



Australian Government

Australian Fisheries Management Authority

REF: AFMADMW-1932364602-4763

25 March 2021

Dear Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery Concession Holder

Total Allowable Catches (TACs) for the 2021-22 fishing year

I am pleased to provide you with the TACs for the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery (SESSF) 2021-22 fishing year (Table 1).

If you have any queries regarding the Commonwealth Trawl Sector or the Great Australian Bight Trawl Sector, please contact Daniel Corrie on 0447 019 916 or daniel.corrie@afma.gov.au. If you have any questions regarding the Gillnet, Hook and Trap sector please contact Sally Weekes on 02 6225 5520 or sally.weekes@afma.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Fiona Hill'.

Fiona Hill

Senior Manager, Demersal and Midwater Fisheries

Canberra

PO Box 7051
Canberra ACT 2610
P 02 6225 5555
F 02 6225 5500

Darwin

PO Box 131
Darwin NT 0801
P 08 8943 0333
F 08 8942 2897

Thursday Island

PO Box 376
Thursday Island QLD 4875
P 07 4069 1990
F 07 4069 1277

Lakes Entrance

PO Box 408
Lakes Entrance VIC 3909
P: 0447 019 916

Table 1 SESSF species TACs for the 2021-22 fishing year

Quota Species	2021-22 TAC (t)	Overcatch and undercatch (%) determined amount (t)		Change in TAC from 2020-21	Multi-year TAC (t)#	Comments
Alfonsino	1 017	10	2	0	7 th year of 3 Extended for four years.	
Bight redfish (GAB)	893	10	2	0	2 nd year of 5	
Blue-eye trevalla	241	10	2	-207	Single-year TAC No more than 54 t to be caught from the seamount stock.	The stock assessment was brought forward one year due to concerns about the status of the slope stock. The TAC has been reduced due to a decrease in the catch-per-unit-effort (CPUE). The stock assessment will be updated for the slope and seamount stocks in 2021.
Blue grenadier	12 183	10	2	0	3 rd year of 3	
Blue warehou	50	0	2	-68	Rebuilding Species Single year bycatch TAC - no targeted fishing.	The incidental bycatch TAC has been reduced to 50 t based on an updated analysis of unavoidable catch across the fishery.
Deepwater flathead (GAB)	1 238	10	2	0	2 nd year of 3	
Deepwater shark basket (east)	24	10	2	0	3 rd year of 3	

Quota Species	2021-22 TAC (t)	Overcatch and undercatch (%) determined amount (t)		Change in TAC from 2020-21	Multi-year TAC (t)#	Comments
Deepwater shark basket (west)	235	10	2	0	3 rd year of 3	
Elephant fish	114	10	2	0	2 nd year of 3	
Flathead	2 333	10	2	+323	2 nd year of 3	The TAC has increased based on a step-up MYTAC approach agreed in 2020. The assessment will be reviewed in 2021 with a view to responding to any changes in CPUE across the fishery.
Gemfish (eastern)	100	0	2	0	Rebuilding Species Single year bycatch TAC - no targeted fishing.	
Gemfish (western)	343	10	2	+43	2 nd year of 3	
Gummy shark	1 672	10	2	-103	1 st year of 3	The stock is around the target reference point and consequently, the catch limit has been reduced compared to the last three years when the stock was being fished down to the target. Consistent with SEMAC advice, the Commission supported stepping down the TAC over three years. Advice will be sought from SharkRAG regarding the merits of updating the stock assessment one year early, in 2022. If the stock assessment is not updated in 2022, the projected 2023 RBC of 1 662 tonnes will be used to calculate the TAC for the 2023-24 fishing year.

Quota Species	2021-22 TAC (t)	Overcatch and undercatch (%) determined amount (t)		Change in TAC from 2020-21	Multi-year TAC (t)#	Comments
Jackass morwong	463	10	2	-5	3 rd year of 3	
John dory	60	0	2	-392	Single year TAC	The TAC has been reduced due to concerns about the status of the stock. The 2021-22 TAC will be treated as an incidental bycatch TAC, with no undercatch or overcatch provisions, with a view to updating the stock assessment in 2021.
Mirror dory	144	10	2	+7	Single year TAC	
Ocean perch	304	10	2	+65	1 st year of 3	
Orange roughy (Albany & Esperance)	50	0	2	0	Rebuilding Species Single year bycatch TAC - no targeted fishing.	
Orange roughy (Cascade Plateau)	500	10	2	0	Single year TAC	
Orange roughy (eastern)	1 277	100% under 10% over	2	+1	4 th year of 3 Extended one year.	
Orange roughy (southern)	127	0	2	+2	4 th year of 3	Orange roughy (southern) is still managed as a rebuilding species.

Quota Species	2021-22 TAC (t)	Overcatch and undercatch (%) determined amount (t)		Change in TAC from 2020-21	Multi-year TAC (t)#	Comments
	(96 Pedra Brancs, 31 incidental)					The Pedra Branca area in the Southern Zone has a targeted TAC of 96 t. A 31 t incidental bycatch TAC applies to the remainder of the Southern Zone.
Orange roughy (western)	60 (200 t research catch allowance)	0	2	0	Rebuilding Species Single year bycatch TAC - no targeted fishing.	A 200 t research catch allowance will be allocated under scientific permit to support research fishing under the Western Orange Roughy Research Program.
Oreo (smooth cascade)	150	10	2	0	Single year TAC	
Oreo (smooth other)	90	10	2	-45	Single year TAC	
Oreo (basket)	139	10	2	-46	1 st year of 3	
Pink ling	1 121 (including 428 eastern notional catch limit)	10	2	-189	3 rd year of 3 Catch restrictions will be maintained in the east for the 2021 season.	The global TAC has decreased based on a step-down MYTAC approach agreed to in 2018. Within the global TAC, the nominal eastern catch limit has decreased from 446 t to 428 t. Eastern catches will be subject to catch limits again in 2021-22, unless operators are part of the South East Trawl Fishing Industry Association (SETFIA) arrangements. Operators should receive a letter detailing the arrangements for 2021-22 prior to the start of the fishing season.
Redfish	50	0	2	0	Rebuilding Species	

Quota Species	2021-22 TAC (t)	Overcatch and undercatch (%) determined amount (t)		Change in TAC from 2020-21	Multi-year TAC (t)#	Comments
					Single year bycatch TAC - no targeted fishing.	
Ribaldo	396	10	2	-26	1 st year of 3	
Royal red prawn	605	10	2	+202	1 st year of 3	The TAC has increased based on a large increase in CPUE since the last stock assessment. AFMA will monitor stock indicators for the period of the MYTAC, with the next assessment scheduled for 2023.
Sawshark	509	10	2	+77	1 st year of 3	The TAC is in the first year of a three year MYTAC and has increased compared to 2020-21 based on an updated stock assessment.
School shark	194	0	2	-1	Rebuilding Species Single year bycatch TAC - no targeted fishing.	As the stock is rebuilding, the recommended biological catch is zero. As the species is taken incidentally while targeting gummy shark, the TAC is set to cover unavoidable bycatch. The TAC is one tonne less than in 2020-21.
School whiting	917	10	2	+129	1 st year of 3	The TAC has increased based on an updated stock assessment and the expected catch share between State and Commonwealth fisheries for the 2021-22 fishing year.
Silver trevally	197	10	2	-92	Single year TAC	The TAC has decreased based on an updated stock assessment which showed CPUE has decreased since the last stock assessment. The default Tier 4 discount factor of 15% has been applied, and a single-year TAC implemented due to concerns about the status of the stock. The stock assessment will be updated in 2021.

Quota Species	2021-22 TAC (t)	Overcatch and undercatch (%) determined amount (t)		Change in TAC from 2020-21	Multi-year TAC (t) [#]	Comments
Spotted (silver) warehou	450	10	2	0	3 rd year of 3	

[#] **Multi-year TACs** – For multi-year TACs, the AFMA Commission set the TACs for the coming fishing year based on the most recent assessment and a review of fishery indicators. This ensures there have been no fundamental changes from the understanding of the stock at the time of the assessment.