



Australian Government

Australian Fisheries Management Authority

South East Management Advisory Committee (SEMAC) Meeting No 37

Meeting minutes

Date: 22 May 2019

Venue: Jasper Hotel Melbourne

Attendees

Name	Member type
<i>Diane Tarte</i>	<i>Chair</i>
<i>Anissa Lawrence</i>	<i>Environment member</i>
<i>Brodie Macdonald</i>	<i>AFMA presenter</i>
<i>Belinda Norris</i>	<i>Executive officer</i>
<i>Daniel Corrie</i>	<i>AFMA presenter</i>
<i>Debbie Wisby</i>	<i>Industry Invited participant</i>
<i>Frances Seaborn</i>	<i>State Invited Participant</i>
<i>George Day</i>	<i>AFMA member</i>
<i>Gerry Geen</i>	<i>Industry member</i>
<i>Sandy Morison</i>	<i>Scientific member</i>
<i>Shane Dugins</i>	<i>Industry member</i>
<i>Simon Boag</i>	<i>Industry member</i>
<i>Sarah Jennings</i>	<i>Economics Invited Participant</i>
<i>Toni Clarke</i>	<i>Observer</i>
Apologies	
<i>Les Scott</i>	<i>Industry member</i>
<i>Veronica Silbersneider</i>	<i>Observer</i>

Meeting Minutes

1 Preliminaries

1.1 Introduction and apologies

The Chair opened the meeting at 9:00 am and welcomed participants. The Chair acknowledged the Traditional Owners past and present on whose land we are meeting and recorded apologies from Les Scott and Veronica Silbersneider. Members were advised the meeting was being recorded to assist with the preparation of the minutes; which will be deleted after the minutes are finalised. No objections were raised.

1.2 Adoption of Agenda

The MAC adopted the agenda (**Attachment A**), noting that there were no additional items to be added.

1.3 Declaration of interests

The MAC reviewed the table of members', invited participants' and observers' standing declarations as outlined in the revised *Fisheries Management Paper 1* (FMP 1). The Chair asked participants to declare any specific conflicts of interest with items on the agenda and to declare conflicts of interest that were not recorded in the provided table.

An updated table of declared conflicts of interest is at **Attachment B**.

- Environment member Ms Anissa Lawrence asked the MAC to note that she is now the bycatch coordinator for the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP).
- Industry member Mr Gerry Geen declared a conflict of interest concerning agenda item 3.1- Dolphin Strategy update. Mr Geen left the room and the MAC discussed the conflict and noted that the agenda item was for noting and not a recommendation and as such, Mr Geen should be a part of the item.
- Industry member Mr Shane Dugins noted a conflict of interest with items 3.1- Dolphin Strategy update, 3.2- School shark management, 3.4-Review of EM requirements and 3.5- Removal of 100kg trip limit for scalefish SFRs. Mr Dugins left the room and the MAC discussed the conflicts and noting Mr Dugins' knowledge and contributions agreed that Mr Dugins should participate in the discussion and formation of recommendations.
- Mr Boag confirmed a conflict with agenda items 3.2- School Shark management, 3.4- Review of EM requirements, 3.5- Removal of 100kg trip limit for scalefish SFRs and 3.6- Research priorities. Mr Boag left the room and the MAC discussed the conflict and recognising Mr Boag's knowledge and contribution agreed that he should participate in both the discussion and any recommendations.
- Ms Debbie Wisby noted that her company is now gillnet fishing and she is now involved in local Tasmanian government as the Glamorgan Spring Bay Mayor. Ms Wisby declared a conflict for 3.1- Dolphin strategy update, 3.2- School shark management, 3.4- Review of EM requirements, 3.5- Removal of 100kg trip limit for scalefish SFRs and 3.6- Research priorities for squid. Ms Wisby left the room and the MAC discussed the conflicts, noting her expertise and contribution and consistent with the other industry representatives, Ms Wisby should participate in both the discussion and any formulation of advice.

1.4 Status of actions arising from previous meetings

A consolidated list of outstanding action items from previous SEMAC meetings (**Attachment C**) was circulated to the MAC prior to this meeting. The MAC discussed the items and the following was raised:

- Action item 36.2 (SEMAM 36): *AFMA to raise the issue of the effectiveness of the redacted copy of cost benefit analysis issue with the economic working group at their next meeting.* Now completed. Economics invited participant Sarah Jennings noted that she had received the redacted copy and suggested that, should the analysis be revisited, the methodology including consultation with industry should be reviewed.
- Action item 35.2 (SEMAM 35): *AFMA, in consultation with stakeholders, undertake a review of the Arrow Squid Harvest Strategy once the Commonwealth Fisheries Harvest Strategy Policy has been released:* Action to be marked as complete given the need to review the harvest strategy within three years under the new Harvest Strategy Policy.
- Action item 34.1 (SEMAM 34): *AFMA to investigate whether the comments from other MACs and RAGs, on their views into taking into account recreational and indigenous fishing*

interests, can be circulated to the MAC. This was considered by the AFMA Commission at their May 2019 meeting and will be made public. The MAC recommended that this should remain as an outstanding action item.

- Action item 34.6 (SEMAC 34): *AFMA to advise the MAC about the different roles of AFMA's Commonwealth Marine Mammal Working Group and FRDC's newly established marine mammal group and advise on areas for potential alignment of roles to improve efficiency.* Now complete. This was updated at the last MMWG meeting and the MMWG has become more operationally focused as a result of feedback and there is a need to have a closer link between fishers, the MAC and MMWG. The future managers update will include updates on this issue.
- Action item 29.10 (SEMAC 29): *AFMA to consider the options to improve incentives for operators to correctly report dolphin interactions. For example, allowing an operator to reduce the review rate if they have a proven record of correctly reporting interactions. The MAC noted that this would require a change to the EM monitoring costs within the levy base.* Now complete. The review was undertaken, all operators are required to report interactions, and no changes are proposed for this action item. AFMA will look at accuracy of reporting as a way to scale the cost of reviewing footage and the potential rates of review could come down.
- Action item 28.1 (SEMAC 28): *AFMA to contact OLRAC to amend system to comply with terms of reference.* There have been issues with recording of live status of discards. OLRAC does provide the ability to record live discards, CATCHLOG is still unable to, but it there is an upcoming CATCHLOG software update, which should allow for recording of live discards.

ACTION ITEM 1: AFMA to confirm that the new version of CATCHLOG includes the ability to record live release of school shark

2. Updates

2.1 Managers Update

The AFMA member provided an update to the MAC on the key manager's items arising since the last MAC meeting on 5-7 February 2019. The MAC noted that:

- Industry members Mr Dugins and Mr Boag noted that although he has made comment that the remaining members of the GHAT Simplification Working Group had not received the minutes from the GHAT simplification project meeting for comment. AFMA acknowledged this and noted that the minutes should be considered draft. The MAC noted that the simplification project would be addressed at SEMAC 38.

ACTION ITEM 2: AFMA to re-send the draft minutes of the GHAT simplification meeting to all attendees for comment

- The AFMA and SETFIA co-management arrangement for the South East Trawl Industry has now been signed. It was originally to be a two-year arrangement but as this took nearly two years to bring to contract it is now a 12 month arrangement. The agreement will see the

establishment of a Seine and Trawl Advisory Group (STAG), seal bycatch mitigation trials (project python), and formal arrangements to manage catches of eastern pink ling and snapper in Victoria. While the agreement has only recently been signed, SETFIA has been managing snapper (2 years) and pink ling (3 years) catches prior to the contract being signed.

- Concerns were raised by the Environment member regarding the membership and terms of reference of the (STAG), specifically whether their responsibilities and decision making ability may be able to bypass SEMAC. AFMA noted that the STAG is primarily operational, and broader SESSF and legislative issues would still be considered by the MAC. The Chair suggested there should be a review of the STAG process at the end of the current contract to ensure it is working and that correct protocols are followed.

ACTION ITEM 3: Terms of reference for the STAG to be provided to SEMAC as soon as complete

- The most recent report on hagfish was provided and the environment member noted that there are potentially animal welfare issues with how the hagfish are euthanised and that further work on techniques to address these concerns is required.
- A move-on rule was introduced for blue warehou to address the high level of discards in 2017. AFMA will seek advice at the next SESSFRAG meeting on appropriate move-on rules, the impact of recruits and discards on the rebuild status of blue warehou and the benefits of increased mesh size in the Danish seine fishery. Any management advice required from these SESSFRAG discussions will be tabled at SEMAC 38.
- The South East Trawl Fishery Independent Survey (FIS) will not be undertaken in 2019 due to budget constraints. A meeting will be held prior to the August 2019 SESSFRAG meeting to consider different monitoring and data collection options in the SESSF. The group will consider the costs of various programs including electronic monitoring, crew collected data, ISMP and scheduling of stock assessments and provide options to the SESSFRAG for advice.
- The AFMA member provided the following feedback on the most recent Commission meeting held in Hobart on 16-17 May 2019:
 - The Chairs for the new MACs and RAGs were agreed upon and the new Chair for SEMAC will be made public as soon as the process has been signed off.
 - Simon Boag attended the meeting on behalf of Atlantis, SETFIA, Small Pelagic Fishery Industry Association (SPFIA), Southern Shark Industry Alliance (SSIA) and the newly formed Bass Strait Scallop Industry Association (BSSIA).
 - Mr Grant Pullen represented the Tasmanian Department of Primary Industry, Parks, Water and Environment (DPIPWE). He noted issues regarding interactions between Commonwealth trawl vessels and the Tasmanian giant crab fishery. AFMA is working with Dr Roland Pitcher to understand the impact of trawling on giant crab habitat.

- The 2019-20 school shark Total Allowable Catch (TAC) of 193 t recommended by SEMAC was reduced to 189 t by the AFMA Commission due to concerns around post-release mortality of discarded school shark.
- The 2019-20 redfish TAC was also reduced from 100 t to 50 t to better reflect incidental catches and further promote stock recovery.
- The Economic Working Group is currently developing a draft set of key performance indicators to monitor the economic performance of AFMA managed fisheries. Once finalised they will be circulated and then go to the Commission for approval.
 - The Environment Member asked whether there would be an indicator that covers the net economic benefit to the community. It was noted that the Economic Working Group is putting together a broader list of indicators and the Commission will decide on the indicators noting indicators should generally link to objectives.
- AFMA's Ecological Sustainable Development Policy outlines how AFMA incorporates the social aspects of ESD into its decision-making <https://www.afma.gov.au/social-aspects-esd>
- The MAC noted that the price of squid was now \$3.50 to \$5.00 per kilo and samples have been sent to China with the potential to open export markets for the squid fishery.
- The MAC noted that the compilation of comments from the review of the Dolphin Mitigation Strategy will be made public on the AFMA website.
- It was noted in the environment update that the March data for protected species interactions has not yet been released, however AFMA indicated there are no new significant issues expected within the next quarterly report.
- The Environment Member suggested that the MAC needs to be informed when and if the trigger under the Seabird Threat Abatement Plan (TAP) is going to be or has been exceeded. AFMA noted that the figures in the TAP report would be confirmed once the final data from the summer TAP season was available.

ACTION ITEM 4: SEMAC to be provided with the final update on the TAP report and advice of any mitigation measures proposed if the TAP is breached.

- The MAC welcome the environmental reports and noted the reduced level of interactions with dolphins and seabirds and the need to stay informed about all possible mechanisms to reduce the interaction rates.
- Industry member Mr Dugins noted that the information from the environment update states that there is full EM coverage. This should be amended to reflect the 50 and 100 day limits for EM coverage.

2.2 Industry update

The Chair asked the Industry members of the MAC to provide an update on any items arising since the last MAC meeting 5-7 February 2019. The MAC noted that:

- Trawl and octopus fishers have agreed to a code of conduct to avoid gear interactions, which seems to be working effectively. The MAC noted that there were 20,000+ traps off Lakes Entrance and there is some concern from Commonwealth operators about the potential for increased effort in the Victorian octopus fishery given the number of latent (100-150) licences.
- SSIA data collection is improving slowly and data is being collected noting that there are some challenges with vessels in Tasmania and South Australia, that it is expected to improve.
- SETFIA commitment vessels have honoured their eastern pink ling catch agreements and caught less than the total amount set by AFMA. Industry noted that there is some concern over lack of transparency in this process and that it is very difficult to manage. There are currently no ratio vessels for the 2019-20 season and Mr Boag praised AFMA's Heather Johnston for the hard work she had done on pink ling for the season.
- Atlantis has been engaged by six fishers who represent 85 per cent of the quota holdings of eastern orange roughy who want to undertake a full assessment for MSC certification. A pre-assessment has been completed. Negotiations are underway as to whether the certification will cover all of the quota holders of the fishery.
- The Commonwealth and NSW Offshore Constitutional Settlement (OCS) working group recommended that NSW vessels with a valid catch history become Commonwealth vessels under the OCS agreement and have agreed to an allocation of Commonwealth quota based on catch history and licences held. The OCS agreement is currently sitting with NSW for progressing.
- Mr Boag noted that the trawl fishery KPI's show that levies have increased as the percentage of revenue, TACS's remain relatively stable but landings continue to decline. The market remains the same and boats are in the position of selling for less and facing increasing costs of operations. Mr Boag suggested that the complexity of management arrangements are driving management costs.

SSFA presented a paper which was also sent to the AFMA Commission which noted:

- Current catch rates are higher than last season however this was offset over the last six months as the price was a dollar a kilo less. The economic participant noted that stock assessments do not currently account for price. This has been recognised as part of the multispecies Maximum Economic Yield work and may be considered as part of the FRDC project looking at market responsiveness for consideration in stock assessments and setting TACs.
- mental health concerns are a big issue in the fishery and industry feels that the gillnet sector is being discriminated against which is leading to greater mental health issues.

3.1 Dolphin Strategy update

The AFMA member outlined the proposed changes to the Gillnet Dolphin Strategy that had been considered by the commission:

Proposed amendments to current Gillnet Dolphin Strategy (the Strategy)

1. To introduce a spatial rule that will force operators to move out of the higher-risk area off South Australia after only one review period if they cannot stay under the interaction rate, while still allowing them to fish elsewhere in the fishery. This is on top of the existing rule that excludes an operator from the whole fishery if they exceed the interaction rate, but only after three consecutive review periods (one review period is six months).
2. A 'two-stage' trigger whereby management responses are only triggered if an interaction rate is exceeded and an operator has caught three or more dolphins. Currently these management responses apply regardless of the number of interactions.
3. To modify management responses that required the use of observers and boat inspections to assess gear configuration/modifications. These changes will better reflect current processes that utilise electronic monitoring and remove some of the regulatory burden on operators.

Key points from the discussion of these amendments:

- Review period four (November 2018 to April 2019) has shown a marked decline in interactions.
- Industry member Mr Boag asked why there was not one strategy for the whole fishery including the trawls sector given the high similarities of the two sectoral strategies. AFMA noted that there will be a Fisheries Management Strategy (FMS) for each fishery and these include responses on bycatch issues. The FMS' address the broader policy requirements while recognising there are different issues and risks that need to be addressed, depending on the fishery.
- Industry member Mr Geen said it was disappointing that the changes to the Strategy do not take into account the recommendations for incentivising individual fishers.
- AFMA noted that the introduction of the three dolphin trigger reflects a greater understanding that interactions can occur through no fault of the operator. The Strategy aims to facilitate best practice and encouraging exchange between fishers.
- The MAC noted the next review of the Strategy will be in 12 months' time (if not required prior to this).

3.2 School shark management

AFMA introduced the agenda item and asked the MAC to note and provide advice on:

1. The current management measures in place to limit fishing mortality of school shark.
2. Recommendations from the AFMA – industry school shark management arrangements workshop in December 2018
3. Discuss whether additional measures are required to prevent targeting and/or discarding of school shark.

Key points from the discussion:

- At its February 2019 TAC meeting, SEMAC recommended a 2019-20 school shark TAC of 193 t, recognising a small proportion of released school shark would survive. The AFMA Commission set the recommended TAC at 189 t based on a 100 per cent mortality rate assumption, and recommended more work be undertaken to determine the level of post-release survivability for consideration at the next assessment. The MAC suggested there should be recognition of post-release survivability and that this research is a priority. Under the current research cycle, the outcomes of this research would not be available for the 2020-21 TAC setting process and needs to happen now.
- AFMA member provided the advice that the Commission will only be able to consider integrating discard mortality into the TAC process when further research has been undertaken to get a scientifically supported school shark survivability percentage. Mr Boag noted that the Commission agreed to consider some percentage of school shark survived release.

ACTION ITEM 5: AFMA to request advice from SharkRAG on an appropriate figure for school shark survivability to inform the TAC setting advice for 2020-21 season.

- Industry questioned the need for a live release rule if all sharks are considered dead in the TAC setting process and supported removing the rule if it is not achieving what it was intended to do. The scientific member noted while there are issues at the quota level, it is still having a positive impact for the stock and contributing to rebuilding as it allows some of them to survive. Industry member Mr Dugins also noted that 100% of live release school shark is having the reverse effect, as each kg of shark quota can be counted multiple times. Without the rule each kg of quota is kept and counted once
- Industry member Mr Dugins recommended maintaining the 100 kg trigger for the scalefish hook licences and not to put any more effort into the shark fishery.

ACTION ITEM 6: AFMA and SharkRAG to confirm the work required to determine and recommend a figure/percentage for school shark post-release survivability to allow due consideration by the MAC and the Commission in time for 2022-23 season.

3.3 Seabird in trawl sector update

AFMA introduced the agenda item and asked the MAC note the amendments to the offal retention requirements and exemptions process for otter board vessel in the Commonwealth Trawl Sector:

1. The new arrangements require zero discharge of biological material when fishing gear is in the water while fishing in high risk areas. The rule will be phased in from 1 July 2019, when fishing south of latitude 39°S, and then 1 September 2019 when fishing south of latitude 38°S.
2. Requests for exemptions are currently being considered against a set of guidelines developed by AFMA. Once an operator has implemented a permanent solution, AFMA will deploy an observer on the vessel to assess whether the risk to seabirds interacting with the warp wires has been removed. Based on applications received to date, this is likely to occur one of two ways; discharging the offal away from warp wires, or pulling the warp wires underwater, closer to the hull of the vessel.

Key points from the discussion of the new amendments were:

- The known distribution and range of foraging adults was used to determine high-risk areas for interactions. The initial proposal was to implement the rules south of 38 degrees south from 1 May 2019, however this was amended to a phased implementation between July and September 2019 after consultation with industry.
- Concerns were raised regarding the requirements for gaining an exemption where, during mitigation trials, the bird cannot come close to the warp wire. AFMA said a bird did not need to come into contact with the warp wire under the trials for there to be an ongoing risk.
- Funding has been secured through FRDC for innovations to gain exemptions and a panel has been convened to assess the applications. A criterion for funding is that the innovation must be applicable and transferrable to other vessels.
- Scientific member Mr Morison noted that New Zealand has a framework for risk for birds, based on detailed modelling of seabird distributions, and the distribution of fishing effort. There could be benefits to looking into the work they have done as the method could be applicable to the SESSF.
- Industry member Mr Boag noted how disappointed he was in the consultation by AFMA with industry and felt that industry was not given the opportunity to fix this before the new measures were introduced. Further than many of the remaining 27 trawlers may not be able to continue in the fishery. AFMA noted that there was an urgency to the situation, which needed to be addressed, and there was a clear issue of sustainability as it related to seabirds.
- Some MAC members suggested better consultation is required when making management changes on issues of such significance.

3.4 Review of Electronic Monitoring requirements for the GHAT fishery

AFMA introduced the agenda item and asked that the MAC:

1. Note the current EM qualification requirements and monitoring requirements in the GHAT sector;
 2. Support the lowering of the EM qualifying threshold to any boat fishing 50 days or more, using any method or combination of methods.
 3. Support investigation of the rollout of EM across all boats, regardless of days fished, as part of the GHAT simplification project.
- The MAC noted that the current qualifications for EM in the GHAT are:
 - fishing with gillnets for 50 or more days in the current or previous fishing season
 - fishing with automatically baited demersal longlines for 50 or more days in the current or previous fishing season
 - fishing with manually baited demersal longlines for 100 or more days in the current or previous fishing season.

Key points from the discussion:

- There is currently very good coverage in the gillnet and auto longline sectors, with the MAC noting that 45 out of the 48 active gillnet boats have EM coverage.
- If boats are fishing using dual methods and one method requires cameras, cameras should also be used when fishing with the alternative methods.
- Industry member Mr Boag raised concerns over the costs implications of reducing the number of days for a boat required to have EM vs the data gained and supported the agreed action below
- The MAC noted that this proposed amendment would see cover of approximately 80-90% of the hook fishing occurring in the GHAT fishery. Industry member Mr Dugins further noted that there is potential for hook effort to change in relation to school shark with introduction of EM.

MAC recommendation: Before implementing any changes, AFMA undertake an analysis of the benefit of the change.

ACTION ITEM 7: AFMA to compare the ratio of school shark to gummy shark retained by boats with EM versus boats without EM
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3.5 Removal of 100kg trip limit from scalefish SFRs

AFMA introduced the agenda item and asked that the MAC note and provide advice on:

1. Consideration of the removal of the 100kg school and gummy shark trip limit on Scalefish Hook SFRs recognising the fishery is managed under quota, and there are additional management arrangements in place to protect school shark.
2. Discuss what new or modified management arrangements would be required to support the removal of this condition.

Key points from the discussion were:

- Industry member Mr Dugins had concerns that this might increase fishing effort in all areas of the fishery, due to non size selectivity of hooks, in particular in relation to school shark bycatch increases. Noting also that 17 shark hook permits were removed from the fishery to reduce effort as part of the government buyback.
- Industry member Mr Boag noted that in his perspective the key issue was related to increased pressure on school shark and any new entrants into the fishery would replace current effort and there is limited room to expand
- State and economics invited participants questioned as to why the access rights were considered being given to fishers who did not traditionally have them. AFMA's response was that it was not about access rights but availability of methods to catch the sustainable Total Allowable Catch for all fishers.
- Variants of the amendments were proposed as part of the discussions and included:
 - Limit is lifted
 - Limit is only lifted for those boats operating in the east
 - Limit is only lifted for those operating in the east and with EM
 - Wait and revisit under the TAC setting process for gummy and school shark for 21/22

MAC Recommendation: noting the desire to simplify regulatory burden but also noting concerns around any further effort into school shark fishery and with the view that the GHAT simplification project is underway that status quo is maintained and consideration for this proposition should be part of the GHAT simplification project

3.6 Research priorities

AFMA introduced the agenda item and asked the MAC to approve the:

1. Southern Squid Jig Fishery (SSJF) Strategic Research Plan and in doing so approve the annual stock assessment priority for 2020-21
2. SPF Annual Research Plan for 2020-21, noting the Small Pelagic Fishery (SPF) Five Year Strategic Research Plan (2017-18 to 2021-22)

3. Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery (SESSF) Annual Research Plan for 20-21, noting the SESSF Five year Strategic Research Plan 2016-21.

Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery

- *Review of SESSF catch history*: The MAC noted that catch history records have been recorded in various locations over time and in various formats and there are discrepancies in the records. This proposal will quantify the difference and has potential to impact on stock assessments.
- *Examination of data acquired through electronic monitoring, logbooks and on board observers (gillnet)*: The MAC noted this is new project that is being scoped with CSIRO.
- *Examination of data acquired through electronic monitoring, logbooks and on board observers (CTS)*: At present the trawl sector is in trial phase only and currently unsure of what data can and cannot be captured. The project to compare observer with EM data is considered a low priority until the trial has progressed. In the meantime, observer coverage will be maintained to ensure a comparison can be made between EM and observer on trawl boats.
- *Blue-eye Close-Kin*: This project looks at the sampling design and costs to support a close-kin stock assessment for blue-eye trevalla. There is also a broader close-kin project to consider a broader range of species in the SESSF, including blue-eye trevalla, for ComRAC consideration.

Scientific member Mr Morison enquired as to where the school shark close kin project fits within the research priorities. AFMA noted that school shark close kin is considered as part of the existing monitoring program being undertaken and should be included as part of the AFMA data plan.

ACTION ITEM 8: School Shark survivability research project priority rating be reassessed and ranked as a high priority by SESSF RAG

FRDC projects

- The FRDC call for funding went out in November 2018 and the applications are currently being considered.

MAC Recommendation: Approve the SESSF Annual Research Plan 2020-21 subject to SESSF RAG reviewing the priority for research on school shark post-release survivability.

Squid

- The annual research statement has not been finalised but should be completed at the next SquidRAG meeting. A quantitative stock assessment for squid is currently part of the five year strategic plan, however this was not supported by the industry-invited participant Ms Wisby and was not supported by SquidRAG.
- SquidRAG will revisit the need for the stock assessment in October.

MAC Recommendation: Note that there is further work to be completed to determine research priorities for the southern squid jig fishery.

Small Pelagic Fishery

- *Blue Mackerel West Survey*: The MAC raised the question as to why the SPF would be undertaking a blue mackerel west survey when there is no catch. AFMA noted that this is just the schedule, however advice would be sought from the MAC, RAG and industry including plans for fishing.
- Industry member Mr Boag requested that this survey not be undertaken without consultation.
- *Annual monitoring, reporting and assessment of marine mammal interactions, including effectiveness of mitigation measures*. Noted that this was not listed as a high priority for SPF management as dolphin and seal interactions are very low.
- Environment member Ms Lawrence noted that this was originally written when the Geelong Star was fishing in Australian waters and perhaps is not relevant now, particularly due to the low interaction rates.
- Industry member Mr Geen also noted that there are not enough data points for a detailed review due to the low interaction rates.

MAC recommendation: When developing annual research statements, the priorities for monitoring and research for each fishery should be considered with regard to broader monitoring and reporting requirements.

MAC recommendation: Support the two nominated projects (monitoring and assessment of SPF quota species and Daily egg production Surveys) in the SPF Annual Research Plan and reassess, the need for a Blue Mackerel West assessment as it is currently scheduled.

5.0 Other business

Noting that Diane Tarte (SEMAC chair) will be finishing up as the Chair at the end of June and Sandy Morison will be completing his time as the scientific member, AFMA member George Day presented gifts and thanked both Ms Tarte and Mr Morison for their valuable contribution and service.

5.1 Review of Actions and close

In review of the actions the MAC noted that:

- In principle, all actions are to be cleared within 12 months
- When making action items time frames should be included

Attachments

- 1) Final Agenda
- 2) SEMAC 37 Declared conflicts of Interest



Signed (Chairperson):

Date: 25 June 2019

South East Management Advisory Committee (SEMAC) 37 – Agenda

Meeting Date May 22 2019

Time Day 1: 09:00 am – 5:00 pm (AEST)

Location Jasper Hotel, Melbourne

Chair Diane (Di) Tarte

Attendees

Members	Anissa Lawrence	Environment member	
	George Day	AFMA member	
	Gerry Geen	Industry member	
	Sandy Morison	Scientific member	
	Shane Dugins	Industry member	
	Simon Boag	Industry member	
	TBC	Recreational member	
	Invited Participants	Debbie Wisby	Industry Invited Participant
		Frances Seaborn	State Invited Participant
		Sarah Jennings	Economics Invited Participant
Executive Officer	Belinda Norris	AFMA	
Presenters	Brodie Macdonald	AFMA	
	Dan Corrie	AFMA	
Observers	Toni Clark	Petuna Sealord Deepwater Fishing	
	Veronica Silberschneider	NSW Fisheries	

Apologies Les Scott

9:00 am – 5:00 pm Room

<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Speaker</i>	<i>Duration and Paper Action</i>
1. Preliminaries		60 minutes

		9:00am - 10:00pm
1.1 Welcome and apologies	Chair	For Noting
1.2 Acceptance of agenda	Chair	For Noting
1.3 Declarations of interest	All	For Noting
1.4 Action items		For Noting
Morning tea		15 minutes 10:00am -10:15am
2. Updates		1hr 45mins 10:15am – 12:00pm
2.1 Managers update, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GHAT simplification project, co-management arrangements, hagfish, Commission decision feedback, SESSFRAG discussions and outcomes, Economic Working Group and Marine Mammal Working Group updates, changes to rebuild species TAC's for 2019 Environment/ bycatch update 	George Day	1hr 15 minutes For Noting and Questions
2.2 Industry update	All	30 minutes For Noting and Questions
3. Business		
3.1 Dolphin strategy update	Brodie Macdonald	20 minutes 12:00am-12:20pm For Noting
3.2 School shark management	Brodie Macdonald	30 minutes 12:20pm-12:50pm For Advice
Lunch		30 minutes 12:50 pm -1:20pm
3.3 Seabirds in trawl sector update	Dan Corrie	30 minutes 1:20pm – 1:50pm For Noting
3.4 Review of EM requirements for the GHAT fishery	Brodie Macdonald	45 minutes 1:50pm- 2:35pm For Advice
3.5 Removal of 100kg trip limit from scalefish SFRs	Brodie Macdonald	40 minutes 2:35:-3:15m For Advice
Afternoon tea		15 minutes

		3:15pm-3:30pm
3.6 Research priorities	Dan Corrie	45 minutes 3:30pm-4:15pm For Advice
3.7 Review of actions	Chair	10 minutes 4:15pm-4:25pm
3.8 Presentations	George Day	15 minutes 4:25pm -4:40pm
3.9 Meeting close		

South East Management Advisory Committee SEMAC 37

Agenda item 1.3 Declarations of interest

Declared Interest - Last updated: 07 January 2019	
Members	
Ms Anissa Lawrence	Independent consultant. Director of TierraMar Consulting. Conservation member on SharkRAG Undertakes contracts for a number of Conservation NGOs, government departments, non-government agencies and the private sector on a range of fishery related matters. No pecuniary interest. President of the SEA LIFE Trust (ANZ). Director of FISHI International. SPREP Bycatch Advisor
Ms Diane Tarte	SEMAC Chair - No interest whether pecuniary or otherwise.
Mr George Day	AFMA - Senior Manager Demersal and Midwater Fisheries. No interest whether pecuniary or otherwise.
Mr Gerry Geen	A partner in Seafish Tasmania Pty Ltd that holds approximately 60 per cent of the SPF Jack Mackerel SFRs, 70 per cent of the Redbait (east) SFRs, 30 per cent of Blue Mackerel (east) SFRs and significant quota holdings in the western zone. Seafish Tasmania Pty Ltd owns a Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Trawl Boat SFR.
Mr Sandy Morison	Director of Morison Aquatic Sciences. Chair of SERAG, SharkRAG, and Tropical Rock Lobster Working Group. Contracted by government departments, non-government agencies and companies for a range of fishery related matters including research and MSC assessments of AFMA managed and other fisheries (by SCS Global Service).

	No pecuniary or other interest.
Mr Shane Dugins	Chair of the Sustainable Shark Fishery Association. Shareholder and Director of a Fishing Company that holds: Commonwealth SFRs including Shark and Scalefish quota SFRs, Victorian and Tasmanian licenses and Victorian Crayfish quota. Representative of the Sustainable Shark Fishing Association. Consultation services provided to AFMA for specialist fishery knowledge
Mr Simon Boag	Non-beneficiary Director of two fishing companies in the SESSF. Industry member on SERAG. SETFIA receives funding from various bodies to complete projects. Involved in the delivery of industry training courses through East Gippsland TAFE. Undertakes contracts as an independent consultant.
Invited participant	
Ms Debbie Wisby	CEO of a fishing company based in Tasmania. Company/Director holds Commonwealth squid jig SFRs and various Tasmanian licences. Commonwealth Fish Receiver. One company vessel fishing in the SESSF, two in the Squid Jig Fishery and two in the Commonwealth and Tas State Scallop Fishery. Member of Squid RAG, invited participant SEMAC, industry member on Scallop MAC, industry representative of Tasmanian Scallop FAC. Local Government Mayor. Consultant for private enterprises on a range of fishery related matters. Advisor to Fishwell Consulting for Squid project 2016/2017
Ms Frances Seaborn	No interest whether pecuniary or otherwise. Employed by the Tasmanian Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment (DPIPWE).
Dr Sarah Jennings	Economics member on SERAG. Economics coordinator, FRDC Social Science and Economics Research Program. Member of AFMA Economics Working Group. Independent economics consultant. No pecuniary or other interest.
Mr Brodie Macdonald	AFMA Gillnet Hook and trap Fishery Manager- No interest pecuniary or otherwise
Mr Daniel Corrie	AFMA Trawl and Coral Sea Manager- No interest pecuniary or otherwise
Executive Officer	
Ms Belinda Norris	AFMA – Senior Management Officer, Demersal and Midwater Fisheries. No interest whether pecuniary or otherwise.
Observer	
Ms Toni Clarke	Employed by Petuna Sealord Deepwater Fishing P/L an Australian resident company which holds various fishing rights in, and operates vessels in the SESSF, GHAT, East Coast Deepwater Fishery, Coral Sea and International fisheries operating a vessel under an Australian Flag; Employed by Petuna Fisheries who hold various fishing rights in the SESSF, GHAT, Commonwealth and State (Tasmania) Scallop Fishery, East Coast Tuna Fishery, Off Shore Fisheries and Tasmanian State Fisheries. My pecuniary interest is limited to the extent of an employee of the company