style="color: yellow;">■</span>
Coral Sea Fishery: Sea Cucumber Sector	Black teatfish ( <i>Holothuria whitmaei</i> )	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	<span style="color: green;">■</span>
Coral Sea Fishery: Sea Cucumber Sector	Prickly redfish ( <i>Thelenota ananas</i> )	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	<span style="color: green;">■</span>
Coral Sea Fishery: Sea Cucumber Sector	Surf redfish ( <i>Actinopyga mauritiana</i> )	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	<span style="color: green;">■</span>
Coral Sea Fishery: Sea Cucumber Sector	White teatfish ( <i>Holothuria fuscogilva</i> )	<span style="color: yellow;">■</span>	<span style="color: yellow;">■</span>	<span style="color: yellow;">■</span>	<span style="color: yellow;">■</span>
Coral Sea Fishery: Sea Cucumber Sector	Other sea cucumber species (~11 spp.)	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	<span style="color: yellow;">■</span>	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	<span style="color: yellow;">■</span>
Coral Sea Fishery: Aquarium Sector	Multiple species	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	<span style="color: green;">■</span>
Coral Sea Fishery: Lobster and Trochus Sector	Tropical rock lobster ( <i>Panulirus ornatus</i> , possibly other species)	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	<span style="color: green;">■</span>
Coral Sea Fishery: Line and Trap Sector	Mixed reef fish and sharks	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	<span style="color: yellow;">■</span>	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	<span style="color: yellow;">■</span>
Coral Sea Fishery: Trawl and Trap Sector	Numerous fish, shark and crustacean species	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	<span style="color: yellow;">■</span>	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	<span style="color: yellow;">■</span>
Northern Prawn Fishery	Red-legged banana prawn ( <i>Penaeus indicus</i> )	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	<span style="color: green;">■</span>
Northern Prawn Fishery	White banana prawn ( <i>Penaeus merguensis</i> )	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	<span style="color: green;">■</span>
Northern Prawn Fishery	Brown tiger prawn ( <i>Penaeus esculentus</i> )	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	<span style="color: green;">■</span>
Northern Prawn Fishery	Grooved tiger prawn ( <i>Penaeus semisulcatus</i> )	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	<span style="color: green;">■</span>	<span style="color: green;">■</span>

FISHERY	COMMON NAME (SCIENTIFIC NAME)	STATUS			
		2012		2013	
		FISHING MORTALITY	BIOMASS	FISHING MORTALITY	BIOMASS
Northern Prawn Fishery	Blue endeavour prawn ( <i>Metapenaeus endeavouri</i> )				
Northern Prawn Fishery	Red endeavour prawn ( <i>Metapenaeus ensis</i> )				
North West Slope Trawl Fishery	Scampi ( <i>Metanephrops australiensis</i> , <i>M. boschmai</i> , <i>M. velutinus</i> )				
Small Pelagic Fishery	Australian sardine ( <i>Sardinops sagax</i> )				
Small Pelagic Fishery	Blue mackerel, east ( <i>Scomber australasicus</i> )				
Small Pelagic Fishery	Blue mackerel, west ( <i>Scomber australasicus</i> )				
Small Pelagic Fishery	Jack mackerel, east ( <i>Trachurus declivis</i> )				
Small Pelagic Fishery	Jack mackerel, west ( <i>Trachurus declivis</i> )				
Small Pelagic Fishery	Redbait, east ( <i>Emmelichthys nitidus</i> )				
Small Pelagic Fishery	Redbait, west ( <i>Emmelichthys nitidus</i> )				
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl and Scalefish Hook sectors	Blue-eye trevalla ( <i>Hyperoglyphe antarctica</i> )				
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl and Scalefish Hook sectors	Blue grenadier ( <i>Macruronus novaezelandiae</i> )				
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl and Scalefish Hook sectors	Blue warehou ( <i>Seriotelella brama</i> )				

FISHERY	COMMON NAME (SCIENTIFIC NAME)	STATUS			
		2012		2013	
		FISHING MORTALITY	BIOMASS	FISHING MORTALITY	BIOMASS
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl Sector	Deepwater sharks, eastern zone (18 spp.)				
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl Sector	Deepwater sharks, western zone (18 spp.)				
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl Sector	Eastern school whiting ( <i>Sillago flindersi</i> )				
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl Sector	Flathead ( <i>Neoplitycephalus richardsoni</i> and 4 other spp.)				
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl and Scalefish Hook sectors	Gemfish, eastern zone ( <i>Rexea solandri</i> )				
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl and Scalefish Hook sectors	Gemfish, western zone ( <i>Rexea solandri</i> )				
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl and Scalefish Hook sectors	Gulper sharks ( <i>Centrophorus harrissoni</i> , <i>C. moluccensis</i> , <i>C. zeehaani</i> )				
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl and Scalefish Hook sectors	Jackass morwong ( <i>Nemadactylus macropterus</i> )				
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl Sector	John dory ( <i>Zeus faber</i> )				
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl Sector	Mirror dory ( <i>Zenopsis nebulosa</i> )				
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl Sector	Ocean jacket, eastern zone ( <i>Nelusetta ayraud</i> )				
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl and Scalefish Hook sectors	Ocean perch ( <i>Helicolenus barathri</i> , <i>H. percoides</i> )				

FISHERY	COMMON NAME (SCIENTIFIC NAME)	STATUS			
		2012		2013	
		FISHING MORTALITY	BIOMASS	FISHING MORTALITY	BIOMASS
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl Sector	Orange roughy, Cascade Plateau ( <i>Hoplostethus atlanticus</i> )				
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl Sector	Orange roughy, eastern zone ( <i>Hoplostethus atlanticus</i> )				
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl Sector	Orange roughy, southern zone ( <i>Hoplostethus atlanticus</i> )				
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl Sector	Orange roughy, western zone ( <i>Hoplostethus atlanticus</i> )				
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl Sector	Oreodory: smooth, Cascade Plateau ( <i>Pseudocyttus maculatus</i> )				
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl Sector	Oreodory: smooth, non-Cascade Plateau ( <i>Pseudocyttus maculatus</i> )				
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl Sector	Oreodory: other ( <i>Neocyttus rhomboidalis</i> , <i>Allocyttus niger</i> , <i>A. verrucosus</i> )				
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl and Scalefish Hook sectors	Pink ling ( <i>Genypterus blacodes</i> )				
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl Sector	Redfish, eastern ( <i>Centroberyx affinis</i> )				
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl and Scalefish Hook sectors	Ribaldo ( <i>Mora moro</i> )				
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl Sector	Royal red prawn ( <i>Haliporoides sibogae</i> )				
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl and Scalefish Hook sectors	Silver trevally ( <i>Pseudocaranx georgianus</i> )				
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl Sector	Silver warehou ( <i>Seriolella punctata</i> )				

FISHERY	COMMON NAME (SCIENTIFIC NAME)	STATUS			
		2012		2013	
		FISHING MORTALITY	BIOMASS	FISHING MORTALITY	BIOMASS
SESSF: East Coast Deepwater Trawl Sector	Alfonsino ( <i>Beryx splendens</i> )				
SESSF: Great Australian Bight Trawl Sector	Bight redfish ( <i>Centroberyx gerrardi</i> )				
SESSF: Great Australian Bight Trawl Sector	Deepwater flathead ( <i>Neoplatycephalus conatus</i> )				
SESSF: Great Australian Bight Trawl Sector	Ocean jacket, west ( <i>Nelusetta ayraud</i> )				
SESSF: Great Australian Bight Trawl Sector	Orange roughy ( <i>Hoplostethus atlanticus</i> )				
SESSF: Shark Gillnet and Shark Hook sectors	Elephantfish ( <i>Callorhynchus milii</i> )				
SESSF: Shark Gillnet and Shark Hook sectors	Gummy shark ( <i>Mustelus antarcticus</i> )				
SESSF: Shark Gillnet and Shark Hook sectors	Sawshark ( <i>Pristiophorus cirratus</i> , <i>P. nudipinnis</i> )				
SESSF: Shark Gillnet and Shark Hook sectors	School shark ( <i>Galeorhinus galeus</i> )				
Southern Squid Jig Fishery	Gould's squid ( <i>Nototodarus gouldi</i> )				
Western Deepwater Trawl Fishery	Bugs ( <i>Ibacus</i> spp.)				
Western Deepwater Trawl Fishery	Orange roughy ( <i>Hoplostethus atlanticus</i> )				
Western Deepwater Trawl Fishery	Ruby snapper ( <i>Etelis carbunculus</i> )				
Macquarie Island Toothfish Fishery	Patagonian toothfish ( <i>Dissostichus eleginoides</i> )				

FISHERY	COMMON NAME (SCIENTIFIC NAME)	STATUS			
		2012		2013	
		FISHING MORTALITY	BIOMASS	FISHING MORTALITY	BIOMASS
<b>Stocks managed jointly by the Australian Government</b>					
South Tasman Rise Trawl Fishery	Orange roughy ( <i>Hoplostethus atlanticus</i> )				
Torres Strait Finfish Fishery	Coral trout ( <i>Plectropomus and Variola</i> spp.)				
Torres Strait Finfish Fishery	Spanish mackerel ( <i>Scomberomorus commerson</i> )				
Torres Strait Tropical Rock Lobster Fishery	Tropical rock lobster ( <i>Panulirus ornatus</i> )				
Torres Strait Prawn Fishery	Brown tiger prawn ( <i>Penaeus esculentus</i> )				
Torres Strait Prawn Fishery	Blue endeavour prawn ( <i>Metapenaeus endeavouri</i> )				
Torres Strait Bêche-de-mer Fishery	Black teatfish ( <i>Holothuria whitmaei</i> )				
Torres Strait Bêche-de-mer Fishery	Prickly redfish ( <i>Thelenota ananas</i> )				
Torres Strait Bêche-de-mer Fishery	Sandfish ( <i>Holothuria scabra</i> )				
Torres Strait Bêche-de-mer Fishery	White teatfish ( <i>Holothuria fuscogilva</i> )				
Torres Strait Bêche-de-mer Fishery	Other sea cucumbers (up to 18 species)				
Torres Strait Trochus Fishery	Trochus ( <i>Trochus niloticus</i> )				
Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery	Striped marlin ( <i>Tetrapturus audax</i> )				
Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery	Swordfish ( <i>Xiphias gladius</i> )				
Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery	Albacore ( <i>Thunnus alalunga</i> )				
Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery	Bigeye tuna ( <i>Thunnus obesus</i> )				



FISHERY	COMMON NAME (SCIENTIFIC NAME)	STATUS			
		2012		2013	
		FISHING MORTALITY	BIOMASS	FISHING MORTALITY	BIOMASS
Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery	Yellowfin tuna ( <i>Thunnus albacares</i> )				
Skipjack Tuna Fishery: Pacific Ocean	Skipjack tuna ( <i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i> )				
Skipjack Tuna Fishery: Indian Ocean	Skipjack tuna ( <i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i> )				
Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery	Southern bluefin tuna ( <i>Thunnus maccoyii</i> )				
Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery	Striped marlin ( <i>Tetrapturus audax</i> )				
Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery	Swordfish ( <i>Xiphias gladius</i> )				
Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery	Albacore ( <i>Thunnus alalunga</i> )				
Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery	Bigeye tuna ( <i>Thunnus obesus</i> )				
Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery	Yellowfin tuna ( <i>Thunnus albacares</i> )				
Heard Island and McDonald Islands Fishery	Mackerel icefish ( <i>Champsocephalus gunnari</i> )				
Heard Island and McDonald Islands Fishery	Patagonian toothfish ( <i>Dissostichus eleginoides</i> )				

# Antarctic Fisheries

## MAJOR SPECIES:

- ▶ Patagonian toothfish
- ▶ Mackerel icefish.

## ESTIMATED CATCH 2012–13

Heard Island and McDonald Islands Fishery  
▶ 3092 tonnes

Macquarie Island Toothfish Fishery  
▶ 383 tonnes

## GROSS VALUE OF PRODUCTION 2012–13

Due to the small number of operators, this information is confidential.

Due to the small number of operators, this information is confidential.

## DEVELOPMENTS IN 2013–14

### HEARD ISLAND AND MCDONALD ISLAND FISHERIES

Under the *Heard Island and McDonald Islands Fishery Management Plan 2002*, two Closure Directions have been in place for the fishery since 2009. The Closure Directions expired in April 2014. With the support of the Sub-Antarctic Fisheries Management Advisory Committee, AFMA renewed the Closure Directions for a further five years. Closure Direction 10 prohibits fishing for mackerel icefish in any area of the fishery outside of the Heard Island Plateau as mackerel icefish stocks outside of the Plateau are not considered sufficient to support commercial harvest. Closure Direction 11 prohibits fishing in waters between 12 and 13 nautical miles of the Heard and McDonald Islands, and creates a one nautical mile buffer zone from the Heard Island Wilderness Reserve where fishing is prohibited.

We prepared the Annual Fishery Assessment Plan for the 2013–14 fishing season, which outlines the research requirements for operators in the fishery, including tagging and the fishery's random stratified trawl survey.

### MACQUARIE ISLAND TOOTHFISH FISHERY

We prepared the assessment plan for the 2014–15 fishing season, which outlines the research requirements for operators in the fishery, in particular tagging requirements.

## REPORT AGAINST MANAGEMENT PLANS

### HEARD ISLAND AND McDONALD ISLAND FISHERIES

The Heard Island and McDonald Islands Fishery continued to be managed in accordance with the *Heard Island and McDonald Islands Fishery Management Plan 2002* and the conservation measures mandated by the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources.

All operations conducted in the fishery were in compliance with the performance criteria outlined in the management plan. Four vessels, three longliners and one trawler operated in 2013–14.

### MACQUARIE ISLAND TOOTHFISH FISHERY

The Macquarie Island Toothfish Fishery continued to be managed in accordance with the *Macquarie Island Toothfish Fishery Management Plan 2006*. All operations conducted in the fishery were in accordance with the performance criteria outlined in the management plan. One longline vessel operated in 2013–14. During its operations, the vessel also conducted a trial of pot fishing under an AFMA Scientific Permit.

# Coral Sea Fishery

## MAJOR SPECIES:

- ▶ Line and Trap Sector
  - Tropical finfish
  - Sharks.
- ▶ Trawl and Trap Sector
  - Tropical finfish
  - Crustaceans.
- ▶ Sea Cucumber Sector
  - White teatfish
  - Surf redfish
  - Prickly redfish
  - Black teatfish
  - Sandfish
  - Other sea cucumber species.
- ▶ Lobster and Trochus Sector
  - Tropical rock lobsters belonging to the *genus Panulirus* except *P.cygnus*
  - No trochus have been caught over the past five years.
- ▶ Aquarium Sector
  - *Chondrichthys* (cartilaginous fishes)
  - *Osteichthyes* (bony fishes)
  - Invertebrates
  - Live rock (limestone encrusted with organisms).

## ESTIMATED CATCH 2012–13

- ▶ 64 tonnes

## GROSS VALUE OF PRODUCTION 2012–13

Due to the small number of operators, this information is confidential.

## DEVELOPMENTS IN 2013–14

The Department of Environment is undertaking a review of the Commonwealth Marine Reserves proclaimed in November 2012. The impacts of the review on the Coral Sea Fishery are not known at this stage.

Until the review is complete, transitional management arrangements are in place for marine reserves in the south-west, north-west, north, temperate east and Coral Sea. Transitional management arrangements means there are no changes 'on the water' for users of the reserves with activities able to continue.

The Fisheries Adjustment Assistance Package has been put on hold while the review is undertaken. The government will consider what assistance may be required once the review is complete.

## REPORT AGAINST MANAGEMENT PLANS

The principal legal framework for the management of the fishery is specified in the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* and the *Fisheries Management Regulations 1992*.

A limited number of fishing permits are granted each year under the Act. These permits are subject to certain conditions in the Act, as well as conditions specified on the permits. They are sector specific and can contain conditions specific to the particular permit. Conditions may include limits on gear restrictions, species size limits, trigger limits and total allowable catch limits.

# Norfolk Island Fishery

## MAJOR SPECIES:

- ▶ Norfolk Island Inshore Fishery
  - Red throat emperor.
- ▶ Norfolk Island Offshore Demersal Finfish Fishery
  - n/a

## ESTIMATED CATCH 2012-13

No commercial catch. Recreational and charter fishing only.

## GROSS VALUE OF PRODUCTION 2012-13

Nil.

## DEVELOPMENTS IN 2013-14

### INSHORE FISHERY

The Norfolk Island Inshore Fishery is a recreational and charter based fishery, operating predominantly in shelf waters around Norfolk Island using handlines, winches, rods and reels. The fishery is managed by the Norfolk Island Government in accordance with the Norfolk Island Inshore Fishery Policy 2009 developed by the Norfolk Island Government, with input from AFMA and other Australian Government agencies. The associated Memorandum of Understanding has enabled AFMA to provide management expertise and guidance to the Norfolk Island Government and the Norfolk Island Fishing Association as required.

### OFFSHORE FISHERY

The fishery is currently closed.

## REPORT AGAINST MANAGEMENT PLANS

Not applicable.

# Northern Prawn Fishery

## MAJOR SPECIES:

- ▶ Brown and grooved tiger prawns
- ▶ White and red-legged banana prawns
- ▶ Endeavour prawns
- ▶ King prawns.

## ESTIMATED CATCH 2012–13

- ▶ 5000 tonnes

## GROSS VALUE OF PRODUCTION 2012–13

- ▶ \$71 million

## DEVELOPMENTS IN 2013–14

Following the completion of a significant body of work, AFMA has determined that a quota management system will not be introduced in the Northern Prawn Fishery at this time. This decision was reached after extensive consultation with stakeholders, including the Northern Prawn Fishery Industry Pty Ltd, the Northern Prawn Fishery Management Advisory Committee, the Northern Prawn Fishery Resource Assessment Group, scientists and economists. We are now taking steps to implement a highly modified effort control system over the next two fishing seasons.

One element of the new system implemented in the 2013–14 season was an improved catch trigger for the banana prawn fishery. The catch trigger closes the fishing season once catches drop to a level where the fishery is no longer profitable. By controlling the length of the season, we are able to keep the fishery operating at its most profitable and sustainable state, which benefits operators, marine environment and the Australian community.

We continue to work closely with stakeholders in implementing further revised management arrangements in the fishery. More specifically, we aim to review and introduce measures to address future risks of overcapacity and economic efficiency.

## REPORT AGAINST MANAGEMENT PLANS

The Northern Prawn Fishery continues to be managed in accordance with the *Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995*.

Future updates to the fishery's management arrangements may require changes to the management plan and therefore will be subject to public consultation and ministerial acceptance.

The fishery's harvest strategy was also updated to include guidelines for the revised banana prawn catch trigger.

# North West Slope and Western Deepwater Trawl fisheries

## MAJOR SPECIES:

- ▶ North West Slope Trawl
  - Scampi
  - Deepwater prawns
  - Squid.
- ▶ Western Deepwater Trawl
  - Bugs
  - Mixed finfish.

## ESTIMATED CATCH 2012-13

North West Slope Trawl Fishery

- ▶ 38 tonnes

Western Deepwater Trawl Fishery

- ▶ 15 tonnes

## GROSS VALUE OF PRODUCTION 2012-13

Due to the small number of operators, this information is confidential.

Due to the small number of operators, this information is confidential.

## DEVELOPMENTS IN 2013-14

The Australian Government and Western Australian Government continue to discuss the potential realignment of the boundaries of the fisheries.

## REPORT AGAINST MANAGEMENT PLANS

There is no formal management plan for the North West Slope and the Western Deepwater trawl fisheries. Both fisheries are informally managed via fishing permits. Permit holders generally access the fisheries on a part time or opportunistic basis as an adjunct to other fisheries.

Under the harvest strategy, analysis of catch and effort data is conducted annually to assist in the management of the fisheries.

# Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery

## MAJOR SPECIES:

- ▶ Great Australian Bight Trawl Sector
  - Deepwater flathead
  - Bight redfish.
- ▶ Gillnet, Hook and Trap Sector
  - Gummy shark
  - Pink ling
  - Blue eye trevalla.
- ▶ East Coast Deepwater Trawl Sector
  - Alfonsino.
- ▶ South East Trawl Sector
  - Blue grenadier
  - Pink ling
  - Silver warehou
  - Tiger flathead.

ESTIMATED CATCH 2012–13	GROSS VALUE OF PRODUCTION 2012–13
Great Australian Bight Sector ▶ 2389 tonnes	▶ \$12 million
Gillnet, Hook and Trap Sector ▶ 3516 tonnes	▶ \$22 million
East Coast Deepwater Trawl Sector ▶ 130 tonnes	Due to the small number of operators, this information is confidential.
South East Trawl Sector (includes Victorian Coastal Waters Permit) ▶ 13 665 tonnes	▶ \$56.3 million

## DEVELOPMENTS IN 2013–14

AFMA reviewed its stock rebuilding strategies for four Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery species including orange roughy, Eastern gemfish, blue warehou and school shark. Under the Commonwealth Fisheries Harvest Strategy Policy and Guidelines rebuilding strategies must be developed for all stocks that are below their biomass limit reference point. The primary objective of the rebuilding strategies is to halt the decline and promote the recovery of the species to above their limit reference point.

In response to seabird interactions in the Gillnet, Hook and Trap Sector, AFMA has implemented additional management arrangements that apply at an individual boat level. These measures, such as setting at night or sinking baits faster out of the reach of seabirds, were applied to auto-longline boats following interactions during the season.



Large areas of water off South Australia have been closed to gillnetting to protect Australian sea lions and dolphins. In order to reduce the impact of closures, AFMA allowed affected operators to fish in these areas using hooks instead of gillnets. This has allowed the target species gummy shark to be caught while minimising the risk to marine mammals.

To reduce seabird interactions within the Commonwealth Trawl Sector individual seabird management plans have been introduced for all boats in the sector. AFMA has participated in industry education programs that have been conducted in major ports in the sector. Monitoring of industry compliance with the plans and evaluation of the effectiveness of the plans is ongoing.

In mid-2014, AFMA facilitated an Orange Roughy Workshop held in Hobart. Attendees of the workshop included stock assessment scientists from Australia and New Zealand, fisheries managers, and industry and environmental group representatives. The workshop looked specifically at the data assumptions to be used in the upcoming stock assessment for the Eastern zone of Australian orange roughy. The results of the workshop will be incorporated into the stock assessment being conducted in late 2014.

The South East Trawl Fishing Industry Association and industry commenced scientific research trialling of a bycatch reduction device that excludes gulper sharks from trawl nets when fishing for royal red prawns. The trial seeks to determine if royal red prawn fishing with the device reduces catch of gulper sharks without excessive reductions in prawn catch.

The 2012 stock assessment for pink ling in the eastern Zone (east of 147° east), indicated that, while not overfished, the stock needed rebuilding to meet its management target. To achieve this AFMA introduced a 50 kilogram daily catch allowance in late 2013. This was increased to 250 kilograms per day on 1 May 2014 following an updated stock assessment and catch estimates.

## REPORT AGAINST MANAGEMENT PLANS

In 2013–14 the South East Management Advisory Committee reviewed the effectiveness of the *Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery Management Plan 2003*. The review assessed key performance indicators and actions taken to achieve objectives. Recommendations from the review will assist in improving operation of the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery and inform any future changes to the management plan.

Total allowable catch and other limits for the 2013–14 fishing year were increased for alfonsino, bight redfish, elephant fish, gemfish (western), gummy shark, mirror dory, oreo (basket), sawshark, school shark, school whiting and silver trevally. These increases can be attributed to better understanding of species through updated stock assessments and improvements in stock status.

# Bass Strait Central Zone Scallop Fishery

## MAJOR SPECIES:

- ▶ Commercial scallops.

## ESTIMATED CATCH 2012-13

- ▶ 244 tonnes

## GROSS VALUE OF PRODUCTION 2012-13

- ▶ \$502 000

## DEVELOPMENTS IN 2013-14

Following surveys in May 2013 and July to August 2013, the fishery was opened with a total allowable catch of 1500 tonnes. Despite 12 vessels fishing, only 182 tonnes of the total allowable catch was caught during the 2013 season.

During the season, paralytic shellfish toxin was detected at concentrations above the maximum limit permitted for human consumption in one of the two open beds. This area was subsequently closed while tests in the other area showed the scallops were safe to eat.

## REPORT AGAINST MANAGEMENT PLANS

During 2013-14, the fishery continued to be managed under arrangements in the *Bass Strait Central Zone Scallop Fishery Management Plan 2002*. A new harvest strategy was developed during 2014 and will apply from the start of the 2014-15 season.

# Southern Squid Jig Fishery

## MAJOR SPECIES:

- ▶ Arrow Squid.

## ESTIMATED CATCH 2012-13

- ▶ 161 tonnes

## GROSS VALUE OF PRODUCTION 2012-13

Due to the small number of operators, this information is confidential.

## DEVELOPMENTS IN 2013-14

Activity in the fishery decreased by about 670 tonnes from 2011-12, remaining low relative to the harvest strategy trigger of 3000 tonnes. The low catch is mainly due to low market prices and competition from cheaper imported squid product. However, landed catch and value has been increasing over the last two years.

## REPORT AGAINST MANAGEMENT PLANS

During 2013-14, the fishery continued to be managed under the arrangements in the *Southern Squid Jig Fishery Management Plan 2005*. Based on the harvest strategy and the provisions of the management plan, the total allowable effort limit for the 2014 season (January to December 2014) was set at 550 standard squid jigging machines. This allows the use of 55 standard jig vessels with 10 machines on each. However, no more than 17 vessels have operated in any jig season since 2008.

# Skipjack Tuna Fishery

## MAJOR SPECIES:

- ▶ Skipjack tuna.

## ESTIMATED CATCH 2012–13

n/a

## GROSS VALUE OF PRODUCTION 2012–13

No fishing occurred.

## DEVELOPMENTS IN 2013–14

Effort in the fishery has remained at very low levels since 2008 due to economic reasons. There were no new management arrangements implemented in the fishery.

## REPORT AGAINST MANAGEMENT PLANS

The fishery is managed in accordance with the harvest strategy 2011, the statement of fishery management arrangements and permit conditions.

# Small Pelagic Fishery

## MAJOR SPECIES:

- ▶ Australian sardine
- ▶ Blue mackerel
- ▶ Jack mackerel
- ▶ Redbait.

## ESTIMATED CATCH 2012-13

- ▶ 26.1 tonnes

## GROSS VALUE OF PRODUCTION 2012-13

Due to the small number of operators, this information is confidential.

## DEVELOPMENTS IN 2013-14

The Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences Fishery Status Reports 2013 listed all stocks of Small Pelagic Fishery species – except for redbait (west) – as not overfished and not subject to overfishing. The status of redbait (west) is assessed as uncertain because of limited information available to assess its status.

Fishing effort in 2013-14 was low. A daily egg production method survey conducted in January 2014 aimed at estimating the biomass of jack mackerel and Australian sardine off the East Coast of Australia. The results from this survey will inform the total allowable catch setting process for the 2015-16 fishing season that begins on 1 May 2015.

## REPORT AGAINST MANAGEMENT PLANS

In 2014, the Small Pelagic Fishery Resource Assessment Group and the South East Management Advisory Committee reviewed the effectiveness of the *Small Pelagic Fishery Management Plan 2009* including actions taken to achieve its objectives. The recommendations from the review will inform management in the Small Pelagic Fishery including any future changes to the management plan.

# Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery

## MAJOR SPECIES:

- ▶ Albacore tuna
- ▶ Yellowfin tuna
- ▶ Bigeye tuna
- ▶ Broadbill swordfish
- ▶ Striped marlin.

## ESTIMATED CATCH 2012–13

- ▶ 4374 tonnes

## GROSS VALUE OF PRODUCTION 2012–13

- ▶ 25 million

## DEVELOPMENTS IN 2013–14

The harvest strategy was used for recommending the total allowable commercial catch limits of broadbill swordfish and striped marlin.

The total allowable commercial catch limits for the 2013–14 fishing season were set at:

- 2500 tonnes for albacore tuna
- 1056 tonnes for bigeye tuna
- 200 tonnes for yellowfin tuna
- 1396 tonnes for broadbill swordfish
- 370 tonnes for striped marlin.

In response to the adoption of new conservation and management measures by the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, AFMA amended the Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery fishing concession conditions to include a ban on the take of silky sharks in March 2014.

During May to November each year, we implement core and buffer zones in the fishery to ensure that any Southern bluefin tuna caught is covered by quota. To enter the core and buffer zones, operators must hold a certain amount of Southern bluefin tuna quota and meet a certain level of observer coverage.

The zones are updated weekly using a model from the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, sea surface temperatures and industry information. In previous years, the zones had been updated fortnightly. The weekly update was introduced from 1 July 2013 at the request of industry to better take into account moon phase and more real time information.

## REPORT AGAINST MANAGEMENT PLANS

The fishery continued to be managed in accordance with the *Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery Management Plan 2010*, and conservation and management measures mandated by the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission.

# Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery

## MAJOR SPECIES:

- ▶ Southern bluefin tuna.

## ESTIMATED CATCH 2012-13

- ▶ 4356 tonnes

## GROSS VALUE OF PRODUCTION 2012-13

- ▶ 38 million

## DEVELOPMENTS IN 2013-14

The Australian total allowable catch for Southern bluefin tuna was set for two years (2014 and 2015 seasons) in line with the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna Management Procedure. For the season commencing 1 December 2013 and ending on 30 November 2014 a total allowable catch of 5151 tonnes was set, an increase from 4698 tonnes. The management procedure is designed rebuild the Southern bluefin tuna stock.

In October 2013, Australia decided to retain the requirement to weigh 100 fish over 10 kilogram in each tow cage as they are transferred to farm pontoons rather than implement stereo video monitoring. The average weight of these 100 fish is multiplied by the number of fish transferred to estimate the weight of fish. The total weight estimate is then taken off each operator's quota holdings.

In 2012 a competitive tender process was conducted to obtain monitoring services to the farm sector in Port Lincoln. The successful tenderer was Protec Marine Pty Ltd and it will conduct the 100 fish weight samples.

Globally, Southern bluefin tuna is considered overfished. The Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna Extended Scientific Committee noted in 2011 that the current spawning biomass remains very low, about five per cent of historic levels. Main fishery indicators suggest stock size is increasing.

## REPORT AGAINST MANAGEMENT PLANS

The outlook for the stock is positive, with a more optimistic view of the future recovery rate.

In the 2013 season, several companies did not catch their allocated quota by approximately 124 tonnes. In accordance with the requirements of the plan, the corresponding amount of uncaught quota was carried over to each company's 2014 quota holdings.

# Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery

## MAJOR SPECIES:

- ▶ Bigeye tuna
- ▶ Yellowfin tuna
- ▶ Broadbill swordfish
- ▶ Striped marlin.

## ESTIMATED CATCH 2012–13

- ▶ 513 tonnes

## GROSS VALUE OF PRODUCTION 2012–13

Due to the small number of operators, this information is confidential.

## DEVELOPMENTS IN 2013–14

The recent Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery has continued to operate at low levels of effort due to economic conditions, although effort slightly increased in the 2012–13 fishing season.

The total allowable commercial catch limits for the 2013–14 fishing season was set at:

- 2000 tonnes for bigeye tuna
- 5000 tonnes for yellowfin tuna
- 3000 tonnes for broadbill swordfish
- 125 tonnes for striped marlin.

## REPORT AGAINST MANAGEMENT PLANS

The fishery continued to be managed in accordance with the *Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery Management Plan 2005* and resolutions mandated by the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission.

All operations conducted in the fishery were in compliance with the criteria outlined in the management plan.



# High Seas Permits

## MAJOR SPECIES:

- ▶ Orange roughy
- ▶ Alfonsino
- ▶ Blue-eye trevalla
- ▶ Jackass morwong
- ▶ Yellowtail kingfish
- ▶ Smooth oreodory
- ▶ Spikey oreodory
- ▶ Redthroat emperor
- ▶ Boarfish
- ▶ Cardinal fish
- ▶ Rubyfish.

## ESTIMATED CATCH 2012-13

- ▶ 970 tonnes

## GROSS VALUE OF PRODUCTION 2012-13

Due to the small number of operators, this information is confidential.

## DEVELOPMENTS IN 2013-14

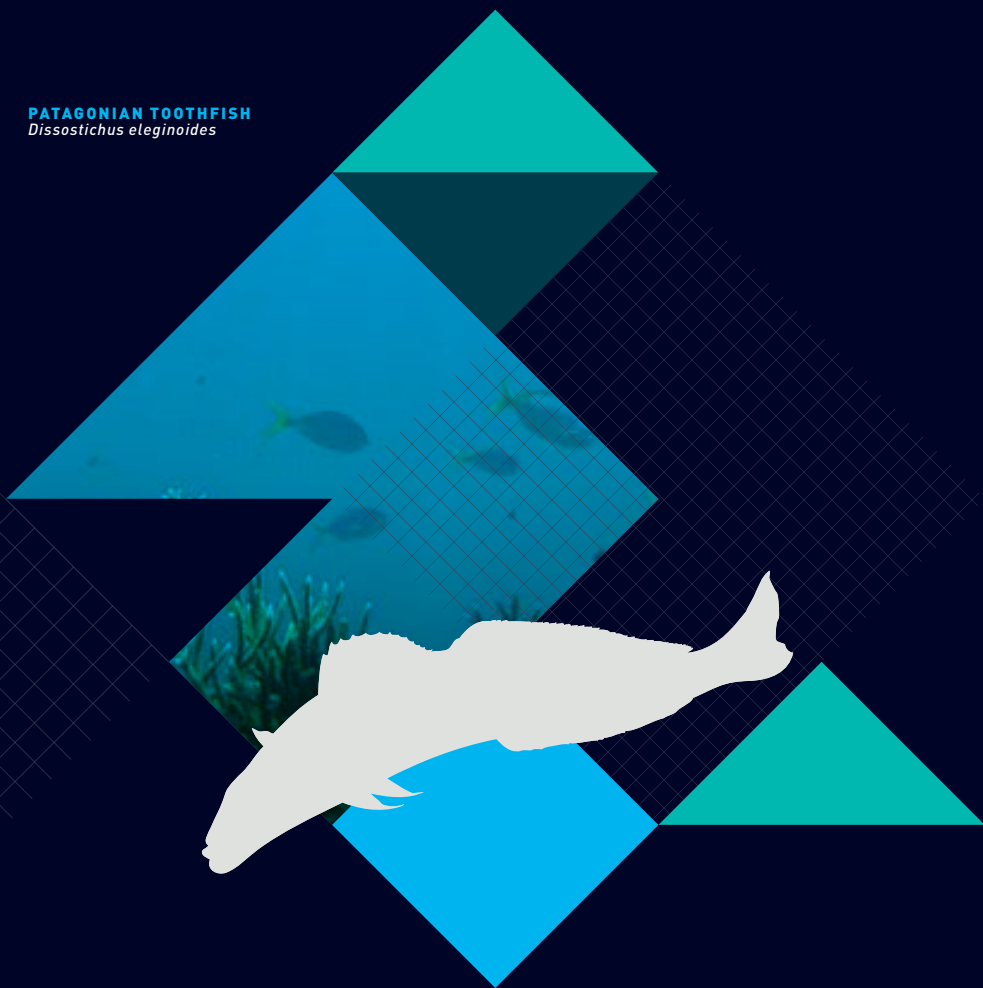
High Seas Permits allow Australian flagged vessels to fish in designated areas for non-highly migratory species in the South Pacific Ocean and the Southern Indian Ocean outside the Australian Fishing Zone. The designated fishing areas are based on international agreements for demersal fishing between the Australian Government and other fishing nations.

The second South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation Commission meeting was held in January 2014. At this meeting conservation and management measures were agreed to manage impacts of bottom fishing and minimise seabird bycatch. The bottom fishing measure aims to ensure the sustainable management of regional fish stocks and the protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems on the high seas. The seabird measure aims to ensure members of the Commission employ best practice mitigation measures to minimise interactions with seabirds.

The Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences High Seas Sustainability Assessment concluded that no stocks fished by High Seas permit holders were overfished or subject to overfishing. Stocks of orange roughy in the commissioned area and orange roughy and alfonsino stocks in the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement area were assessed as uncertain.



**PATAGONIAN TOOTHFISH**  
*Dissostichus eleginoides*



**OTHER COMMON NAMES:** CHILEAN SEA BASS, MERO  
**SIZE:** UP TO 2.5 METRES IN LENGTH AND 100 KILOGRAMS IN WEIGHT  
**STOCK STATUS:** NOT OVERFISHED

Patagonian toothfish are unique. Their skin is black and their flesh is white with no pin bones and contains a high level of Omega 3 fatty acids. When filleted, it is a solid piece of white flesh, which has a unique buttery texture due to the high oil content. The fish can also be frozen and transported without deteriorating. Great for cooking slowly on the barbecue.

**PART 5**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**



## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

### To the Minister for Agriculture

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Australian Fisheries Management Authority for the year ended 30 June 2014, which comprise: a Statement by the Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer; the Statement of Comprehensive Income; Statement of Financial Position; Statement of Changes in Equity; Cash Flow Statement; Schedule of Commitments; Administered Schedule of Comprehensive Income; Administered Schedule of Assets and Liabilities; Administered Reconciliation Schedule; Administered Cash Flow Statement; Administered Schedule of Commitments; and Notes to and forming part of the financial statements, including a Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and other explanatory information.

#### *Chief Executive's Responsibility for the Financial Statements*

The Chief Executive of the Australian Fisheries Management Authority is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with the Finance Minister's Orders made under the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*, including the Australian Accounting Standards, and for such internal control as is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view and are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### *Auditor's Responsibility*

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements based on my audit. I have conducted my audit in accordance with the Australian National Audit Office Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Australian Auditing Standards. These auditing standards require that I comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Australian Fisheries Management Authority's preparation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Australian Fisheries Management Authority's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Chief Executive of the Australian Fisheries Management Authority, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

GPO Box 707 CANBERRA ACT 2601  
19 National Circuit BARTON ACT 2600  
Phone (02) 6203 7300 Fax (02) 6203 7777

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

***Independence***

In conducting my audit, I have followed the independence requirements of the Australian National Audit Office, which incorporate the requirements of the Australian accounting profession.

***Opinion***

In my opinion, the financial statements of the Australian Fisheries Management Authority:

- (a) have been prepared in accordance with the Finance Minister's Orders made under the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*, including the Australian Accounting Standards; and
- (b) give a true and fair view of the matters required by the Finance Minister's Orders, including the Australian Fisheries Management Authority's financial position as at 30 June 2014 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended.

Australian National Audit Office



Peter Kerr  
Executive Director  
Delegate of the Auditor-General  
Canberra  
11 September 2014

**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

*for the period ended 30 June 2014*

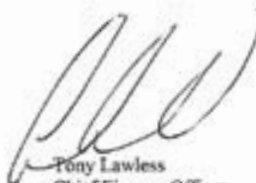
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**STATEMENT BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER**

In our opinion, the attached financial statements for the period ended 30 June 2014 are based on properly maintained financial records and give a true and fair view of the matters required by the Finance Minister's Orders made under the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*, as amended.



Dr James Findlay  
Chief Executive  
11 September 2014



Tony Lawless  
Chief Finance Officer  
11 September 2014

**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**  
**STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**  
*for the period ended 30 June 2014*

	Notes	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
<b>NET COST OF SERVICES</b>			
<b>Expenses</b>			
Employee benefits	3A	22,378	20,406
Supplier	3B	17,606	16,007
Depreciation and amortisation	3C	1,136	1,608
Write-down and impairment of assets	3D	16	2
Net losses from the sale of assets	3E	9	-
<b>Total expenses</b>		<u>41,145</u>	<u>38,023</u>
<b>Own-Source Income</b>			
<b>Own-source revenue</b>			
Sale of goods and rendering of services	4A	1,884	1,207
Rental income	4B	777	576
<b>Total own-source revenue</b>		<u>2,661</u>	<u>1,783</u>
<b>Gains</b>			
Other gains	4C	41	38
<b>Total gains</b>		<u>41</u>	<u>38</u>
<b>Total own-source income</b>		<u>2,702</u>	<u>1,821</u>
<b>Net cost of services</b>		<u>(38,443)</u>	<u>(36,202)</u>
Revenue from Government	4D	34,794	36,604
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) attributable to the Australian Government</b>		<u>(3,649)</u>	<u>402</u>
<b>OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>			
Changes in asset revaluation surplus		99	689
<b>Total other comprehensive income</b>		<u>99</u>	<u>689</u>
<b>Total comprehensive income/(loss) attributable to the Australian Government</b>		<u>(3,550)</u>	<u>1,091</u>

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.



## AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

as at 30 June 2014

	Notes	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Financial Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	6A	475	356
Trade and other receivables	6B	16,163	16,611
<b>Total financial assets</b>		<b>16,638</b>	<b>16,967</b>
<b>Non-Financial Assets</b>			
Land and buildings	7A,C	5,884	5,843
Property, plant and equipment	7B,C	1,199	1,107
Intangibles	7D,E	2,347	2,044
Other non-financial assets	7F	495	758
<b>Total non-financial assets</b>		<b>9,925</b>	<b>9,752</b>
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>26,563</b>	<b>26,719</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Payables</b>			
Suppliers	8A	-	33
Other payables	8B	7,088	5,035
<b>Total payables</b>		<b>7,088</b>	<b>5,068</b>
<b>Provisions</b>			
Employee provisions	9A	5,462	4,242
<b>Total provisions</b>		<b>5,462</b>	<b>4,242</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>12,550</b>	<b>9,310</b>
<b>Net assets</b>		<b>14,013</b>	<b>17,409</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Contributed equity		10,182	10,028
Reserves		4,642	4,543
Retained surplus/(Accumulated deficit)		(811)	2,838
<b>Total equity</b>		<b>14,013</b>	<b>17,409</b>

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**  
**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**  
*for the period ended 30 June 2014*

	Retained earnings		Asset revaluation surplus		Contributed equity/capital		Total equity	
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Opening balance</b>								
Balance carried forward from previous period	2,838	2,436	4,543	3,854	10,028	9,874	17,409	16,164
<b>Adjusted opening balance</b>	<b>2,838</b>	<b>2,436</b>	<b>4,543</b>	<b>3,854</b>	<b>10,028</b>	<b>9,874</b>	<b>17,409</b>	<b>16,164</b>
<b>Comprehensive income</b>								
Surplus/(Loss) for the period	(3,649)	402		-	-	-	(3,649)	402
Other comprehensive income			99	689			99	689
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>	<b>(3,649)</b>	<b>402</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>689</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(3,550)</b>	<b>1,091</b>
<b>Transactions with owners</b>								
Departmental capital budget	-	-	-	-	154	154	154	154
<b>Total transactions with owners</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>154</b>
<b>Closing balance attributable to Australian Government</b>	<b>(811)</b>	<b>2,838</b>	<b>4,642</b>	<b>4,543</b>	<b>10,182</b>	<b>10,028</b>	<b>14,013</b>	<b>17,409</b>

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**  
**CASH FLOW STATEMENT**  
*for the period ended 30 June 2014*

	Notes	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
<b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
<b>Cash received</b>			
Appropriations		35,956	35,080
Sales of goods and rendering of services		2,290	1,834
Net GST received		0	-
<b>Total cash received</b>		<u>38,246</u>	<u>36,914</u>
<b>Cash used</b>			
Employees		21,088	20,440
Suppliers		15,513	16,135
Net GST paid		193	168
<b>Total cash used</b>		<u>36,794</u>	<u>36,742</u>
<b>Net cash from operating activities</b>	10	<u>1,452</u>	<u>172</u>
<b>INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
<b>Cash received</b>			
Proceeds from sales of property, plant and equipment		6	-
<b>Total cash received</b>		<u>6</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Cash used</b>			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		1,493	385
<b>Total cash used</b>		<u>1,493</u>	<u>385</u>
<b>Net cash (used by) investing activities</b>		<u>(1,487)</u>	<u>(385)</u>
<b>FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
<b>Cash received</b>			
Contributed equity - departmental capital budget		154	154
<b>Total cash received</b>		<u>154</u>	<u>154</u>
<b>Net cash from financing activities</b>		<u>154</u>	<u>154</u>
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash held</b>			
		<u>119</u>	<u>(59)</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		356	415
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period</b>	6A	<u>475</u>	<u>356</u>

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**  
**SCHEDULE OF COMMITMENTS (CONTINUED)**

as at 30 June 2014

	2014	2013
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>BY TYPE</b>		
<b>Commitments receivable</b>		
Sublease rental income <sup>1</sup>	1,639	2,062
Net GST recoverable on commitments	2,300	1,919
<b>Total commitments receivable</b>	<u>3,939</u>	<u>3,981</u>
<b>Commitments payable</b>		
<b>Capital commitments</b>		
Land and buildings	292	-
Property, plant and equipment	186	109
Intangibles	425	-
<b>Total capital commitments</b>	<u>904</u>	<u>109</u>
<b>Other commitments</b>		
Operating leases <sup>2</sup>	11,436	12,325
Research and development	6,420	3,458
Contractors	6,141	5,336
Other <sup>3</sup>	3,108	4,387
<b>Total other commitments</b>	<u>27,105</u>	<u>25,506</u>
<b>Total commitments payable</b>	<u>28,008</u>	<u>25,615</u>
<b>Net commitments by type</b>	<u>24,069</u>	<u>21,634</u>
<b>BY MATURITY</b>		
<b>Commitments receivable</b>		
<b>Operating lease income</b>		
One year or less	438	423
From one to five years	1,201	1,639
<b>Total operating lease income</b>	<u>1,639</u>	<u>2,062</u>
<b>Net GST recoverable on commitments</b>		
One year or less	520	456
From one to five years	1,681	1,139
Over five years	99	324
<b>Total net GST recoverable on commitments</b>	<u>2,300</u>	<u>1,919</u>
<b>Total commitments receivable</b>	<u>3,939</u>	<u>3,981</u>
<b>Commitments payable</b>		
<b>Capital commitments</b>		
One year or less	904	109
<b>Total capital commitments</b>	<u>904</u>	<u>109</u>
<b>Operating lease commitments</b>		
One year or less	1,938	2,355
From one to five years	8,405	6,758
Over five years	1,092	3,212
<b>Total operating lease commitments</b>	<u>11,435</u>	<u>12,325</u>

**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY  
SCHEDULE OF COMMITMENTS (CONTINUED)**

*as at 30 June 2014*

	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
<b>Research and development, Contractors and other commitments</b>		
One year or less	4,265	3,616
From one to five years	11,404	8,894
Over five years	-	671
<b>Total research and development and other commitments</b>	<u>15,668</u>	<u>13,181</u>
<b>Total commitments payable</b>	<u>28,008</u>	<u>25,615</u>
<b>Net commitments by maturity</b>	<u>24,069</u>	<u>21,634</u>

Note: Commitments are GST inclusive where relevant.

<sup>1</sup> AFMA in its capacity as a lessor sub-leases office accommodation on Thursday Island and in Canberra.

<sup>2</sup> AFMA in its capacity as a lessee leases office accommodation in Canberra (11 years) and Darwin (4 years).

Lease payments are subject to fixed annual increases. The initial lease term in Canberra is still current and the Darwin lease was renewed for five years. Canberra may be renewed for up to three years.

<sup>3</sup> The nature of other commitments is for the purchase of ongoing services, fishery management research and general contractors/consultants goods and services.

This schedule should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**  
**ADMINISTERED SCHEDULE OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**  
*for the period ended 30 June 2014*

	Notes	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
<b>NET COST OF SERVICES</b>			
<b>Expenses</b>			
Suppliers	16A	3,274	2,901
Depreciation and amortisation	16B	37	35
Write-down and impairment of assets	16C	25	161
<b>Total expenses</b>		<b>3,336</b>	<b>3,097</b>
<b>Income</b>			
<b>Revenue</b>			
<b>Taxation revenue</b>			
Levies and charges	17A	12	14,866
<b>Total taxation revenue</b>		<b>12</b>	<b>14,866</b>
<b>Non-taxation revenue</b>			
Sale of goods and rendering of services	17B	28	-
Fees and fines	17B	247	256
Interest	17C	2	31
Other revenue	17D	230	8
<b>Total non-taxation revenue</b>		<b>507</b>	<b>295</b>
<b>Total revenue</b>		<b>519</b>	<b>15,161</b>
<b>Net (cost of)/contribution by services</b>		<b>2,817</b>	<b>(12,064)</b>
<b>Surplus/(deficit)</b>		<b>(2,817)</b>	<b>12,064</b>
<b>OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>			
<b>Items not subject to subsequent reclassification to profit or loss</b>			
Changes in asset revaluation surplus		-	139
<b>Total comprehensive income/(loss)</b>		<b>(2,817)</b>	<b>12,203</b>

This schedule should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**  
**ADMINISTERED SCHEDULE OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**  
*as at 30 June 2014*

	Notes	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Financial assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	19A	17	2
Trade and other receivables	19B	256	220
<b>Total financial assets</b>		<u>273</u>	<u>222</u>
<b>Non-financial assets</b>			
Land and buildings	20A	593	630
<b>Total non-financial assets</b>		<u>593</u>	<u>630</u>
<b>Total assets administered on behalf of Government</b>		<u>866</u>	<u>852</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Payables</b>			
Other	21A	487	154
<b>Total payables</b>		<u>487</u>	<u>154</u>
<b>Total liabilities administered on behalf of Government</b>		<u>487</u>	<u>154</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>380</u>	<u>698</u>

This schedule should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY  
ADMINISTERED RECONCILIATION SCHEDULE**

*for the period ended 30 June 2014*

	2014	2013
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Opening assets less liabilities as at 1 July</b>	<b>698</b>	843
<b>Net (cost of)/contribution by services</b>		
Income	519	15,162
Expenses	(3,336)	(3,097)
<b>Other comprehensive income:</b>		
Revaluations taken to/from reserves	-	139
<b>Transfers (to)/from Australian Government:</b>		
Appropriation transfers from Official Public Account		
Annual appropriations	2,919	3,108
Appropriation transfers to Official Public Account		
Transfers to OPA	(420)	(15,458)
<b>Closing assets less liabilities as at 30 June</b>	<b>380</b>	698

This schedule should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.



**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**  
**ADMINISTERED CASH FLOW STATEMENT**  
*for the period ended 30 June 2014*

	Notes	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
<b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
<b>Cash received</b>			
Levies and charges		40	15,035
Interest		2	31
Fees		176	55
Fines		220	209
Net GST received		142	315
<b>Total cash received</b>		<b>580</b>	<b>15,645</b>
<b>Cash used</b>			
Suppliers		3,064	3,297
<b>Total cash used</b>		<b>3,064</b>	<b>3,297</b>
<b>Net cash flows from/(used by) operating activities</b>	22	<b>(2,484)</b>	<b>12,348</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		2	4
<b>Cash from Official Public Account</b>			
Appropriations		2,919	3,108
		<b>2,919</b>	<b>3,108</b>
<b>Cash to Official Public Account for:</b>			
Appropriations		(420)	(15,458)
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period</b>	19A	<b>17</b>	<b>2</b>

This schedule should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**  
**SCHEDULE OF ADMINISTERED COMMITMENTS**

as at 30 June 2014

	2014	2013
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>BY TYPE</b>		
<b>Commitments receivable</b>		
Net GST recoverable on commitments	6	803
<b>Total commitments receivable</b>	<u>6</u>	<u>803</u>
<b>Commitments payable</b>		
<b>Other commitments</b>		
Project Commitments <sup>1</sup>	71	9,633
<b>Total other commitments</b>	<u>71</u>	<u>9,633</u>
<b>Total commitments payable</b>	<u>71</u>	<u>9,633</u>
<b>Net commitments by type</b>	<u>65</u>	<u>8,830</u>
<b>BY MATURITY</b>		
<b>Commitments receivable</b>		
<b>Net GST recoverable on commitments</b>		
One year or less	6	496
From one to five years	-	307
<b>Total net GST recoverable on commitments</b>	<u>6</u>	<u>803</u>
<b>Total commitments receivable</b>	<u>6</u>	<u>803</u>
<b>Commitments payable</b>		
<b>Other commitments</b>		
One year or less	71	5,948
From one to five years	-	3,685
<b>Total other commitments</b>	<u>71</u>	<u>9,633</u>
<b>Total commitments payable</b>	<u>71</u>	<u>9,633</u>
<b>Net commitments by maturity</b>	<u>65</u>	<u>8,830</u>

Note: Commitments are GST inclusive where relevant.

<sup>1</sup> The nature of other commitments is retainers and other agreements for the caretaking and disposal of illegal foreign fishing vessels. Agreements also include costs for the caretaking and disposal of vessels on a per unit basis.

The reduction in administered commitments for the 2013-14 financial year is due to the contracts for vessel caretaking and disposal being re-negotiated.

This schedule should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**  
**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
*for the period ended 30 June 2014*

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- Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies
- Note 2: Events After the Reporting Period
- Note 3: Expenses
- Note 4: Income
- Note 5: Fair Value Measurements
- Note 6: Financial Assets
- Note 7: Non-Financial Assets
- Note 8: Payables
- Note 9: Provisions
- Note 10: Cash Flow Reconciliation
- Note 11: Contingent Liabilities and Assets
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- Note 26: Appropriations
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- Note 28: Compensation and Debt Relief
- Note 29: Assets Held in Trust
- Note 30: Reporting of Outcomes
- Note 31: Competitive Neutrality and Cost Recovery
- Note 32: Net Cash Appropriation Arrangements
- Note 33: Compliance with statutory conditions for payments from the consolidated revenue fund

**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**  
**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
*for the period ended 30 June 2014*

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**Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

**1.1 Objective of AFMA**

The Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) is an Australian Government controlled entity. It is a not for profit entity. The objectives of AFMA is to pursue the implementation of efficient and cost effective fisheries management consistent with the principles of ecologically sustainable development and maximising the net economic returns for the Australian community from the management of Australian fisheries for which the Commonwealth has legislative responsibilities.

AFMA has a single outcome: Ecologically sustainable and economically efficient Commonwealth fisheries, through understanding and monitoring Australia's marine living resources and regulating and monitoring commercial fishing, including domestic licensing and deterrence of illegal foreign fishing.

The continued existence of AFMA in its present form and with its present programs is dependent on Government policy and on continuing appropriations by Parliament for AFMA's administration and programs.

Agency activities contributing toward this outcome are classified as either departmental or administered. Departmental activities involve the use of assets, liabilities, income and expenses controlled or incurred by AFMA in its own right. Administered activities involve the management or oversight by AFMA, on behalf of the Government, of items controlled or incurred by the Government.

Administered activities for the agency involve the caretaking and disposal of illegal foreign fishing vessels.

**1.2 Basis of Preparation of the Financial Statements**

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements and are required by section 49 of the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*.

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with:

Finance Minister's Orders (or FMOs) for reporting periods ending on or after 1 July 2011; and

Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) that apply for the reporting period.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis and in accordance with the historical cost convention, except for certain assets and liabilities at fair value. Except where stated, no allowance is made for the effect of changing prices on the results or the financial position.

The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars and values are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars unless otherwise specified.

Unless an alternative treatment is specifically required by an accounting standard or the FMOs, assets and liabilities are recognised in the balance sheet when and only when it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to AFMA or a future sacrifice of economic benefits will be required and the amounts of the assets or liabilities can be reliably measured. However, assets and liabilities arising under executory contracts are not recognised unless required by an accounting standard. Liabilities and assets that are unrecognised are reported in the schedule of commitments or Note 11: Departmental Contingent Liabilities and Assets or Note 23: Administered – Contingent Assets and Liabilities.

Unless alternative treatment is specifically required by an accounting standard, income and expenses are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income when and only when the flow, consumption or loss of economic benefits has occurred and can be reliably measured.

For the preparation of the 2013–14 financial statements, accounting policies are consistent with the previous year unless otherwise stated.

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### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the period ended 30 June 2014

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#### 1.3 Significant Accounting Judgements and Estimates

In the process of applying the accounting policies listed in this note, AFMA has made the following judgements that have the most significant impact on the amounts recorded in the financial statements:

- the fair value of land and buildings has been taken to be the market value of similar properties as determined by an independent valuer. In some instances, entity buildings are purpose-built and may in fact realise more or less in the market.
- the liability for long service leave has been estimated using present value techniques in accordance with the shorthand method as per FMO 43.2(a). This takes into account expected salary growth, attrition and future discounting using Commonwealth bond rates.

No accounting assumptions and estimates have been identified that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next accounting period.

#### 1.4 New Australian Accounting Standards

##### *Adoption of New Australian Accounting Standard Requirements*

No accounting standard has been adopted earlier than the application date as stated in the standard.

The following new accounting standards were issued prior to the signing of the statement by the chief executive and chief financial officer, were applicable to the current reporting period and had a material effect on the entity's financial statements:

AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement	AASB 13 does <b>not</b> change the measurement basis of an asset or liability, but <b>rather</b> , it introduces a consistent set of disclosure and measurement requirements to be applied where an asset or liability is already required or permitted to be fair value measured in the statement of financial position or disclosed as such in the Notes to the financial statements.
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The application of this accounting standard is reported in Note 5: Departmental - Fair Value Measurement or Note 18: Administered – Fair Value Measurement.

All other new standards, revised standards, interpretations or amending standards that were issued prior to the sign-off date and are applicable to the current reporting period did not have a material effect, and are not expected to have a future material effect, on AFMA's financial statements.

##### *Future Australian Accounting Standard Requirements*

No new standards, revised standards, interpretations or amending standards that were issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board prior to signoff data and applicable to the future reporting period except for AASB 1055 Budgetary Reporting (applicable for year end 30 June 2015), which prescribes new reporting requirements for AFMA's financial statements, including the requirement to report budgetary information and explain significant variances between budget and actuals at the individual entity level.

#### 1.5 Revenue

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when:

- the risks and rewards of ownership have been transferred to the buyer;
- AFMA retains no managerial involvement or effective control over the goods;
- the revenue and transaction costs incurred can be reliably measured; and
- it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to AFMA.

Revenue from rendering of services is recognised by reference to the stage of completion of contracts at the reporting date. The revenue is recognised when:

- the amount of revenue, stage of completion and transaction costs incurred can be reliably measured; and
- the probable economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to AFMA.

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The stage of completion of contracts at the reporting date is determined by reference to the proportion that costs incurred to date bear to the estimated total costs of the transaction.

Receivables for goods and services, which have 30 day terms, are recognised at the nominal amounts due less any impairment allowance account. Collectability of debts is reviewed at end of reporting period. Allowances are made when collectability of the debt is no longer probable.

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest method as set out in AASB 139 *Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement*.

*Resources Received Free of Charge*

Resources received free of charge are recognised as revenue when, and only when, a fair value can be reliably determined and the services would have been purchased if they had not been donated. Use of those resources is recognised as an expense. Resources received free of charge are recorded as either revenue or gains depending on their nature.

Contributions of assets at no cost of acquisition or for nominal consideration are recognised as gains at their fair value when the asset qualifies for recognition, unless received from another Government agency or authority as a consequence of a restructuring of administrative arrangements (refer to Note 1.7).

*Revenue from Government*

Amounts appropriated for departmental appropriations for the year (adjusted for any formal additions and reductions) are recognised as Revenue from Government when AFMA gains control of the appropriation, except for certain amounts that relate to activities that are reciprocal in nature, in which case revenue is recognised only when it has been earned. Appropriations receivable are recognised at their nominal amounts.

**1.6 Gains**

*Resources Received Free of Charge*

Resources received free of charge are recognised as gains when, and only when, a fair value can be reliably determined and the services would have been purchased if they had not been donated. Use of those resources is recognised as an expense.

Resources received free of charge are recorded as either revenue or gains depending on their nature.

Contributions of assets at no cost of acquisition or for nominal consideration are recognised as gains at their fair value when the asset qualifies for recognition, unless received from another Government entity as a consequence of a restructuring of administrative arrangements (Refer to Note 1.7).

*Sale of Assets*

Gains from disposal of assets are recognised when control of the asset has passed to the buyer.

**1.7 Transactions with the Government as Owner**

*Equity Injections*

Amounts appropriated which are designated as 'equity injections' for a year (less any formal reductions) and Departmental Capital Budgets (DCBs) are recognised directly in contributed equity in that year.

*Restructuring of Administrative Arrangements*

Net assets received from or relinquished to another Government entity under a restructuring of administrative arrangements are adjusted at their book value directly against contributed equity.

*Other Distributions to Owners*

The FMOs require that distributions to owners be debited to contributed equity unless it is in the nature of a dividend.

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### **1.8 Employee Benefits**

Liabilities for 'short-term employee benefits' (as defined in AASB 119 *Employee Benefits*) and termination benefits due within twelve months of end of reporting period are measured at their nominal amounts.

The nominal amount is calculated with regard to the rates expected to be paid on settlement of the liability.

Other long-term employee benefits are measured as net total of the present value of the defined benefit obligation at the end of the reporting period minus the fair value at the end of the reporting period of plan assets (if any) out of which the obligations are to be settled directly.

#### Leave

The liability for employee benefits includes provision for annual leave and long service leave. No provision has been made for sick leave as all sick leave is non-vesting and the average sick leave taken in future years by employees of AFMA is estimated to be less than the annual entitlement for sick leave.

The leave liabilities are calculated on the basis of employees' remuneration at the estimated salary rates that will be applied at the time the leave is taken, including AFMA's employer superannuation contribution rates to the extent that the leave is likely to be taken during service rather than paid out on termination.

The liability for long service leave has been determined by reference to the shorthand method as permitted in the FMOs. The estimate of the present value of the liability takes into account attrition rates and pay increases through promotion and inflation.

#### Separation and Redundancy

Provision is made for separation and redundancy benefit payments. The entity recognises a provision for termination when it has developed a detailed formal plan for the terminations and has informed those employees affected that it will carry out the terminations.

#### Superannuation

Staff of AFMA are members of the Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme (CSS), the Public Sector Superannuation Scheme (PSS) or the PSS accumulation plan (PSSap).

The CSS and PSS are defined benefit schemes for the Australian Government. The PSSap is a defined contribution scheme.

The liability for defined benefits is recognised in the financial statements of the Australian Government and is settled by the Australian Government in due course. This liability is reported in the Department of Finance's administered schedules and notes.

The entity makes employer contributions to the employees' superannuation scheme at rates determined by an actuary to be sufficient to meet the current cost to the Government. The entity accounts for the contributions as if they were contributions to defined contribution plans.

The liability for superannuation recognised as at 30 June represents outstanding contributions as at year end.

### **1.9 Leases**

A distinction is made between finance leases and operating leases. Finance leases effectively transfer from the lessor to the lessee substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of leased assets. An operating lease is a lease that is not a finance lease. In operating leases, the lessor effectively retains substantially all such risks and benefits.

Where an asset is acquired by means of a finance lease, the asset is capitalised at either the fair value of the lease property or, if lower, the present value of minimum lease payments at the inception of the contract and a liability is recognised at the same time and for the same amount.

The discount rate used is the interest rate implicit in the lease. Leased assets are amortised over the period of the lease. Lease payments are allocated between the principal component and the interest expense.

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Operating lease payments are expensed on a straight-line basis which is representative of the pattern of benefits derived from the leased assets.

AFMA currently has no Finance leases.

**1.10 Borrowing Costs.**

AFMA has no borrowings.

**1.11 Fair Value Measurement**

AFMA deems transfers between levels of the fair value hierarchy to have occurred at the end of the reporting period.

**1.12 Cash**

Cash is recognised at its nominal amount. Cash and cash equivalents includes:

- a) cash on hand;
- b) demand deposits in bank accounts with an original maturity of 3 months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and subject to insignificant risk of changes in value;
- c) cash held by outsiders; and
- d) cash in special accounts.

**1.13 Financial Assets**

AFMA classifies its financial assets as receivables:

The classification depends on the nature and purpose of the financial assets and is determined at the time of initial recognition. Financial assets are recognised and derecognised upon trade date.

*Effective Interest Method*

The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial asset and of allocating interest income over the relevant period. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the financial asset, or, where appropriate, a shorter period.

Income is recognised on an effective interest rate basis except for financial assets that are recognised at fair value through profit or loss.

*Financial Assets at Fair Value Through Profit or Loss*

Financial assets are classified as financial assets at fair value through profit or loss where the financial assets:

- a) have been acquired principally for the purpose of selling in the near future.

Assets in this category are classified as current assets.

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are stated at fair value, with any resultant gain or loss recognised in profit or loss. The net gain or loss recognised in profit or loss incorporates any interest earned on the financial asset.

*Receivables*

Trade receivables and other receivables that have fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market are classified as 'receivables'. Receivables are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method less impairment. Interest is recognised by applying the effective interest rate.

*Impairment of Financial Assets*

Financial assets are assessed for impairment at the end of each reporting period.



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*Financial assets held at amortised cost* - if there is objective evidence that an impairment loss has been incurred for loans and receivables or held to maturity investments held at amortised cost, the amount of the loss is measured as the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. The carrying amount is reduced by way of an allowance account. The loss is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

*Financial assets held at cost* - if there is objective evidence that an impairment loss has been incurred, the amount of the impairment loss is the difference between the carrying amount of the asset and the present value of the estimated future cash flows discounted at the current market rate for similar assets.

#### **1.14 Financial Liabilities**

Financial liabilities are classified as either financial liabilities 'at fair value through profit or loss' or other financial liabilities.

Financial liabilities are recognised and derecognised upon 'trade date'.

##### *Financial Liabilities at Fair Value Through Profit or Loss*

Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss are initially measured at fair value. Subsequent fair value adjustments are recognised in profit or loss. The net gain or loss recognised in profit or loss incorporates any interest paid on the financial liability.

##### *Other Financial Liabilities*

Other financial liabilities are initially measured at fair value, net of transaction costs. These liabilities are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, with interest expense recognised on an effective yield basis.

The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial liability and of allocating interest expense over the relevant period. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments through the expected life of the financial liability, or, where appropriate, a shorter period.

Supplier and other payables are recognised at amortised cost. Liabilities are recognised to the extent that the goods or services have been received (and irrespective of having been invoiced).

#### **1.15 Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets**

Contingent liabilities and contingent assets are not recognised in the balance sheet but are reported in the relevant schedules and notes. They may arise from uncertainty as to the existence of a liability or asset or represent an asset or liability in respect of which the amount cannot be reliably measured. Contingent assets are disclosed when settlement is probable but not virtually certain and contingent liabilities are disclosed when settlement is greater than remote.

#### **1.16 Acquisition of Assets**

Assets are recorded at cost on acquisition except as stated below. The cost of acquisition includes the fair value of assets transferred in exchange and liabilities undertaken. Financial assets are initially measured at their fair value plus transaction costs where appropriate.

Assets acquired at no cost, or for nominal consideration, are initially recognised as assets and income at their fair value at the date of acquisition, unless acquired as a consequence of restructuring of administrative arrangements. In the latter case, assets are initially recognised as contributions by owners at the amounts at which they were recognised in the transferor's accounts immediately prior to the restructuring.

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**1.17 Property, Plant and Equipment**

Asset Recognition Threshold

Purchases of property, plant and equipment are recognised initially at cost in the balance sheet, except for purchases costing less than \$2,000, which are expensed in the year of acquisition (other than where they form part of a group of similar items which are significant in total).

The initial cost of an asset includes an estimate of the cost of dismantling and removing the item and restoring the site on which it is located. This is particularly relevant to 'make good' provisions. AFMA does not have any material make good requirements.

Revaluations

Following initial recognition at cost, property, plant and equipment were carried at fair value. Valuations were conducted with sufficient frequency to ensure that the carrying amounts of assets did not differ materially from the assets' fair values as at the reporting date. The regularity of independent valuations depended upon the volatility of movements in market values for the relevant assets.

Revaluation adjustments were made on a class basis. Any revaluation increment was credited to equity under the heading of asset revaluation reserve except to the extent that it reversed a previous revaluation decrement of the same asset class that was previously recognised in the surplus/deficit. Revaluation decrements for a class of assets were recognised directly in the surplus/deficit except to the extent that they reversed a previous revaluation increment for that class.

Any accumulated depreciation as at the revaluation date was eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the asset was restated to the revalued amount.

All AFMA land, buildings, software and leasehold improvement assets including property, plant and equipment were assessed as at 31 April 2014 at fair value.

Depreciation

Depreciable property, plant and equipment assets are written-off to their estimated residual values over their estimated useful lives to the entity using, in all cases, the straight-line method of depreciation.

Depreciation rates (useful lives), residual values and methods are reviewed at each reporting date and necessary adjustments are recognised in the current, or current and future reporting periods, as appropriate.

Depreciation rates applying to each class of depreciable asset are based on the following useful lives:

	2014	2013
Buildings on freehold land	<b>40 to 45 years</b>	40 to 45 years
Leasehold improvements	<b>Lease term</b>	Lease term
Plant and Equipment	<b>4 to 13 years</b>	4 to 13 years

Impairment

All assets were assessed for impairment at 30 June 2014. Where indications of impairment exist, the asset's recoverable amount is estimated and an impairment adjustment made if the asset's recoverable amount is less than its carrying amount.

The recoverable amount of an asset is the higher of its fair value less costs to sell and its value in use. Value in use is the present value of the future cash flows expected to be derived from the asset. Where the future economic benefit of an asset is not primarily dependent on the asset's ability to generate future cash flows, and the asset would be replaced if AFMA were deprived of the asset, its value in use is taken to be its depreciated replacement cost.

Derecognition

An item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when no further future economic benefits are expected from its use or disposal.

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#### 1.18 Intangibles

AFMA's intangibles comprise purchased and internally developed software for internal use. These assets are carried at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

Software is amortised on a straight-line basis over its anticipated useful life. The useful lives of AFMA's software are 3 to 10 years (2013: 3 to 10 years).

All software assets were assessed for indications of impairment as at 30 June 2014.

#### 1.19 Taxation

AFMA is exempt from all forms of taxation except Fringe Benefits Tax (FBT) and the Goods and Services Tax (GST).

Revenues, expenses and assets and liabilities are recognised net of GST except:

- a) where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office; and
- b) for receivables and payables.

#### 1.20 Reporting of Administered Activities

Administered revenues, expenses, assets, liabilities and cash flows are disclosed in the schedules of administered items and related notes.

Except where otherwise stated below, administered items are accounted for on the same basis and using the same policies as for departmental items, including the application of Australian Accounting Standards.

##### *Administered Cash Transfers to and from the Official Public Account*

Revenue collected by AFMA for use by the Government rather than AFMA is administered revenue. Collections are transferred to the Official Public Account maintained by the Department of Finance. Conversely, cash is drawn from the OPA to make payments under Parliamentary appropriation on behalf of Government. These transfers to and from the OPA are adjustments to the administered cash held by AFMA on behalf of the Government and reported as such in the statement of cash flows in the schedule of administered items and in the administered reconciliation schedule.

For the 2013–14 financial year AFMA changed the process of administering the revenue received for cost recovered levies. In prior years, levies were first received via the Administered bank account and were therefore considered part of Administered revenue. The revenue was then transferred to the Departmental Special Account. For the 2013–14 financial year AFMA received the cost recovered levy revenue straight to the Departmental bank account.

##### *Revenue*

All administered revenues are revenues relating to the course of ordinary activities performed by AFMA on behalf of the Australian Government. As such, administered appropriations are not revenues of AFMA, but oversee the distribution of expenditure of the funds as directed.

#### **Note 2: Events After the Reporting Period**

There have been no significant subsequent events after the reporting period that impact on the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2014.

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**Note 3: Expenses**

	2014	2013
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Note 3A: Employee Benefits</b>		
Wages and salaries	16,544	15,855
Superannuation:		
Defined contribution plans	1,186	1,436
Defined benefit plans	1,884	1,535
Leave and other entitlements	2,764	1,580
<b>Total employee benefits</b>	<u>22,378</u>	<u>20,406</u>
<b>Note 3B: Suppliers</b>		
<b>Goods and services</b>		
Research	3,189	4,172
Surveillance and compliance	558	563
Consultants and contractors	5,688	3,342
Travel and meetings	1,973	1,507
Information technology and communications	1,351	1,234
Training and development	480	679
Building repairs and outgoings	552	621
General insurance	-	141
Other legal costs	-	443
General administrative	1,111	886
<b>Total goods and services</b>	<u>14,902</u>	<u>13,588</u>
<b>Goods and services are made up of:</b>		
Related parties	4,102	3,616
External parties	10,800	9,972
<b>Total goods and services</b>	<u>14,902</u>	<u>13,588</u>
<b>Other suppliers</b>		
<b>Operating lease rentals in connection with</b>		
External parties		
Minimum lease payments	2,164	2,054
Workers compensation expenses	539	365
<b>Total other suppliers</b>	<u>2,703</u>	<u>2,419</u>
<b>Total suppliers</b>	<u>17,606</u>	<u>16,007</u>
<b>Note 3C: Depreciation and Amortisation</b>		
<b>Depreciation</b>		
Property, plant and equipment	314	391
Buildings	340	699
<b>Total depreciation</b>	<u>654</u>	<u>1,090</u>
<b>Amortisation:</b>		
Computer software purchased	79	103
Computer software internally developed	403	415
<b>Total amortisation</b>	<u>482</u>	<u>518</u>
<b>Total depreciation and amortisation</b>	<u>1,136</u>	<u>1,608</u>

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**Note 3: Expenses (Continued)**

	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
<b>Note 3D: Write-Down and Impairment of Assets</b>		
Asset write-downs and impairments from:		
Bad and doubtful debt expense	11	-
Write-down of property, plant and equipment	5	2
<b>Total write-down and impairment of assets</b>	<u>16</u>	<u>2</u>
<b>Note 3E: Losses from Sale of Assets</b>		
Property, plant and equipment:		
Carrying value of assets sold	15	-
Proceeds from sale	<u>(6)</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net loss from sale of assets</b>	<u>9</u>	<u>-</u>

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**Note 4: Income**

<b>Own-Source Revenue</b>	<b>2014</b> <b>\$'000</b>	2013 \$'000
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**Note 4A: Sale of Goods and Rendering of Services**

Related parties	284	423
External parties	<u>1,600</u>	<u>784</u>
<b>Total sale of goods and rendering of services</b>	<b><u>1,884</u></b>	<b><u>1,207</u></b>

Represented by:

Observer fees	637	637
Other charges to the fishing industry	263	-
Caring for our Country	347	121
Compliance	503	337
Other revenue	<u>134</u>	<u>112</u>
<b>Total sale of goods and rendering of services</b>	<b><u>1,884</u></b>	<b><u>1,207</u></b>

**Note 4B: Rental Income**

Operating lease:		
Sublease - Canberra office	486	468
Sublease - Thursday Island office	199	13
Employee car parking	<u>92</u>	<u>95</u>
<b>Total rental income</b>	<b><u>777</u></b>	<b><u>576</u></b>

**Note 4C: Other Gains**

Resources received free of charge	<u>41</u>	<u>38</u>
<b>Total other gains</b>	<b><u>41</u></b>	<b><u>38</u></b>

**REVENUE FROM GOVERNMENT**

**Note 4D: Revenue from Government**

Appropriations:		
Departmental appropriation	23,065	21,917
Special Appropriation (Levies and licensing charges) <sup>1</sup>	<u>11,729</u>	<u>14,687</u>
<b>Total revenue from Government</b>	<b><u>34,794</u></b>	<b><u>36,604</u></b>

<sup>1</sup> Special appropriations comprise amounts deposited to Consolidated Revenue for AFMA's levies and licensing charges that were credited to the AFMA Special Account in accordance with s94C of the *Fisheries Administration Act 1991*.

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**Note 5: Fair Value Measurements**

The following tables provide an analysis of assets and liabilities that are measured at fair value. The different levels of the fair value hierarchy are defined below.

Level 1: Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at measurement date.

Level 2: Inputs, other than quoted prices included within Level 1, that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3: Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability.

**Note 5A: Fair value measurements**

**Fair value measurements at the end of the reporting period by hierarchy for assets in 2014**

	Fair value \$'000	Fair value measurements at the end of the reporting period		
		Level 1 inputs \$'000	Level 2 inputs \$'000	Level 3 inputs \$'000
<b>Non-financial assets</b>				
Land	1,075	-	1,075	-
Buildings	1,237	-	1,237	-
Leasehold improvements	3,572	-	-	3,572
Property, plant and equipment	1,199	-	-	1,199
<b>Total non-financial assets</b>	<b>7,083</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,312</b>	<b>4,771</b>

**Note 5B: Valuation technique and inputs for Level 2 and Level 3 fair value measurements**

**Level 2 and 3 fair value measurements - valuation technique and the inputs used in 2014**

Category	Fair Value \$'000	Valuation Techniques	Inputs Used
<b>Non-financial assets</b>			
Land	Level 2 1,075	Market	Non-specialised assets assessed by observable market evidence.
Buildings	Level 2 1,237	Market	Non-specialised assets assessed by observable market evidence.
Leasehold improvements	Level 3 3,572	Cost	Not traded in the market and, in some instances, specialised assets. Depreciated replacement cost assessment.
Property, plant and equipment	Level 3 1,199	Cost	Not traded in the market place. Depreciated replacement cost assessment.

**Recurring and non-recurring Level 3 fair value measurements - valuation processes**

AFMA used valuers and relies on valuation models provided. AFMA tests the assumptions of the valuation model at least once every 12 months. The valuers provided written assurance to AFMA that valuation techniques used are compliant with AASB 13.

**Recurring Level 3 fair value measurements - sensitivity of inputs**

The significant unobservable inputs used in the fair value measurement of AFMA's leasehold improvements and property, plant and equipment asset classes relate to the consumed economic benefit/asset obsolescence. A significant increase (decrease) in this input would result in a significantly lower (higher) fair value measurement.

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**Note 5: Fair Value Measurements (Continued)**

**Note 5C: Reconciliation for recurring Level 3 fair value measurements**

**Recurring Level 3 fair value measurements - reconciliation for assets**

	Leasehold improvements	Property, plant and equipment	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Opening balance</b>	3,717	1,107	4,824
Purchases	58	328	386
Revaluations recognised in other comprehensive income	108	98	206
Impairments recognised in the operating result	-	(5)	(5)
Depreciation/amortisation	(311)	(314)	(625)
Disposals	-	(15)	(15)
<b>Closing balance</b>	<b>3,572</b>	<b>1,199</b>	<b>4,771</b>



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**Note 6: Financial Assets**

	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
<b>Note 6A: Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>		
Cash on hand or on deposit	475	356
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>356</b>
<b>Note 6B: Trade and Other Receivables</b>		
<b>Good and Services:</b>		
Related entities	210	161
External parties	602	119
<b>Total goods and services receivables</b>	<b>812</b>	<b>280</b>
<b>Appropriations receivable:</b>		
Existing programs - Special Account	14,781	15,943
<b>Total appropriations receivable</b>	<b>14,781</b>	<b>15,943</b>
<b>Other receivables:</b>		
GST receivable from the Australian Taxation Office	581	388
<b>Total other receivables</b>	<b>581</b>	<b>388</b>
<b>Total trade and other receivables (gross)</b>	<b>16,174</b>	<b>16,611</b>
Less impairment allowance account:		
Goods and services	(11)	-
<b>Total impairment allowance account</b>	<b>(11)</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total trade and other receivables (net)</b>	<b>16,163</b>	<b>16,611</b>
<b>Trade and other receivables (net) expected to be recovered</b>		
No more than 12 months	1,382	668
More than 12 months	14,781	15,943
<b>Total trade and other receivables (net)</b>	<b>16,163</b>	<b>16,611</b>
<b>Trade and other receivables (gross) aged as follows</b>		
Not overdue	15,439	16,424
Overdue by:		
0 to 30 days	351	148
31 to 60 days	105	-
61 to 90 days	70	1
More than 90 days	209	38
<b>Total trade and other receivables (gross)</b>	<b>16,174</b>	<b>16,611</b>
<b>Impairment allowance aged as follows</b>		
Not overdue	-	-
Overdue by:		
0 to 30 days	-	-
31 to 60 days	-	-
61 to 90 days	-	-
More than 90 days	(11)	-
<b>Total impairment allowance</b>	<b>(11)</b>	<b>-</b>

Credit terms for Goods and Services were within 30 days for 2014 (2013: 30 Days)

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**Note 6: Financial Assets (Continued)**

**Reconciliation of the Impairment Allowance Account:**

**Movements in relation to 2014**

	Goods and services \$'000	Total \$'000
<b>Opening balance</b>	-	-
Amounts written off	-	-
Amounts recovered and reversed	-	-
Increase/decrease recognised in net surplus	11	11
<b>Closing balance</b>	11	11

**Note 7: Non-Financial Assets**

	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
<b>Note 7A: Land and Buildings</b>		
<b>Land</b>		
Fair value	1,075	1,220
<b>Total land</b>	1,075	1,220
<b>Buildings on freehold land:</b>		
Fair value	1,242	906
Accumulated depreciation	(5)	-
<b>Total buildings on freehold land</b>	1,237	906
<b>Leasehold improvements:</b>		
Fair value	3,680	3,717
Accumulated depreciation	(108)	-
<b>Total leasehold improvements</b>	3,572	3,717
<b>Total land and buildings</b>	5,884	5,843

Land and buildings may only be sold with the approval of the Minister for Agriculture.

No indicators of impairment were found for land and buildings.

No land or buildings are expected to be sold or disposed of within the next 12 months.

**Note 7B: Property, Plant and Equipment**

<b>Property, plant and equipment:</b>		
Fair value	1,466	1,129
Accumulated depreciation	(267)	(22)
<b>Total property, plant and equipment</b>	1,199	1,107

No indicators of impairment were found for Property, Plant and Equipment

No Property, Plant and Equipment is expected to be sold or disposed of within the next 12 months.

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**Note 7: Non-Financial Assets (Continued)**

Note 7C: Reconciliation of the Opening and Closing Balances of Property, Plant and Equipment 2014

	Land \$'000	Buildings \$'000	Improvements \$'000	Total land and buildings \$'000	Leasehold plant & equipment \$'000	Total \$'000
<b>As at 1 July 2013</b>						
Gross book value	1,220	906	3,717	5,843	1,129	6,972
Accumulated depreciation and impairment	-	-	-	-	(22)	(22)
<b>Net book value 1 July 2013</b>	<b>1,220</b>	<b>906</b>	<b>3,717</b>	<b>5,843</b>	<b>1,107</b>	<b>6,950</b>
Additions:						
By purchase	-	322	58	380	328	708
Revaluations and impairments recognised in other comprehensive income	(145)	38	108	1	98	99
Impairments recognised in the operating result	-	-	-	-	(5)	(5)
Depreciation expense	-	(29)	(311)	(340)	(314)	(654)
Disposals	-	-	-	-	(15)	(15)
<b>Net book value 30 June 2014</b>	<b>1,075</b>	<b>1,237</b>	<b>3,572</b>	<b>5,884</b>	<b>1,199</b>	<b>7,083</b>
<b>Net book value as of 30 June 2014 represented by:</b>						
Gross book value	1,075	1,242	3,680	5,997	1,466	7,463
Accumulated depreciation and impairment	-	(5)	(108)	(113)	(267)	(380)
<b>Total as at 30 June 2014</b>	<b>1,075</b>	<b>1,237</b>	<b>3,572</b>	<b>5,884</b>	<b>1,199</b>	<b>7,083</b>

## Note 7: Non-Financial Assets (Continued)

Note 7C (Cont'd): Reconciliation of the Opening and Closing Balances of Property, Plant and Equipment 2013

	Land \$'000	Buildings \$'000	Improvements \$'000	Total land and buildings \$'000	Property, plant & equipment \$'000	Total \$'000
<b>As at 1 July 2012</b>						
Gross book value	229	1,658	5,281	7,168	2,582	9,750
Accumulated depreciation and impairment	-	(129)	(1,234)	(1,363)	(1,411)	(2,774)
<b>Net book value 1 July 2012</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>1,529</b>	<b>4,047</b>	<b>5,805</b>	<b>1,171</b>	<b>6,976</b>
Additions:						
By purchase	-	-	14	14	363	377
Reclassification of assets	631	(631)	-	-	-	-
Revaluations and impairments recognised in other comprehensive income	360	50	313	723	(34)	689
Impairments recognised in the operating result	-	-	-	-	(2)	(2)
Depreciation expense	-	(42)	(657)	(699)	(391)	(1,090)
<b>Net book value 30 June 2012</b>	<b>1,220</b>	<b>906</b>	<b>3,717</b>	<b>5,843</b>	<b>1,107</b>	<b>6,950</b>
<b>Net book value as of 30 June 2013 represented by:</b>						
Gross book value	1,220	906	3,717	5,843	1,129	6,972
Accumulated depreciation and impairment	-	-	-	-	(22)	(22)
<b>Total as at 30 June 2013</b>	<b>1,220</b>	<b>906</b>	<b>3,717</b>	<b>5,843</b>	<b>1,107</b>	<b>6,950</b>

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**Note 7: Non-Financial Assets (Continued)**

	2014	2013
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Note 7D: Intangibles</b>		
Computer software:		
Internally developed - in use	4,756	4,330
Internally developed - accumulated amortisation	(2,803)	(2,400)
Purchased	1,093	734
Purchased - accumulated amortisation	(699)	(620)
<b>Total computer software</b>	<b>2,347</b>	<b>2,044</b>

No indicators of impairment were found for intangible assets.

No intangibles are expected to be sold or disposed of within the next 12 months.

**Note 7E: Reconciliation of the Opening and Closing Balances of Intangibles 2014**

	Computer software internally developed	Computer software purchased	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>As at 1 July 2013</b>			
Gross book value	4,330	734	5,064
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	(2,400)	(620)	(3,020)
<b>Total as at 1 July 2013</b>	<b>1,930</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>2,044</b>
Additions:			
By purchase or internally developed	426	359	785
Amortisation	(403)	(79)	(482)
<b>Total as at 30 June 2014</b>	<b>1,953</b>	<b>394</b>	<b>2,347</b>
<b>Total as at 30 June 2014 represented by</b>			
Gross book value	4,756	1,093	5,849
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	(2,803)	(699)	(3,502)
<b>Total as at 30 June 2014</b>	<b>1,953</b>	<b>394</b>	<b>2,347</b>

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**Note 7: Non-Financial Assets (Continued)**

**Note 7E (Cont'd): Reconciliation of the Opening and Closing Balances of Intangibles 2013**

	Computer software internally developed \$'000	Computer software purchased \$'000	Total \$'000
As at 1 July 2012			
Gross book value	4,354	765	5,119
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	(2,009)	(556)	(2,565)
<b>Total as at 1 July 2012</b>	<b>2,345</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>2,554</b>
Additions:			
By purchase or internally developed	-	8	8
Amortisation	(415)	(103)	(518)
Disposals			
Disposals	24	39	63
Accumulated amortisation of disposed assets	(24)	(39)	(63)
<b>Total as at 30 June 2013</b>	<b>1,930</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>2,044</b>
Total as at 30 June 2013 represented by:			
Gross book value	4,330	734	5,064
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	(2,400)	(620)	(3,020)
<b>Total as at 30 June 2013</b>	<b>1,930</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>2,044</b>

	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
<b>Note 7F: Other Non-Financial Assets</b>		
Prepayments	151	222
Accrued revenue	344	536
<b>Total other non-financial assets</b>	<b>495</b>	<b>758</b>

No indicators of impairment were found for other non-financial assets.

All other non-financial assets are expected to be recovered within the next 12 months.

**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**  
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**Note 8: Payables**

	2014	2013
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Note 8A: Suppliers</b>		
Trade creditors and accruals	-	33
<b>Total supplier payables</b>	-	33
<b>Supplier payables expected to be settled within 12 months:</b>		
Related entities	-	-
External parties	-	33
<b>Total Supplier Payables</b>	-	33

Settlement is usually made within 30 days.

**Note 8B: Other Payables**

Accrued expenses	4,949	2,875
Lease incentives	94	115
Operating lease rentals	867	906
Wages and salaries	644	574
Unearned revenue	534	565
<b>Total other payables</b>	7,088	5,035

Total other payables are expected to be settled in:

No more than 12 months	1,178	4,014
More than 12 months	961	1,021
<b>Total other payables</b>	7,088	5,035

**Note 9: Provisions**

	2014	2013
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Note 9A: Employee Provisions</b>		
Leave	5,462	4,242
<b>Total employee provisions</b>	5,462	4,242
Employee provisions are expected to be settled in:		
No more than 12 months	1,199	1,411
More than 12 months	4,263	2,831
<b>Total employee provisions</b>	5,462	4,242

**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**  
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**Note 10: Cash Flow Reconciliation**

	2014	2013
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents as per statement of financial position to cash flow statement</b>		
<b>Cash and cash equivalents as per</b>		
Cash flow statement	475	356
Balance sheet	475	356
<b>Discrepancy</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Reconciliation of net cost of services to net cash from operating activities:</b>		
Net cost of services	(38,443)	(36,202)
Revenue from Government	34,794	36,604
<b>Adjustments for non-cash items</b>		
Depreciation / amortisation	1,136	1,608
Net write down of non-financial assets	5	2
Gain on disposal of assets	9	-
<b>Changes in assets / liabilities</b>		
<b>Assets</b>		
(Increase) / decrease in net receivables	640	(3,248)
(Increase) / decrease in prepayments	71	(88)
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Increase / (decrease) in unearned revenue	(31)	388
Increase / (decrease) in employee provisions	1,220	27
Increase / (decrease) in supplier payables	2,041	(174)
Increase / (decrease) in other payable	10	1,255
<b>Net cash from operating activities</b>	<u>1,452</u>	<u>172</u>



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**Note 11: Contingent Liabilities and Assets**

**Quantifiable Contingencies**

AFMA has no quantifiable contingent liabilities and assets.

**Unquantifiable Contingencies**

AFMA as a Commonwealth regulator engages in Compliance and Fisheries Management Activities. These activities expose AFMA to significant potential security, environmental and other risks that cannot be quantified.

**Note 12: Senior Executive Remuneration**

**Note 12A: Senior Executive Remuneration Expenses for the Reporting Period**

	2014	2013
	\$	\$
<b>Short-term employee benefits:</b>		
Salary	970,460	822,432
<b>Total short-term employee benefits</b>	<u>970,460</u>	<u>822,432</u>
<b>Post-employment benefits:</b>		
Superannuation	251,434	277,960
<b>Total post-employment benefits</b>	<u>251,434</u>	<u>277,960</u>
<b>Other long-term benefits:</b>		
Annual leave accrued	61,962	74,703
Long-service leave	27,883	31,839
<b>Total other long-term benefits</b>	<u>89,845</u>	<u>106,542</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u>1,311,739</u>	<u>1,206,933</u>

**Notes:**

- Note 12A was prepared on an accrual basis.
- Note 12A excludes acting arrangements and part-year service where remuneration expensed was less than \$195,000.
- No allowances or bonuses were paid to Senior Executive staff during the 2013-14 period.

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**Note 12: Senior Executive Remuneration (Continued)**

**Note 12B: Average Annual Reportable Remuneration Paid to Substantive Senior Executives during the Reporting Period**

**Average annual reportable remuneration paid to substantive senior executives in 2014**

Average annual reportable remuneration <sup>1</sup>	Substantive senior executives No.	Reportable salary <sup>2</sup> \$	Contributed superannuation <sup>3</sup> \$	Total reportable remuneration \$
Total remuneration (including part-time arrangements):				
less than \$195,000	1	153,693	21,288	174,981
\$270,000 to \$299,999	1	211,837	68,491	280,328
\$340,000 to \$369,999	1	270,791	76,692	347,483
\$400,000 to \$439,999	1	334,138	84,963	419,101
<b>Total number of substantive senior executives</b>	<b>4</b>			

**Average annual reportable remuneration paid to substantive senior executives in 2013**

Average annual reportable remuneration <sup>1</sup>	Substantive senior executives No.	Reportable salary <sup>2</sup> \$	Contributed superannuation <sup>3</sup> \$	Total reportable remuneration \$
Total remuneration (including part-time arrangements):				
\$210,000 to \$239,999	1	180,871	30,734	211,605
\$240,000 to \$269,999	1	206,067	43,476	249,543
\$270,000 to \$299,999	1	242,826	52,395	295,221
\$330,000 to \$359,999	1	292,975	51,047	344,022
<b>Total number of substantive senior executives</b>	<b>4</b>			

**Notes:**

1. This table reports substantive senior executives who received remuneration during the reporting period. Each row is an averaged figure based on headcount for individuals in the band.
2. 'Reportable salary' includes the following:
  - a) gross payments;
  - b) reportable fringe benefits (at the net amount prior to 'grossing up' to account for tax); and
  - c) salary sacrificed benefits.
3. The 'contributed superannuation' amount is the average actual superannuation contributions paid to senior executives in that reportable remuneration band during the reporting period.
4. No allowances or bonuses were paid to Senior Executive staff during the 2013-14 period.

**Note 12C: Other Highly Paid Staff**

There were no non-senior executive staff who were employed by AFMA during the reporting period whose reportable remuneration was \$195,000 or more for the financial period.

**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**  
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**Note 13: Remuneration of Auditors**

	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
Financial statement audit services were provided free of charge to AFMA by the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO).		
<b>Fair value of the services provided</b>		
Financial statement audit services	41	38
<b>Total fair value of services received</b>	<u>41</u>	<u>38</u>

No other services were provided by the auditors of the financial statements.

**Note 14: Financial Instruments**

	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
<b>Note 14A: Categories of Financial Instruments</b>		
<b>Financial Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	475	356
Receivables for goods and services	801	280
<b>Total financial assets</b>	<u>1,276</u>	<u>636</u>
<b>Financial Liabilities</b>		
At amortised cost:		
Trade creditors	-	33
<b>Total financial liabilities</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>33</u>

**Note 14B: Fair Value of Financial Instruments**

The fair value of financial instruments approximates their carrying amounts.

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**Note 14: Financial Instruments (Continued)**

**Note 14C: Credit Risk**

AFMA is exposed to minimal credit risk as the majority of financial assets are cash and appropriations made under law (which guarantees fixed amounts of funding that AFMA can drawdown on as required). The maximum exposure to credit risk is the risk that arises from potential default of a debtor. This amount is equal to the total amount of trade receivables in 2014 of \$812,000 (2013: \$280,000). AFMA has assessed the risk of default as \$11,000 in 2014.

AFMA manages its credit risk through policies and procedures that guide employees on the debt recovery techniques that are to be applied.

AFMA holds no collateral to mitigate against credit risk.

**Credit quality of financial instruments not past due or individually determined as impaired**

	<b>Not past due nor impaired</b>	Not past due nor impaired	<b>Past due or impaired</b>	Past due or impaired
	<b>2014</b>	2013	<b>2014</b>	2013
	<b>\$'000</b>	\$'000	<b>\$'000</b>	\$'000
Cash and cash equivalents	475	356	-	-
Receivables for goods and services	337	93	384	187
<b>Total</b>	<b>812</b>	449	<b>384</b>	187

**Ageing of financial assets that were past due but not impaired for 2014**

	<b>0 to 30 days</b>	<b>31 to 60 days</b>	<b>61 to 90 days</b>	<b>90+ days</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Receivables for goods and services <sup>1</sup>	351	105	70	209	735
<b>Total</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>735</b>

<sup>1</sup>Difference between financial instruments balance of \$812,000 and ageing of financial instruments balance of \$735,000 relates to unapplied credits as at reporting of 30 June 2014. These unapplied amounts relate to monies deposited into AFMA's bank account that are yet to be applied to a debtor.

**Ageing of financial assets that were past due but not impaired for 2013**

	<b>0 to 30 days</b>	<b>31 to 60 days</b>	<b>61 to 90 days</b>	<b>90+ days</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Receivables for goods and services	148	-	1	38	187
<b>Total</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>187</b>

The debts considered to be impaired consist of fee for service invoices for observer coverage.

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**Note 14: Financial Instruments (Continued)**

**Note 14D: Liquidity Risk**

AFMA's financial liabilities are trade creditors. The exposure to liquidity risk is based on the notion that AFMA will encounter difficulty in meeting its obligations associated with financial liabilities. This is highly unlikely due to appropriation funding and mechanisms available to AFMA (eg Advance to the Finance Minister) and internal policies and procedures put in place to ensure there are appropriate resources to meet its financial obligations. AFMA's trade creditors for 2014 was Zero (2013: \$33,000) and were all payable within one year.

AFMA is appropriated funding from the Australian Government. AFMA manages its budgeted funds through the AFMA Special Account to ensure it has adequate funds to meet payments as they fall due. In addition, AFMA has policies in place to ensure timely payments are made when due and has no past experience of default.

**Maturities for non-derivative financial liabilities 2014**

	On demand \$'000	within 1 year \$'000	1 to 2 years \$'000	2 to 5 years \$'000	Total years \$'000
Trade creditors and accruals	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	-	-	-	-	-

**Maturities for non-derivative financial liabilities 2013**

	On demand \$'000	within 1 year \$'000	1 to 2 years \$'000	2 to 5 years \$'000	Total years \$'000
Trade creditors and accruals	-	33	-	-	33
<b>Total</b>	-	33	-	-	33

AFMA has no derivative financial liabilities in both the current and prior year.

**Note 14E: Market Risk**

AFMA does not have the authority to invest surplus funds or hold financial instruments that expose it to market risk. AFMA is not exposed to 'currency risk', 'interest rate risk' or 'other price risk'.

**Note 15: Financial Assets Reconciliation**

	Notes	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
<b>Financial assets</b>			
<b>Total financial assets as per statement of financial position</b>		<b>16,638</b>	16,967
Less: non-financial instrument components:			
Appropriations receivable	6B	14,781	15,943
GST Receivable from the Australian Taxation Office	6B	581	388
Total non-financial instrument components		<u>15,362</u>	<u>16,331</u>
<b>Total financial assets as per financial instruments note</b>		<u>1,276</u>	<u>636</u>

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**Note 16: Administered - Expenses**

	2014	2013
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
<b>Note 16A: Suppliers</b>		
<b>Goods and services</b>		
Surveillance and compliance	3,259	2,841
<b>Total goods and services</b>	<u>3,259</u>	<u>2,841</u>
<b>Goods and services are made up of:</b>		
Related entities	7	7
External parties	3,252	2,834
<b>Total goods and services</b>	<u>3,259</u>	<u>2,841</u>
<b>Other suppliers</b>		
<b>Operating lease rentals in connection with</b>		
External parties		
Minimum lease payments	15	60
<b>Total other supplier</b>	<u>15</u>	<u>60</u>
<b>Total suppliers</b>	<u>3,274</u>	<u>2,901</u>
<b>Note 16B: Depreciation and Amortisation</b>		
<b>Depreciation:</b>		
Buildings	37	35
<b>Total depreciation</b>	<u>37</u>	<u>35</u>
<b>Note 16C: Write-Down and Impairment of Assets</b>		
<b>Asset write-downs and impairments from:</b>		
Impairment of levies and charges receivable	25	161
<b>Total write-down and impairment of assets</b>	<u>25</u>	<u>161</u>

**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**  
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**Note 17: Administered - Income**

	2014	2013
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>REVENUE</b>		
<b><u>Note 17A: Other Taxes</u></b>		
Levies and charges <sup>1</sup>	12	14,866
<b>Total other taxes</b>	12	14,866
<b>Non-Taxation Revenue</b>		
<b><u>Note 17B: Sale of Goods and Rendering of Services</u></b>		
Provision of goods – external parties	28	-
<b>Total sale of goods and rendering services</b>	28	-
<b><u>Note 17B: Fees and Fines</u></b>		
Other fees from regulatory services	-	47
Fines	247	209
<b>Total fees and fines</b>	247	256
<b><u>Note 17C: Interest</u></b>		
Interest on overdue levies	2	31
<b>Total interest</b>	2	31
<b><u>Note 17D: Other Revenue</u></b>		
Other	230	8
<b>Total other revenue</b>	230	8

<sup>1</sup>For the 2013–14 financial year AFMA changed the process of administering the revenue received for cost recovered levies. In prior years, levies were first received via the Administered bank account and were therefore considered part of Administered revenue. The revenue was then transferred to the Departmental Special Account. For the 2013–14 financial year AFMA received the cost recovered levy revenue straight to the Departmental bank account.

**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**  
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**Note 18: Administered – Fair Value Measurements**

The following tables provide an analysis of assets and liabilities that are measured at fair value. The different levels of the fair value hierarchy are defined below.

- Level 1: Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at measurement date.
- Level 2: Inputs, other than quoted prices included within Level 1, that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.
- Level 3: Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability.

**Note 18A: Fair value measurements**

**Fair value measurements at the end of the reporting period by hierarchy for assets in 2014**

	Fair value	Fair value measurements at the end of the reporting period			
			Level 1 inputs	Level 2 inputs	Level 3 inputs
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Non-financial assets</b>					
Leasehold improvements	593	-	-	593	
<b>Total non-financial assets</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>593</b>	

**Note 18B: Valuation technique and inputs for Level 2 and Level 3 fair value measurements**

**Level 2 and 3 fair value measurements - valuation technique and the inputs used in 2014**

	Category	Fair Value \$'000	Valuation Techniques		Inputs Used
<b>Non-financial assets</b>					
Leasehold improvements	Level 3	593	Cost	Not traded in the market and, in some instances, specialised assets. Depreciated replacement cost assessment.	

**Recurring and non-recurring Level 3 fair value measurements - valuation processes**

AFMA used valuers and relies on valuation models provided. AFMA tests the assumptions of the valuation model at least once every 12 months. The valuers provided written assurance to AFMA that valuation techniques used are compliant with AASB 13.

**Recurring Level 3 fair value measurements - sensitivity of inputs**

The significant unobservable inputs used in the fair value measurement of AFMA's leasehold improvements and property, plant and equipment asset classes relate to the consumed economic benefit/asset obsolescence. A significant increase (decrease) in this input would result in a significantly lower (higher) fair value measurement.

**Note 18C: Reconciliation for recurring Level 3 fair value measurements**

**Recurring Level 3 fair value measurements - reconciliation for assets**

	Leasehold improvements	Total
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Opening balance</b>	630	630
Depreciation/amortisation	(37)	(37)
<b>Closing balance</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>593</b>



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**Note 19: Administered - Financial Assets**

	2014	2013
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>FINANCIAL ASSETS</b>		
<b>Note 19A: Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>		
Cash on hand or on deposit	17	2
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Note 19B: Trade and Other Receivables</b>		
<b>Fines and charges:</b>		
Fines and charges receivable - external parties	607	735
<b>Total receivables fines and charges</b>	<b>607</b>	<b>735</b>
<b>Other receivables:</b>		
GST receivable from Australian Taxation Office	67	33
<b>Total other receivables</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Total trade and other receivables (gross)</b>	<b>674</b>	<b>768</b>
<b>Less: impairment allowance account:</b>		
Levies and charges	(418)	(548)
<b>Total impairment allowance account</b>	<b>(418)</b>	<b>(548)</b>
<b>Total trade and other receivables (net)</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>220</b>
Receivables are expected to be recovered within 12 months.		
<b>Receivables were aged as follows:</b>		
Not overdue	30	2
Overdue by:		
0 to 30 days	133	58
31 to 60 days	36	106
61 to 90 days	-	-
More than 90 days	475	603
<b>Total receivables (gross)</b>	<b>674</b>	<b>768</b>
<b>The impairment allowance account is aged as follows:</b>		
Not overdue	-	-
Overdue by:		
0 to 30 days	-	-
31 to 60 days	-	-
61 to 90 days	-	-
More than 90 days	(418)	(548)
<b>Total impairment allowance account</b>	<b>(418)</b>	<b>(548)</b>
Credit terms for goods and services were within 30 days (2013: 30 days).		

**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**  
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**Note 19: Administered - Financial Assets (Continued)**

<b>Reconciliation of the Impairment Allowance Account:</b>		
<b>Movements in relation to 2014</b>		
	<b>Levies and charges \$'000</b>	<b>Total \$'000</b>
<b>Opening balance</b>	(548)	(548)
Amounts written off	155	155
Movement recognised in net surplus	(25)	(25)
<b>Closing balance</b>	(418)	(418)
<b>Movements in relation to 2013</b>		
	<b>Levies and charges \$'000</b>	<b>Total \$'000</b>
<b>Opening balance</b>	(454)	(454)
Amounts written off	67	67
Amounts recovered and reversed	(161)	(161)
<b>Closing balance</b>	(548)	(548)

**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**  
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**Note 20: Administered - Non-Financial Assets**

	2014	2013
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS</b>		
<b>Note 20A: Land and Buildings</b>		
<b>Leasehold improvements:</b>		
Fair value	630	630
Accumulated depreciation	(37)	-
<b>Total leasehold improvements</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>630</b>
<b>Total land and buildings</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>630</b>
No indicators of impairment were found for land and buildings.		
No land or buildings are expected to be sold or disposed of within the next 12 months.		
<b>Note 20B – Reconciliation of the Opening and Closing Balances of Property, Plant and Equipment</b>		
<b>Reconciliation of the opening and closing balances of property, plant and equipment for 2014</b>		
	Leasehold Improvements	Total
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>As at 1 July 2013</b>		
Gross book value	630	630
Accumulated depreciation and impairment	-	-
<b>Net book value 1 July 2013</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>630</b>
Revaluations and impairments recognised in other comprehensive income	-	-
Depreciation expense	(37)	(37)
<b>Net book value 30 June 2014</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>593</b>
<b>Net book value as of 30 June 2014 represented by:</b>		
Gross book value	630	630
Accumulated depreciation and impairment	(37)	(37)
	<b>593</b>	<b>593</b>
<b>Reconciliation of the opening and closing balances of property, plant and equipment for 2013</b>		
	Leasehold Improvements	Total
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>As at 1 July 2012</b>		
Gross book value	699	699
Accumulated depreciation/amortisation and impairment	(173)	(173)
<b>Net book value 1 July 2012</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>526</b>
Revaluations and impairments recognised in other comprehensive income	139	139
Depreciation expense	(35)	(35)
<b>Net book value 30 June 2013</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>630</b>
<b>Net book value as of 30 June 2013 represented by:</b>		
Gross book value	630	630
Accumulated depreciation and impairment	-	-
	<b>630</b>	<b>630</b>

**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**  
**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**Note 21: Administered - Payables**

	2014	2013
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Note 21A: Other Payables</b>		
Accrued expenses	462	56
GST payable	25	44
Unearned income	-	54
<b>Total other payables</b>	<b>487</b>	<b>154</b>
<b>Total other payables are expected to be settled in:</b>		
No more than 12 months	487	154
<b>Total other payables</b>	<b>487</b>	<b>154</b>

**Note 22: Administered - Cash Flow Reconciliation**

	2014	2013
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents as per Administered Schedule of Assets and Liabilities to Administered Cash Flow Statement</b>		
<b>Cash and cash equivalents as per:</b>		
Schedule of administered cash flows	17	2
Schedule of administered assets and liabilities	17	2
<b>Discrepancy</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Reconciliation of net cost of services to net cash from / (used by) operating activities:</b>		
Net (cost of)/ contribution by services	(2,817)	12,065
<b>Adjustments for non-cash items</b>		
Depreciation / amortisation	37	35
Net write down of non-financial assets	25	161
<b>Changes in assets / liabilities</b>		
(Increase) / decrease in net receivables	(61)	140
Increase / (decrease) in unearned revenue	-	32
Increase / (decrease) in supplier payables	-	(23)
Increase / (decrease) in other payable	332	(62)
<b>Net cash flows from operating activities</b>	<b>(2,484)</b>	<b>12,348</b>

**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**  
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**Note 23: Administered - Contingent Assets and Liabilities**

<b>Quantifiable Administered Contingencies</b>				
	<b>Guarantees</b>		<b>Total</b>	
	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Contingent assets</b>				
Balance from previous period	987	-	987	-
Re-measured	(987)	-	(987)	-
New	-	987	-	987
<b>Total contingent assets</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>987</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>987</b>

AFMA has no quantifiable contingent liabilities and assets.

**Unquantifiable Contingencies**

AFMA is responsible for the caretaking and disposal of apprehended foreign fishing vessels on behalf of the Commonwealth. These activities expose AFMA to significant potential security, environmental and other risks that cannot be quantified. AFMA is presently involved in several legal actions that may result in a liability for the agency. The total liability to AFMA is not presently quantifiable.

**Significant Remote Contingencies**

There were no significant remote contingencies as at 30 June 2014.

**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**  
**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**Note 24: Administered - Financial Instruments**

	2014	2013
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Note 24A: Categories of Financial Instruments</b>		
<b>Financial Assets</b>		
Receivables:		
Cash and cash equivalents	17	2
<b>Carrying amount of financial assets</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>2</b>

**Note 24B: Credit Risk**

The administered activities of AFMA are not exposed to a high level of credit risk as the majority of financial assets are statutory receivables. AFMA manages its credit risk through its power to suspend fishing concessions under s38(1) of the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* if any fee, levy, charge or other money relating to the concession is not paid as it becomes due. In addition, AFMA has policies and procedures that guide employees on debt recovery techniques that are to be applied.

AFMA did not hold any non-statutory administered receivables at 30 June 2014.

**Note 24C: Liquidity Risk**

AFMA's financial liabilities are limited to the value of accounts payable. The exposure to liquidity risk is based on the notion that AFMA will encounter difficulty in meeting its obligations associated with financial liabilities. This is highly unlikely due to appropriation funding and mechanisms available to AFMA (eg Advance to the Finance Minister (AFM)) and internal policies and procedures put in place to ensure there are appropriate resources to meet its financial obligations.

Maturity of non-derivative financial liabilities for 2014 are all within one year.

**Note 24D: Market Risk**

AFMA does not have the authority to invest surplus funds or hold financial instruments that expose it to market risk. AFMA is not exposed to 'currency risk', 'interest rate risk' or 'other price risk'.

**Note 25: Administered - Financial Assets Reconciliation**

		2014	2013
		\$'000	\$'000
<b>Financial assets</b>	<b>Notes</b>		
<b>Total financial assets as per schedule of administered assets and liabilities</b>		<b>273</b>	<b>222</b>
Less: non-financial instrument components			
GST Receivable from the Australian Taxation Office	19B	67	33
Net receivables levies and charges	19B	189	187
<b>Total non-financial instrument components</b>		<b>256</b>	<b>220</b>
<b>Total financial assets as per administered financial instruments note</b>		<b>17</b>	<b>2</b>

**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY  
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**Note 26: Appropriations**

Table A: Annual Appropriations ('Recoverable GST exclusive')

	Appropriation Act Annual Appropriations Appropriation \$'000	2014 Appropriations				Appropriation applied in 2014 (current and prior years) \$'000	Variance \$'000
		FMA Act					
		Section 30 \$'000	Section 31 \$'000	Section 32 \$'000	Total appropriation \$'000		
<b>DEPARTMENTAL</b>							
Ordinary annual services	23,246	-	-	-	23,246	23,219	27
<b>Total departmental</b>	23,246	-	-	-	23,246	23,219	27
<b>ADMINISTERED</b>							
Ordinary annual services	4,075	-	-	-	4,075	3,342	733
Administered items	4,075	-	-	-	4,075	3,342	733
<b>Total administered</b>	4,075	-	-	-	4,075	3,342	733

**Notes:**

1. Appropriations reduced under Appropriation Acts (Nos. 1,3&5) 2013-14; sections 10, 11, and 12 and under Appropriation Acts (Nos. 2,4&6) 2013-14; sections 12, 13 and 14. Departmental appropriations do not lapse at financial year-end. However, the responsible Minister may decide that part or all of a departmental appropriation is not required and request the Finance Minister to reduce that appropriation. The reduction in the appropriation is effected by the Finance Minister's determination and is disallowable by Parliament. For the 2013-14 financial year AFMA incurred a whole of government efficiency dividend and this had the effect of reducing the available Departmental appropriation by \$27,000. For Administered funds \$732,874.76 was remaining as unspent and to be returned to consolidated revenue at the end of the 2013-14 Financial year.

As with departmental appropriations, the responsible Minister may decide that part or all of an administered appropriation is not required and request that the Finance Minister reduce that appropriation. For administered appropriations reduced under section 11 of Appropriation Acts (Nos. 1,3&5) 2013-14 and section 12 of Appropriation Acts (Nos. 2,4&6) 2013-14, the appropriation is taken to be reduced to the required amount specified in Table E of this note once the annual report is tabled in Parliament. All administered appropriations may be adjusted by a Finance Minister's determination, which is disallowable by Parliament.

**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**  
**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**Note 26: Appropriations (Continued)**

Table A (Cont'd): Annual Appropriations ('Recoverable GST exclusive')

	2013 Appropriations					Appropriation applied in 2013 (current and prior years) \$'000	Variance \$'000
	Appropriation Act		FMA Act				
	Annual Appropriation \$'000	Appropriations reduced <sup>1</sup> \$'000	Section 30 \$'000	Section 31 \$'000	Section 32 \$'000		
<b>DEPARTMENTAL</b>							
Ordinary annual services	22,229	-	-	-	-	22,071	79
<b>Total departmental</b>	<b>22,229</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22,071</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>ADMINISTERED</b>							
Ordinary annual services Administered items	4,070	-	-	-	-	4,070	1,064
<b>Total administered</b>	<b>4,070</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,070</b>	<b>1,064</b>

**Notes:**

1. Appropriations reduced under Appropriation Acts (Nos. 1,3&5) 2012-13; sections 10, 11, and 12 and under Appropriation Acts (Nos. 2,4&6) 2012-13; sections 12, 13 and 14. Departmental appropriations do not lapse at financial year-end. However, the responsible Minister may decide that part or all of a departmental appropriation is not required and request the Finance Minister to reduce that appropriation. The reduction in the appropriation is effected by the Finance Minister's determination and is disallowable by Parliament.

As with departmental appropriations, the responsible Minister may decide that part or all of an administered appropriation is not required and request that the Finance Minister reduce that appropriation. For administered appropriations reduced under section 11 of Appropriation Acts (Nos. 1,3&5) 2012-13 and section 12 of Appropriation Acts (Nos. 2,4&6) 2012-13, the appropriation is taken to be reduced to the required amount specified in Table E of this note once the annual report is tabled in Parliament. All administered appropriations may be adjusted by a Finance Minister's determination, which is disallowable by Parliament.



**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY  
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**Note 26: Appropriations (Continued)**

Table B: Departmental Capital Budgets ('Recoverable GST exclusive')

	2014 Capital Budget Appropriations			Capital Budget Appropriations applied in 2014			
	Annual Capital Budget \$'000	FMA Act		Payments for non-financial assets <sup>3</sup> \$'000	Payments for other purposes \$'000	Total payments \$'000	Variance \$'000
		Appropriation Act	Section 32 \$'000				
<b>DEPARTMENTAL</b> <b>Ordinary annual services -</b> Departmental Capital Budget <sup>1</sup>	154	-	-	154	-	154	-

**Notes:**

1. Departmental and Administered Capital Budgets are appropriated through Appropriation Acts (No.1,3,5). They form part of ordinary annual services, and are not separately identified in the Appropriation Acts. For more information on ordinary annual services appropriations, please see Table A: Annual appropriations.
2. Appropriations reduced under Appropriation Acts (No.1,3,5) 2013-14: sections 10, 11, 12 and 15 or via a determination by the Finance Minister.
3. Payments made on non-financial assets include purchases of assets, expenditure on assets which has been capitalised, costs incurred to make good an asset to its original condition, and the capital repayment component of finance leases.

	2013 Capital Budget Appropriations			Capital Budget Appropriations applied in 2013			
	Annual Capital Budget \$'000	FMA Act		Payments for non-financial assets <sup>3</sup> \$'000	Payments for other purposes \$'000	Total payments \$'000	Variance \$'000
		Appropriation Act	Section 32 \$'000				
<b>DEPARTMENTAL</b> <b>Ordinary annual services -</b> Departmental Capital Budget <sup>1</sup>	155	(1)	-	154	-	154	-

**Notes:**

1. Departmental and Administered Capital Budgets are appropriated through Appropriation Acts (No.1,3,5). They form part of ordinary annual services, and are not separately identified in the Appropriation Acts. For more information on ordinary annual services appropriations, please see Table A: Annual appropriations.
2. Appropriations reduced under Appropriation Acts (No.1,3,5) 2012-13: sections 10, 11, 12 and 15 or via a determination by the Finance Minister.
3. Payments made on non-financial assets include purchases of assets, expenditure on assets which has been capitalised, costs incurred to make good an asset to its original condition, and the capital repayment component of finance leases.

**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY  
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for the period ended 30 June 2014**

**Note 26: Appropriations (Continued)**

**Table C: Unspent Annual Appropriations ('Recoverable GST exclusive')**

Unspent appropriations as at 30 June 2014.		2014	2013
		\$'000	\$'000
<b>Authority</b>			
<b>Departmental</b>			
	Appropriation Act (No. 1) 2012-13	-	79
	Appropriation Act (No. 1) 2013-14	27	-
<b>Total departmental</b>			
<b>Administered</b>			
	Appropriation Act (No. 1) 2012-13	-	1,064
	Appropriation Act (No. 1) 2013-14	733	-
<b>Total administered</b>			
<b>Total</b>		<b>760</b>	<b>1,143</b>

**Table D: Special Appropriations ('Recoverable GST exclusive')**

Authority	Type	Purpose	Appropriation applied	
			2014	2013
			\$'000	\$'000
<i>Fisheries Administration Act 1991, Section 94C,</i>	Unlimited Amount	To provide an appropriation for adjusted levy amounts and other receipts specified by s94C of the <i>Fisheries Administration Act 1991</i>	11,729	14,687
<i>Departmental</i>				
<i>Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997</i>	Refund	To provide an appropriation where an Act or other law requires or permits the repayment of an amount received by the Commonwealth and apart from this section there is no specific appropriation for the repayment	-	8
<i>s28(2), Administered</i>				
<b>Total</b>			<b>11,729</b>	<b>14,695</b>

**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY  
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**Note 26: Appropriations (Continued)**

Table E: Reduction in Administered Items (Recoverable GST exclusive)

2014	Amount required <sup>1</sup> - by		Amount required <sup>1</sup> - as		Total amount required <sup>1</sup>	Total amount appropriated <sup>2</sup>	Total reduction <sup>3</sup>
	Appropriation Act Act (No.1)	Act (No.3)	Spent	Retention			
Ordinary Annual Services	\$3,342,125.24	0.00	\$2,859,224.06	\$482,901.18	\$3,342,125.24	\$4,075,000.00	\$0.00
Outcome 1							

For the 2013-14 financial year AFMA did not utilise \$732,874.76 of Administered funding. This amount remained unspent and is to be returned to consolidated revenue at the end of the 2013-14 Financial year.

1. Amount required as per Appropriation Act (Act 1 s. 11; Act 2 s. 12).
2. Total amount appropriated in 2014.
3. Total reduction effective in 2015.

2013	Amount required <sup>1</sup> - by		Amount required <sup>1</sup> - as represented		Total amount required <sup>1</sup>	Total amount appropriated <sup>2</sup>	Total reduction <sup>3</sup>
	Appropriation Act Act (No.1)	Act (No.3)	Spent	Retention			
Ordinary Annual Services	\$3,005,762.47	\$0.00	\$2,950,167.92	\$55,594.55	\$3,005,762.47	\$4,070,000.00	\$0.00
Outcome 1							

For the 2012-13 financial year AFMA did not utilise \$1,064,238.53 of Administered funding. This amount remained unspent and was returned to consolidated revenue at the end of the 2012-13 Financial year.

1. Amount required as per Appropriation Act (Act 1 s. 11; Act 2 s. 12).
2. Total amount appropriated in 2013.
3. Total reduction effective in 2014.

**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**  
**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
*for the period ended 30 June 2014*

**Note 27: Special Accounts**

	AFMA Special Account (Departmental) <sup>1</sup>		Entities and Trust Moneys Special Account (Special Public Money) <sup>2</sup>	
	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
<b>Balance brought forward from previous period</b>	16,299	13,615	218	231
<b>Increases:</b>				
Appropriation for reporting period	23,219	22,071	-	-
Special appropriation ( <i>Fisheries Administration Act 1991</i> - Section 94C)	12,891	14,687	-	-
Other receipts	2,296	1,834	-	170
<b>Total increases</b>	<b>54,705</b>	<b>52,207</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>401</b>
<b>Decreases:</b>				
Employee payments	(21,088)	(20,440)	-	-
Supplier payments	(16,868)	(15,083)	-	-
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(1,493)	(385)	-	-
<b>Total decreases</b>	<b>(39,449)</b>	<b>(35,908)</b>	<b>(83)</b>	<b>(183)</b>
<b>Total decrease</b>	<b>(39,449)</b>	<b>(35,908)</b>	<b>(83)</b>	<b>(183)</b>
<b>Total balance carried to the next period:</b>	<b>15,256</b>	<b>16,299</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>218</b>

1. Appropriation: *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*, section 21.

Establishing Instrument: *Fisheries Administration Act 1991*; section 94B.

Purpose: Payment or discharge of the costs, expenses or other obligations incurred in the performance or exercise of the functions and powers of the Authority.

2. Appropriation: *AFMA Services for Other Entities and Trust Moneys Special Account (Special Public Money)*

Establishing Instrument: *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*; section 20.

Purpose: For amounts that are held on trust or otherwise for the benefit of a person other than the Commonwealth.

**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**  
**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
*for the period ended 30 June 2014*

**Note 28: Compensation and Debt Relief**

**Departmental**

No 'Act of Grace' expenses were made during the reporting period (2013: No payments made).

No waivers of amounts owing to the Australian Government were made pursuant to subsection 34(1) of the Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997 (2013: No waiver made).

No payments were provided under the Compensation for Detriment caused by Defective Administration (CDDA) Scheme during the reporting period (2013: No payments made).

No ex-gratia payments were provided for during the reporting period (2013: No payments made).

No payments were provided in special circumstances relating to APS employment pursuant to section 73 of the Public Service Act 1999 during the reporting period (2013: No payments made).

**Administered**

No 'Act of Grace' expenses were made during the reporting period (2013: No payments made).

No waivers of amounts owing to the Australian Government were made pursuant to subsection 34(1) of the Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997 (2013: No waiver made).

No payments were provided under the Compensation for Detriment caused by Defective Administration (CDDA) Scheme during the reporting period (2013: No payments made).

No ex-gratia payments were provided for during the reporting period (2013: No payments made).

No payments were provided in special circumstances relating to APS employment pursuant to section 73 of the Public Service Act 1999 during the reporting period (2013: No payments made).

**Note 29: Assets Held in Trust**

**Monetary assets**

Financial assets held in trust were also disclosed in Note 27: Special Accounts in the table titled AFMA Service for Other Entities and Trust Monies.

	<b>2014</b>	2013
	<b>\$'000</b>	\$'000
<b>Cash at bank - monetary asset</b>		
Total amount held at the beginning of the reporting period	<b>218</b>	231
Receipts	-	170
Payments	<b>(83)</b>	(183)
<b>Total amount held at the end of the reporting period</b>	<b><u>135</u></b>	<u>218</u>

The values above were estimated fair values at the time when acquired.

**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**  
**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
*for the period ended 30 June 2014*

**Note 30: Reporting of Outcomes**

AFMA has a single outcome for the financial year: *Ecologically sustainable and economically efficient Commonwealth fisheries, through understanding and monitoring Australia's marine living resources and regulating and monitoring commercial fishing, including domestic licensing and deterrence of illegal foreign fishing.*

**Note 30A: Net Cost of Outcome Delivery**

	Outcome 1		Total	
	2014	2013	2014	2013
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Departmental</b>				
Expenses	41,145	38,023	41,145	38,023
Own-source income	(2,702)	(1,821)	(2,702)	(1,821)
<b>Administered</b>				
Expenses	3,336	3,097	3,336	3,097
Own-source income	(519)	(15,162)	(519)	(15,162)
<b>Net cost/contribution of outcome delivery</b>	<b>41,260</b>	<b>24,137</b>	<b>41,260</b>	<b>24,137</b>

**Note 30B & 30C: Major Classes of Expense, Income, Assets and Liabilities by Outcome**

AFMA has a single outcome and as such the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Balance Sheet, Administered Schedule of Comprehensive Income and Administered Schedule of Assets and Liabilities is representative of that outcome.

**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**  
**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
*for the period ended 30 June 2014*

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**Note 31: Competitive Neutrality and Cost Recovery**

**Note 31A: Cost Recovery Summary**

	2014	2013
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Amounts applied</b>		
Departmental		
Special appropriations (including special accounts)	<u>12,785</u>	<u>13,560</u>
<b>Total amounts applied</b>	<u>12,785</u>	<u>13,560</u>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Departmental	<u>12,785</u>	<u>13,560</u>
<b>Total expenses</b>	<u>12,785</u>	<u>13,560</u>
<b>Revenue</b>		
Departmental	<u>11,918</u>	<u>14,360</u>
<b>Total revenue</b>	<u>11,918</u>	<u>14,360</u>
<b>Receivables</b>		
Not overdue	12,785	-
Overdue by		
0 to 30 days	-	-
31 to 60 days	-	-
61 to 90 days	-	-
More than 90 days	-	-
<b>Total receivables</b>	<u>12,785</u>	<u>-</u>

**Cost recovered activities:**

AFMA undertakes cost recovered activities for the provision of Fisheries Management functions within the Commonwealth fisheries sector. The recovery of this expenditure incurred is in-line with the government cost recovery guidelines and AFMA's Cost Recovery Impact Statement.

**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**  
**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
*for the period ended 30 June 2014*

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**Note 32: Net Cash Appropriation Arrangements**

	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
<b>Total comprehensive income (loss) less depreciation/amortisation expenses previously funded through revenue appropriations<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>(2,364)</b>	1,608
Plus: depreciation/amortisation expenses previously funded through revenue appropriation	<u>1,285</u>	<u>1,206</u>
<b>Total comprehensive income - as per the Statement of Comprehensive Income</b>	<b><u>(3,649)</u></b>	<b>402</b>

<sup>1</sup> From 2010-11, the Government introduced net cash appropriation arrangements, where revenue appropriations for depreciation/amortisation expenses ceased. Entities now receive a separate capital budget provided through equity appropriations. Capital budgets are to be appropriated in the period when cash payment for capital expenditure is required.

<sup>2</sup> Depreciation and amortisation expenditure represented above refers to the government funded portion of AFMA's total depreciation and amortisation charges.



**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**  
**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
*for the period ended 30 June 2014*

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**Note 33: Compliance with statutory conditions for payments from the consolidated revenue fund**

Section 83 of the Constitution provides that no amount may be paid out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund except under an appropriation made by law. The Department of Finance provided information to all agencies in 2011 regarding the need to conduct risk assessments in relation to compliance with the statutory conditions on payments from special appropriations, including special accounts. Non compliance with statutory conditions on payments may constitute a breach of section 83 of the Constitution.

On 2 July 2013 AFMA received further advice from the Department of Finance in relation to possible breaches of section 83 of the Constitution for what it called certain “generic” payments. These are payments made by agencies pursuant to the Remuneration Tribunal Act 1973, the Long Service Leave (Commonwealth Employees) Act 1976 and section 30A of the Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997.

AFMA undertook a risk assessment for the 2013-14 financial year. No breaches of Section 83 were identified and the overall risk of a breach was considered low.

The Australian Government continues to have regard to developments in case law, including the High Court’s most recent decision on Commonwealth expenditure in *Williams v Commonwealth* [2014] HCA 23, as they contribute to the larger body of law relevant to the development of Commonwealth programs. In accordance with its general practice, the Government will continue to monitor and assess risk and decide on any appropriate actions to respond to risks of expenditure not being consistent with constitutional or other legal requirements.



**COMMERICAL SCALLOPS**  
*Pecten fumatus*



**OTHER COMMON NAMES:** SCALLOPS  
**SIZE:** UP TO 14 CENTIMETRES  
**STOCK STATUS:** UNCERTAIN

Scallops are strong and rich in flavour with a medium-firm texture. They are popular grilled or barbecued, but avoid overcooking, which causes shrinkage, or the use of too much salt.

Grill under a salamander, then drizzle with lime juice and olive oil, or sprinkle with fresh lemon zest and cracked pepper. Combine with coriander, avocado and chilli salsa on a crispy pappadum.

## PART 6

# APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Civil litigation outcomes

Appendix 2: Commission and executive

Appendix 3: Management advisory committee meetings and memberships

Appendix 4: Freedom of Information reporting

Appendix 5: Work health and safety

Appendix 6: Ecologically sustainable development and environmental performance

Appendix 7: Disability reporting

Appendix 8: Consultancy services

Appendix 9: Agency Resource Statements and resources for outcomes

# Appendix 1: Civil litigation outcomes

MATTER	FISHERY	OUTCOME/STATUS
<b>High Court of Australia</b>		
Nil		
<b>Supreme Court</b>		
Nil		
<b>Federal Court</b>		
Sahring Ors v Commonwealth & AFMA	N/A	Judgement delivered on 1 April 2014.
<b>Statutory Fishing Rights Allocation Review Panel</b>		
Nil		

## SIGNIFICANT MATTERS

Sahring's vessel was seized in 2008 under the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* on the grounds that the Commonwealth officers had reasonable grounds to believe that it was forfeited to the Commonwealth as a foreign boat used in an offence in relation to the fishing of a sedentary organism called 'trepang' (sea cucumber). Following the seizure, the vessel was destroyed at sea because it was unseaworthy, and Sahring and other crew members were taken to Darwin. Sahring challenged both the vessel apprehension and his detention as well as the validity of the legislation.

The Federal Court confirmed the validity of the legislation but held that there was insufficient evidence available to the boarding officers to have any 'reasonable grounds to believe' that an offence had occurred. Accordingly the legislative forfeiture regime was unable to be invoked making Sahring's apprehension and detention unlawful. Damages were awarded totalling \$44 000 plus interest and costs. Nine other concurrent applications also challenging validity of law are yet to be resolved.

## Appendix 2: Commission and executive

The following Commissioners were appointed for the reporting period 2013–14.



**THE HON. MICHAEL EGAN, FAICD – CHAIRMAN**

Mr Egan is a Company Director, Chancellor of Macquarie University, Chairman of the Centenary Institute of Cancer Medicine and Chairman of the Newcastle Coal Infrastructure Group Pty Ltd. He was previously Treasurer of New South Wales, Minister of State Development and Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council.



**DR JAMES FINDLAY – CEO**

Dr Findlay has a PhD in Fisheries Biology and has held senior government roles across fisheries science, policy and management. He has also held senior government roles in other natural resource management areas including climate change and sustainable water use. He was a Research Consultant in aquatic animal health for the aquaculture industry and was a Senior Lecturer in Genetics at the University of Tasmania. Prior to joining the Australian Public Service he also worked in the commercial and recreational and charter fishing industries in Queensland.



**MR RICHARD STEVENS, OAM – DEPUTY CHAIR**

Mr Stevens has a Bachelor of Economics, is a Director of the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation, Deputy Presiding Member of the Fisheries Council of South Australia and Chair and member of a number of state and territory fisheries committees. Mr Stevens' expertise covers natural resource management, fishing industry operations and economics.



**MR IAN CARTWRIGHT**

Mr Cartwright has a Master of Science in Economics, is Chair of the Tasmanian Fisheries Research Advisory Board and chair of various fisheries committees. Mr Cartwright's expertise covers commercial fishing, fisheries science, natural resource management, economics and business management.



#### DR JOHN GLAISTER

Dr Glaister is currently Director-General of the Queensland Government Department of National Parks, Recreation, Sport and Racing. He has previously held roles as Deputy Director General, Health Planning and Infrastructure Division, Queensland Health; Chief Scientist of international construction company Laing O'Rourke; Deputy Director General of the Queensland Department of Transport; Chief Executive, Ministry of Fisheries, New Zealand; Deputy Director-General, Queensland Department of State Development and Innovation, and Director-General, New South Wales Fisheries.



#### MS JENNIFER GODDARD

Ms Goddard is an independent director and economics and public policy consultant. She is a Director of the Grains Research and Development Corporation and the ACTEW Corporation, and was the inaugural Chair of the Australian Solar Institute Limited from 2009 to 2013. Ms Goddard has held a number of senior roles within the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and prior to that in the Department of the Treasury.



#### MS ELIZABETH MONTANO

Former private sector financial services lawyer and Chief Executive in the Commonwealth, Ms Montano is currently a Member of the Council (Board) of the Australian Institute of Marine Science and member of the Australian Institute of Marine Science Audit Committee. She is Chair and member of various Commonwealth audit committees and audit and risk committees, and Principal of a consultancy business working in governance, business strategy, risk and audit. She holds the qualifications of Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Laws and is Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.



#### MS DENISE NORTH

Ms North has a Bachelor of Economics, a Master of Business Administration and is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and the Australian Institute of Management. She is Chairman of Streetwize Communications Ltd and of the Council of International House, University of Sydney. She has held diverse Senior Executive and consulting roles across a range of sectors, and is currently Chief Executive of the Insolvency Practitioners Association. Denise's expertise covers economics and business management, including corporate and business strategy development and organisational change.



#### PROF KEITH SAINSBURY

Prof Sainsbury is Director of SainSolutions, a Professor of Marine Systems Science (University of Tasmania) and Vice-Chair of the Board of the Marine Stewardship Council. Prof Sainsbury's internationally recognised expertise covers fisheries science, natural resource management and marine ecology.

## AFMA COMMISSIONERS – ATTENDANCE AT COMMISSION MEETINGS

COMMISSIONER	COMMISSION	RESEARCH COMMITTEE	AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE
The Hon Michael Egan FAICD (Chairman)	3		
Dr James Findlay (CEO)	4		
Mr Ian Cartwright	4	3 (3)	
Dr John Glaister	4	1 (3)	
Ms Jennifer Goddard	4		
Ms Elizabeth Montano	3		3
Ms Denise North	4		3
Prof Keith Sainsbury	3	3 (3)	
Mr Richard Stevens, OAM (Deputy Chair)	4		

Four commission meetings were held in 2013–14. The number above shows the number of meetings the commissioners attended in the 2013–14 period.

## EXECUTIVE

## ROLE AND FUNCTION

The Executive is AFMA's senior management team responsible to the CEO for the effective operation and performance of the agency.

## MEMBERSHIP

- Dr James Findlay – CEO
- Dr Nick Rayns – Executive Manager, Fisheries Management Branch
- Mr Peter Venslovas – General Manager, Fisheries Operations Branch
- Mr Peter Tegart – General Manager, Corporate Services Branch
- Mr Ryan Murphy – Executive Secretary
- Ms Tanya Howitt – Chief Finance Officer.

## AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

## ROLE AND FUNCTION

The Audit and Risk Committee was established under the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997* by the CEO. The Committee met three times during the financial year and held one out of session meeting. The main items considered by the Committee during the year were:

- the Committee's charter, membership and relationship to the Commission
- review of the 2012–13 Financial Statements and Certificate of Compliance
- review of the Internal Audit Program and internal audit reports, risk management arrangements and the Fraud Control Plan
- financial reporting arrangements under the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*



- introduction of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* and the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2013*
- review of governance arrangements
- review of the Protective Security Framework
- overview of red tape reduction
- the Risk Management Framework and Business Continuity Management Plan
- review of external accountability.

#### MEMBERSHIP

The Committee comprises at least one commissioner, an AFMA Senior Executive member and at least one independent member. The members during the reporting period were:

- Ms Denise North – Chair, Commissioner
- Ms Elizabeth Montano, Commissioner
- Ms Tanya Howitt, Acting Executive
- Mr Peter Tegart, Executive
- Mr Brian Macdonald, independent
- Ms Jenny Morison, independent – July to December 2013.

The Committee held three meetings and one out of session meeting in 2013–14. A number of observers and advisers attended meetings during the year, including AFMA's CEO, Chief Finance Officer, Senior Manager of Corporate Support and audit representatives from Oakton Consulting Technology (internal audit providers), KPMG (contracted external auditors) and the Australian National Audit Office.



AFMA's Executive Secretariat Section provides secretariat support for the Audit and Risk Committee.

The Committee's charter, membership and relationship to the Commission are currently under review in line with the introduction of a new AFMA Commission and *the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*.

## RESEARCH COMMITTEE

### ROLE AND FUNCTION

The role of AFMA's Research Committee is to advise the AFMA Commission and CEO on the strategic directions, priorities and funding for monitoring and research relevant to meeting AFMA's information needs and objectives. In doing so the primary functions of the Committee are to:

- review and advise on research, monitoring and assessment priorities for Commonwealth fisheries
- review AFMA's five year research plans for Commonwealth fisheries managed by AFMA
- provide advice to the AFMA Commission and CEO on allocation of AFMA research funds
- assess research, monitoring and assessment investments for the Commonwealth fisheries for consistency with management needs.

The Committee held three meetings in the 2013–14 financial year.

### MEMBERSHIP

- Mr Ian Cartwright , Chair and Commissioner
- Dr Keith Sainsbury, Commissioner
- Dr John Glaister, Commissioner
- Dr James Findlay, CEO
- Dr Nick Rayns, Executive Manager, Fisheries Management Branch
- Ms Danait Ghebrezgabhier, A/g Secretary to the Committee.

### PERMANENT ADVISORS

- Ms Beth Gibson, Senior Manager, Policy, Environment, Economics and Research
- Ms Yvonne Zunic, A/g Manager, Policy, Environment, Economics and Research.

### REGULAR OBSERVERS

The Committee also invites regular observers from the following agencies and departments to attend and provide expert advice:

- the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation
- the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, Oceans and Atmosphere Research Division
- the Commonwealth Fisheries Association
- the Department of Agriculture.

## INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY AND PROJECTS GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

### ROLE AND FUNCTION

The purpose of the Information and Communications Technology and Projects Governance Committee is to strengthen and enhance information and communications technology and projects governance by advising and providing guidance on:

- strategic direction for information and communications technology
- strategic analyses and recommendations as necessary
- monitoring information and communications technology and other projects capital expenditure, paying particular attention to projects and programs affecting strategic change
- prioritising information and communications technology and other projects initiatives ensuring that the value realised for information and communications technology investments is maximised. This includes the consideration of all business cases for projects with a value exceeding \$80 000
- communication of information and communications technology strategy to the wider AFMA staff and to relevant external stakeholders
- oversight major projects undertaken by AFMA.

The Committee's role is to advise on the strategic direction for the future of information and communications technology and projects within AFMA. The combined business knowledge and strategic sense of the members of the Committee will contribute to an information and communications technology environment that appropriately supports business processes, business re-engineering and effectively promotes business outcomes.

### MEMBERSHIP

- Dr James Findlay, CEO, Chair
- Dr Nick Rayns, Executive Manager, Fisheries Management Branch
- Mr Peter Venstovas, General Manager, Fisheries Operations Branch
- Mr Peter Tegart, General Manager, Corporate Services Branch
- four members comprising of senior managers and significant business areas.

# Appendix 3: Management advisory committee meetings and memberships

## **TROPICAL TUNA MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE – TTMAC**

The Committee met on 10 October 2013 and 2 May 2014, primarily to provide advice on the application of the harvest strategy and the setting of total allowable commercial catches for both the Eastern and Western Tuna and Billfish fisheries for the 2014–15 fishing season.

Additionally, they considered new international measures from the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission and recommended the inclusion of a ban on the take of all silky sharks in the Statutory Fishing Right conditions for the Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery. The new Bycatch and Discarding Workplan for 2014–2016 was supported by the Committee.

## **GREAT AUSTRALIAN BIGHT TRAWL MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE – GABMAC**

The Committee met once during 2013–14 and considered some matters out of session. It provided advice to AFMA in relation to total allowable catches for quota species and future research options for the fishery.

## **NORTHERN PRAWN MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE – NORMAC**

The Committee held one face-to-face meeting in Brisbane and two teleconferences in 2013–14. It made recommendations to the AFMA Commission on the future management arrangements of the Northern Prawn Fishery. It considered the risks and challenges of moving the fishery to an individual transferable quota system compared with an improved individual transferable effort system. It also provided advice on implementing a catch trigger for white banana prawns to close the fishing season in order to achieve a maximum economic yield.

## **SOUTHERN BLUEFIN TUNA MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE – SBTMAC**

The Committee met once in 2013–14 and discussed the outcomes from the 2013 meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna Scientific Committee. This included recommendations on the total allowable catches for Southern bluefin tuna for 2014 and 2015.

It also considered the progress of stereo video implementation and an alternative proposal for monitoring transfer weight of Southern bluefin tuna.

## **SUB-ANTARCTIC MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE – SOUTHMAC**

The Committee held one face-to-face meeting in Hobart and one teleconference during 2013–14. It made recommendations to the AFMA Commission on total allowable catches for Patagonian toothfish and mackerel icefish in the Heard Island and McDonald Islands Fishery and for Patagonian toothfish in the Macquarie Island Toothfish Fishery.

Additionally the Committee discussed the outcomes from the 32nd meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources and the Fishery Assessment Plans for the sub-Antarctic Fisheries.

### **BASS STRAIT CENTRAL ZONE SCALLOP FISHERY MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE – SCALLOPMAC**

The Committee held one face-to-face meeting in Canberra and two teleconferences in 2013–14.

The Committee made recommendations to the AFMA Commission on total allowable catches for commercial and doughboy scallops for the 2013 season and on a new harvest strategy for the fishery.

### **SOUTH EAST MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE – SEMAC**

The Committee held three face-to-face meetings in Canberra and one teleconference during 2013–14. The Committee made recommendations to the AFMA Commission on total allowable catches and effort controls for the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery, the Small Pelagic Fishery and the Southern Squid Jig Fishery.

Additionally the Committee dealt with measures to mitigate fishing impacts on dolphins through the Dolphin Management Strategy, changes to management arrangements to limit catch of Eastern pink ling, and a review of all closures implemented in the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery. The committee also considered the rollout of electronic monitoring systems in the Gillnet Hook and Trap Sector.

## Appendix 4: Freedom of Information reporting

Agencies subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* are required to publish information to the public as part of the Information Publication Scheme.

This requirement is in Part II of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* and has replaced the former requirement to publish a Section 8 statement in an Annual Report.

Each agency must display on its website a plan showing what information it publishes in accordance with the Information Publication Scheme requirements. Information on AFMA's *Freedom of Information Act 1982* reporting can be found on our website.



# Appendix 5: Work health and safety

## WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY PERFORMANCE

The Work Health and Safety Committee met four times during 2013–14. The Committee's role is to assist AFMA to develop, implement, review and update policies and procedures in relation to work health and safety, incident reporting, and consequent prevention measures, this aims to improve the cooperation between AFMA and its staff on work, health and safety issues and helping AFMA to distribute work health and safety information.

AFMA employee Rebecca Atkins was awarded a commendation at the 2013 Comcare Work Health and Safety Awards in the award category Health and Safety Representative of the Year. This award recognises elected health and safety representatives whose contributions have made an exceptional difference to health and safety in the workplace. Rebecca's achievements in this field included the development of a Cyclone Policy for AFMA's Thursday Island office, improved communication between work health and safety representatives and the designated work groups.

## HEALTH AND SAFETY INITIATIVES

AFMA continued to recognise the importance of a healthy workplace by delivering a Health and Wellbeing Program. The 2014 Health and Wellbeing Program offered staff specific initiatives including onsite health checks and influenza vaccinations. The program also included various lunch time seminars and workshops on topics including:

- avoiding winter illness
- resiliency and positive psychology at work
- work life balance
- a healthy eating cooking demonstration.

In June 2014 AFMA also offered Work Health and Safety training for Managers. Presented by Comcare this training emphasised to AFMA managers and those with supervisory roles the need to have a strong understanding of their responsibilities under the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011*. Particular attention was given to a manager's role in exercising the person conducting a business or undertaking's duty of care and ways to improve work health and safety performance. Some staff also undertook training in Work Health and Safety Risk Management, conducted by Comcare.

All new starters to AFMA are provided with a workstation assessment as part of their new starter induction. In addition the Human Resources Section undertook eight basic workstation assessments for staff in 2013–14. Five workstation assessments were conducted in 2013–14 by an external assessor for those staff experiencing any sort of pain or discomfort at their workstation. As a result of these assessments a variety of measures were implemented, including purchasing of specialised chairs, desk and computer equipment.

## HEALTH AND SAFETY OUTCOMES ACHIEVED

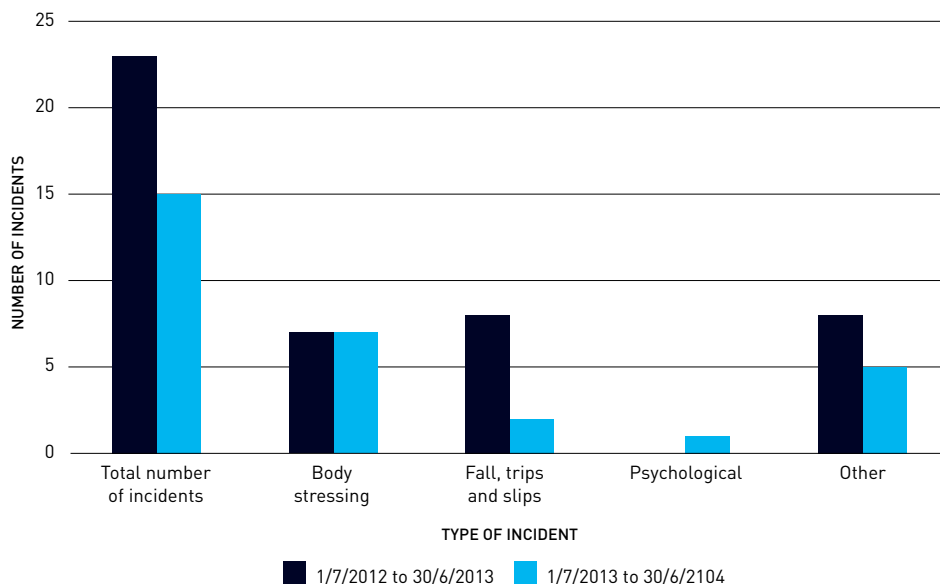
AFMA's workers' compensation premiums increased in 2013–14 and are above the Commonwealth average. No injuries or incidents that were required to be notified to Comcare as they did not fall within the definition of a *Dangerous Occurrence* under the Work Health and Safety Legislation.

AFMA has continued to successfully rehabilitate a number of staff who previously incurred an injury, to prevent aggravation to the injury and enable early return to work.

### ACCIDENT OR DANGEROUS OCCURRENCE STATISTICS

In 2013–14 AFMA recorded 15 incidents, accidents or near-misses (see figure 5). This rate is down from 23 in 2012–13, and again dominated by minor incidents, with no personal injury involving two or more weeks absence of work.

**Figure 5:** AFMA work, health and safety incident reports comparison



## INVESTIGATIONS CONDUCTED DURING THE YEAR

No investigations were conducted by Comcare under the *Workplace Health and Safety Act 2011*. In addition, there were no notices issued in relation to work health and safety representatives and no prohibition notices issued.



## Appendix 6: Ecologically sustainable development and environmental performance

AFMA's implementation of the ecological component of ecologically sustainable development is based on ecosystem elements relating to:

- target and by-product species
- bycatch
- threatened, endangered and protected species
- community and habitat interactions.

To support and implement an ecologically sustainable development approach in its fisheries, AFMA draws upon ecological risk assessments for each Commonwealth fishery. Ecological risk assessments involve a number of methods, including comprehensive qualitative and quantitative analyses. This approach screens out low risk activities focusing on higher potential risks within Commonwealth fisheries.

The results of these risk assessments for each fishery are consolidated into a priority list upon which an ecological risk management strategy is focused. A detailed ecological risk management strategy for each AFMA-managed fishery has been prepared, clearly identifying how each species or group of species will be managed.

Key management policy initiatives include:

- the Commonwealth Fisheries Harvest Strategy Policy and Guidelines
- the Australian Sea Lion Management Strategy
- the Upper-Slope Dogfish Management Strategy
- the Bycatch and Discard Program
- the Chondrichthyan Guide for Fisheries Managers
- the Dolphin Management Strategy based on individual responsibility
- the Seabird Management Plan based on individual responsibility.

All Commonwealth fisheries have completed and published their ecological risk management reports. The number of species remaining at high potential risk across all Commonwealth fisheries is 69 which is 0.6 per cent of all species assessed. It is expected that this will reduce as the mitigation measures outlined in ecological risk management reports are implemented.

### OUTCOME CONTRIBUTING TO ECOLOGICALLY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

AFMA's outcomes are directed at ecologically sustainable and economically efficient Commonwealth fisheries, through understanding and monitoring Australia's marine living measures and regulating and monitoring commercial fishing, including domestic fishing and deterrence of illegal foreign fishing.

## EFFECT OF ACTIONS ON THE ENVIRONMENT

All AFMA managed fisheries are accredited under three parts of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

Part 10 of the Act requires that all Commonwealth and Torres Strait fisheries must be strategically assessed before a management plan is determined (Section 148) or, where a determination is made that a management plan is not required for a Commonwealth fishery (Section 149). If a management plan is amended or replaced, or management arrangements change significantly in a fishery without a management plan, then a further assessment is required (Section 152). If a management plan remains unchanged, no further strategic assessment is required.

Part 13 of the Act defines a number of offences in relation to listed threatened species and ecological communities, but provides for accreditation of management plans or regimes (Sections 208A, 222A, 245, 265). The effect of accreditation is that certain actions are not offences if they are carried out in accordance with those management plans or regimes. There is no requirement to remake the accreditation decisions unless the management plans or regimes change.

Part 13A of the Act covers the international movement of wildlife specimens. It provides for controls over the movement of regulated native specimens that are not on the list of exempt native specimens. Currently product from all assessed Commonwealth and Torres Strait fisheries are on the list of exempt native specimens, although some are subject to the condition that the listing applies only while a wildlife trade approval is in force.

## ACTIONS TO MINIMISE IMPACT ON ENVIRONMENT

### FISHERIES

The development of the various elements of ecological risk management is designed to ensure the impact of fisheries on the environment remains within acceptable limits.

Species identified as high risk after the application of the various ecological risk assessment methods are combined with any identified protected species to form the priority list on which AFMA focuses its further ecological risk management activity.

Risk management strategies addressing species identified as at medium or low risk will be implemented at a later date.

Research has been commissioned to extend the ecological risk assessment methodology to habitats and communities. Extension to cumulative impacts has been identified as a priority for future research.

### OUR OFFICES

AFMA undertakes regular energy audits for the Canberra and Thursday Island offices. A staged implementation of the main audit recommendations was implemented in 2012–13. The Canberra office and the Thursday Island office air-conditioning systems were upgraded in 2013–14 to provide cleaner and more efficient systems. AFMA's Thursday Island tenancy area has been consolidated and this provides further energy efficiencies.

AFMA purchases a proportion (currently 25 per cent) of green electricity for the Canberra office as part of the Commonwealth energy contract with our Thursday Island office a mixture of wind and diesel power. Nationwide we have five vehicles which are part of the Greenfleet program.

We currently use 100 per cent recycled paper in printers, copiers and fax machines at all AFMA sites.

AFMA's Canberra office has an overall four and a half (4.5) star energy rating and includes zoned air-conditioning and lighting and automatic light dimming in response to daylight sensors. Additionally, intermittently used rooms and spaces are motion sensor activated.

AFMA continued to make small changes around the office that can have important impacts in reducing AFMA's environmental footprint. A composting system is in place for the Canberra office which reduces general office waste and is proving successful.

### MECHANISMS FOR REVIEWING

A number of mechanisms exist for reviewing the effect of fishing on the environment. AFMA conducts regular reassessments of each ecological risk assessment for Commonwealth fisheries as part of AFMA's Ecological Risk Management Framework. AFMA also regularly reviews other elements of the Ecological Risk Management Framework. For example the Bycatch and Discard Workplans for each Commonwealth fishery are formally reviewed every two years.

AFMA is also subject to reassessment of all of its fisheries under Part 13A of the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. Fisheries that are granted exemptions are reassessed every five years. Fisheries that are granted wildlife trade operations are reassessed prior to the wildlife trade operations' expiry.



## Appendix 7: Disability reporting

Since 1994, Commonwealth departments and agencies have reported on their performance as policy adviser, purchaser, employer, regulator and provider under the Commonwealth Disability Strategy. In 2007-08, reporting on the employer role was transferred to the Australian Public Service Commission's State of the Service Report and the APS Statistical Bulletin. These reports are available at [apsc.gov.au](http://apsc.gov.au). From 2010-11, departments and agencies have no longer been required to report on these functions.

The Commonwealth Disability Strategy has been overtaken by a new National Disability Strategy 2010-2020 which sets out a ten year national policy framework to improve the lives of people with disability, promote participation and create a more inclusive society. A high level two-yearly report will track progress against each of the six outcome areas of the Strategy and present a picture of how people with disability are faring. The first of these reports will be available in 2014, and will be available at [fahcsia.gov.au](http://fahcsia.gov.au).

The Social Inclusion Measurement and Reporting Strategy agreed by the Government in December 2009 will also include some reporting on disability matters in its regular How Australia is Faring report and, if appropriate, in strategic change indicators in agency Annual Reports. More detail on social inclusion matters can be found at [socialinclusion.gov.au](http://socialinclusion.gov.au).

## Appendix 8: Consultancy services

During 2013–14, 51 new consultancy contracts were entered into and this resulted in \$4.837 million expenditure for the period. In addition, eight ongoing consultancy contracts were active during 2013–14 resulting in \$2.661 million in expenditure.

All consultancy contracts entered into by AFMA above the value of \$10 000 are available via the Austender website tenders.gov.au.

**Table 9:** Template– Consultancy services

	2011–12 \$'000	2012–13 \$'000	2013–14 \$'000
<b>Total Consultancy Expenditure</b>	1 141	1 225	1 559

### SELECTION AND ENGAGEMENT OF CONSULTANTS

The majority of consultancy services engaged during the 2013–14 financial year were for fisheries research purposes. The selection and engagement of research consultants was primarily conducted through a limited or prequalified tender because of the small pool of qualified vendors for these specific services.

# Appendix 9: Agency resource statement and summary resource tables by outcome

**Table 10:** Australian Fisheries Management Authority Resource Statement. Budget estimates for 2014–15 as at Budget May 2014

	ESTIMATE OF PRIOR YEAR AMOUNTS AVAILABLE IN 2014–15 \$'000	PROPOSED AT BUDGET 2014–15 \$'000	TOTAL ESTIMATE 2014–15 \$'000	ACTUAL AVAILABLE APPROPRIATION 2013–14 \$'000
<b>Ordinary annual services</b>				
<b>Departmental appropriation</b>				
Prior year departmental appropriation	-	-	-	-
Departmental appropriation <sup>1</sup>	-	21 199	21 199	23 219
s. 31 Relevant agency receipts <sup>2</sup>		3 104	3 104	3 093
<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>24 303</b>	<b>24 303</b>	<b>26 312</b>
<b>Administered expenses</b>				
Outcome 1	-	5 309	5 309	4 075
<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5 309</b>	<b>5 309</b>	<b>4 075</b>
<b>Total ordinary annual services</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>29 612</b>	<b>30 387</b>
<b>Special accounts</b>				
Opening balance <sup>3</sup>	13 959	-	13 959	16 299
Appropriation receipts	-	20 729	20 729	23 065
s. 31 Relevant agency receipts Non-appropriation receipts to special accounts	-	17 104	17 104	15 329
<b>Total special accounts</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>13 959</b>	<b>37 833</b>	<b>54 693</b>
<b>Total resourcing (A+B)</b>	<b>13 959</b>	<b>67 445</b>	<b>81 404</b>	<b>85 080</b>
Less appropriations drawn from annual or special appropriations above and credited to special accounts and/or CAC Act bodies through annual appropriations	-	(20 729)	(20 729)	(23 065)
<b>Total net resourcing for AFMA</b>	<b>13 959</b>	<b>46 716</b>	<b>60 675</b>	<b>62 015</b>

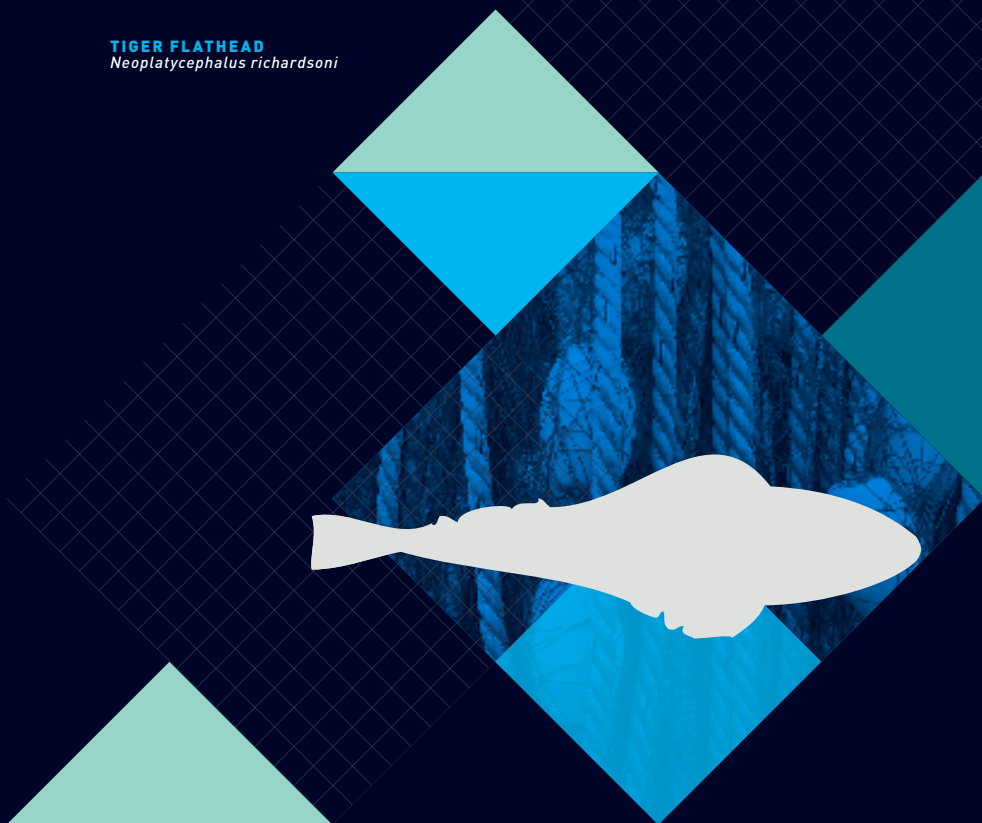
1. Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2014-15. Includes an amount of \$0.5 million in 2014–15 for the Departmental Capital Budget. For accounting purposes this amount has been designated as 'contributions by owners'.

2. s.31 Relevant agency receipts – estimate.

3. Estimated opening balance for special accounts (less 'Special Public Money' held in Services for Other Entities and Trust Monies Special accounts (SOETM)).

Reader note: All figures are GST exclusive.

**TIGER FLATHEAD**  
*Neoplatycephalus richardsoni*



**OTHER COMMON NAMES:** FLATHEAD  
**SIZE:** 3 KILOS AND 65 CENTIMETRES IN LENGTH  
**STOCK STATUS:** SUSTAINABLE

---

Flathead is a popular and versatile fish, suited to most cooking methods. Whole fish can be roasted or barbecued, while fillets can be marinated, poached, steamed, grilled or fried. A popular fish for battering and deepfrying.

# **PART 7**

# REFERENCES

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# GLOSSARY

## **Australian Fishing Zone**

Waters adjacent to Australia and its external territories (excluding Torres Strait and the Antarctic territories) which extend from defined baselines to 200 nautical mile zones of other nations.

Within the Australian Fishing Zone, Australia exercises jurisdiction over all fishing by Australian and foreign boats.

## **Biomass**

Total weight of a stock or a component of a stock.

## **Biomass limit reference point**

The point beyond which the risk to the stock is regarded as unacceptably high.

## **Bycatch**

Species taken incidentally in a fishery where other species are the target, and which are always discarded.

## **Byproduct**

Any part of the catch that is kept or sold by the fisher but is not the target species.

## **Demersal**

Found on or near the benthic habitat (c.f. Pelagic).

## **Discard**

Any part of the catch returned to the sea, whether dead or alive.

## **Effort**

A measure of the resources used to harvest a fishery's stocks. The measure of effort appropriate for a fishery depends on the methods used and the management arrangements. Common measures include the number of vessels, the number of hooks set and the number of fishing days.

## **Electronic monitoring**

Electronic monitoring uses sensors and cameras to monitor and record information on fishing activity in a targeted way. Sensor data and video footage is analysed retrospectively to provide information and verify logbooks according to the needs identified for that fishery.

## ***Fisheries Management Act 1991***

One of the two main pieces of legislation (along with the *Fisheries Administration Act 1991*) that details AFMA's responsibilities and powers.

## **Fishing concession**

A Statutory Fishing Right, or a fishing permit, or a foreign fishing boat licence granted under the provisions of the *Fisheries Management Act 1991*.

## **Fishing permit**

A type of fishing concession granted under Section 32 of the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* to a person, authorising the use of a specified Australian boat by that person, or a person acting on that person's behalf, for fishing in a specified area of the Australian Fishing Zone or a specified fishery for specified species, using specified equipment.

**Fishing season**

The period during which a fishery can be accessed by fishers.

**Gillnet**

Type of passive fishing gear consisting of panels of net held vertically in the water column, in contact with the seabed, such that fish attempting to swim through the net are entangled. The mesh size of the net determines the size range of fish caught, as smaller fish can swim through the meshes and larger fish are not enmeshed.

**GOFish**

GOFish is AFMA's online business facility for fishers to submit their applications online, view their record of fishing concessions as held by AFMA, keep their contact details up to date, view quota and catch information, receive messages from AFMA and monitor progress of applications lodged with AFMA.

**Harvest strategy**

Strategy outlining how the catch in a fishery will be adjusted from year to year depending on the size of stock, the economic or social conditions of the fishery, conditions of other interdependent stocks or species, and uncertainty of biological knowledge. Well-managed fisheries have an unambiguous (explicit and quantitative) harvest strategy that is robust to the unpredictable biological fluctuations to which the stock may be subject.

**Incidental catch**

Any part of the catch that is not the target species, including bycatch and by-product.

**Individual transferable quotas**

Individual portions of a total allowable catch – units of quota – that allow the holder to catch that portion of the total allowable catch each season. The weight value of the individual transferable quotas changes in proportion to changes in the total allowable catch set for a species each season. Individual transferable quotas are fully tradeable and can be sold or leased to other fishers.

**Key commercial species**

A species that is, or has been, specifically targeted and is, or has been, a significant component of a fishery.

**Logbook**

Official record of catch-and-effort data completed by fishers. In many fisheries, a licence condition makes the return of logbooks mandatory.

**Longline**

Fishing gear in which short lines (branchlines or droppers) carrying hooks are attached to a longer main line at regular intervals. Pelagic longlines are suspended horizontally at a predetermined depth with the help of surface floats. The main lines can be as long as 100 kilometres and have several thousand hooks. Droppers on demersal longlines (set at the seabed with weights) are usually more closely spaced.

**Maximum economic yield**

The sustainable catch or effort level for a commercial fishery that allows net economic returns to be maximised. Note that for most practical discount rates and fishing costs maximum economic yield will imply that the equilibrium stock of fish is larger than that associated with maximum sustainable yield. In this sense maximum economic yield is more environmentally conservative than maximum sustainable yield and should in principle help protect the fishery from unfavourable environmental impacts that may diminish the fish population.

**Maximum sustainable yield**

The maximum average annual catch that can be removed from a stock over an indefinite period under prevailing environmental conditions.

**Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) box**

The area of the Australian Fishing Zone where traditional fishing by Indonesian nationals is permitted.

**Nautical mile**

A unit of distance derived from the angular measurement of one minute of arc of latitude, but standardised by international agreement as 1852 metres.

**Net economic returns**

A fisheries net economic returns over a particular period is equal to fishing revenue less fishing costs.

**Non target species**

Species that is unintentionally taken by a fishery or not routinely assessed for fisheries management. *See also Bycatch.*

**Offshore Constitutional Settlement**

An agreement between one or more states and the Australian Government giving individual or joint jurisdiction for a particular fishery that is in both coastal waters and the Australian Fishing Zone. When no Offshore Constitutional Settlement agreement has been reached, the fishery remains under the jurisdiction of the state out to three nautical miles, and of the Australian Government from three nautical miles to 200 nautical miles.

**Output controls**

Restrictions imposed on the quantity of fish that can be taken from a fishery within a specified period of time. This can be by either a competitive total allowable catch or a total allowable catch allocated to participants as individual transferable quotas.

**Overfished**

A fish stock with a biomass below the biomass limit reference point. 'Not overfished' implies that the stock is not below the threshold, and is now used in place of the status classification of 'fully fished' or 'underfished'.

**Pelagic fish**

Inhabiting surface waters rather than the sea floor: usually applied to free swimming species such as tunas and sharks.

**Precautionary principle**

A principle asserting that a degree of scientific uncertainty should not be used as a reason for postponing measures to prevent environmental degradation in situations where there are threats of serious or irreversible environmental damage.

**Quota**

Amount of catch allocated to a fishery as a whole (total allowable catch) or to an individual fisher or company (individual transferable quota).

**Quota management**

A method of management based on output controls that allocates the total allowable catch among eligible operators as shares in the annual total allowable catch.

**Reference point**

An indicator of the level of fishing (or stock size), used as a benchmark for interpreting the results of an assessment.

**Statutory Fishing Rights**

Rights granted under Section 21 of the *Fisheries Management Act 1991*. The nature of Statutory Fishing Rights in a fishery is detailed in the plan of management that creates those rights. A Statutory Fishing Right may be a right to use a boat, a unit of fishing gear or a quantity of catch, or other rights as identified in the management plan.

**Species**

Members of a species of fish that can breed with one another and produce fertile (capable of reproducing) offspring. In this way, a species maintains its 'separateness' from other species; for example, the yellowfin tuna and bigeye tuna are two distinct tuna species whereas the general term 'tuna' includes all tuna stocks.

**Stock**

A functionally discrete population of a species that is largely distinct from other populations of the same species. Such a population may be regarded as a separate entity for management or assessment purposes. Some species form a single stock (e.g. Southern bluefin tuna), while others form several stocks (e.g. albacore tuna in the Pacific Ocean are divided up in to separate Northern Pacific and Southern Pacific stocks).

**Sustainable yield**

The maximum catch that can be taken from a fishery over an indefinite period without causing the stocks to be depleted.



**Targeting**

Fishing selectively for particular species or sizes of fish.

**Target species**

The species being actively sought by fishers.

**Torres Strait Protected Zone Joint Authority**

An authority comprising of the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Agriculture (Chairperson), the Queensland Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry and the Chair of the Torres Strait Regional Authority. The authority is responsible for monitoring the condition of the jointly managed fisheries in the Torres Strait and the formulation of policies and plans for their management.

**Torres Strait Treaty**

The treaty between Australia and Papua New Guinea concerned with sovereignty, management and maritime boundaries in the area between the two countries and the protection of the way of life and livelihood of traditional inhabitants and the marine environment.

**Total allowable catch**

The amount of fish of a particular species that can be taken from a fishery in a prescribed period. Total allowable catches are set for fish species managed either through individual transferable quotas or through competitive total allowable catches.

**Uncertain**

Status of a fish stock that might be overfished or not overfished, or subject to overfishing or not subject to overfishing, but for which there is inadequate or inappropriate information to make a reliable assessment.

**Vessel monitoring system**

Electronic device that transmits the identity and location of a vessel.





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