



Australian Government

Australian Fisheries Management Authority

South East Management Advisory Committee (SEMAC) Meeting 43

Meeting minutes

20-21 July 2021

Microsoft Teams Online Meeting

DAY 1

Agenda item 1. Preliminaries

1.1 Welcome and apologise

1. The SEMAC Chair, Mr David McGlennon, opened the meeting at 1000 on 20 July 2021 by welcoming those present and making an Acknowledgement of Country statement recognising the traditional owners of the many lands in which we met, paying our respects to elders past, present and emerging.
2. SEMAC members noted the Acknowledgement of Country, and after accepting that the meeting was being recorded, commenced proceedings.
3. The Chair noted resignations from Shane Dugins and Toni Clark. SEMAC made note of the contribution both members provided to SEMAC during their respective tenures.
4. The Chair noted Helen Kroger (Chair, AFMA Commission), Brett McCallum (AFMA Commissioner) and Lara Ainley (AFMA Staff) would be observing the meeting over various parts of the two days.
5. The Chair noted Fiona Mckinnon (Senior Manager, NSW DPI) would be attending the meeting as an invited participant.
6. The Chair confirmed attending members, participants and observers and noted an apology from Heath Folpp and Debbie Wisby. Anissa Lawrence advised she would not be in attendance for most of the Day 2 proceedings.

SEMAC Members

David McGlennon	Chair
Michael Steer	Scientific member
Sarah Jennings	Economic member
Anissa Lawrence	Environment member
Gerry Geen	Industry member
Simon Boag	Industry member
Will Mure	Industry member
John Harrison	Recreational member
Fiona Hill	AFMA member
Max Bayly	Executive officer

Invited Participants

Fiona Mckinnon	NSW DPI Fisheries - State invited participant
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Observers

Brett McCallum	AFMA Commissioner	Observer
Helen Kruger	AFMA Commission Chair	Observer (Day 2 Only)

Dan Corrie	AFMA Staff	Presenter
Sally Weekes	AFMA Staff	Presenter
Lara Ainley	AFMA Staff	Observer
Natalie Couchman	AFMA Staff	Presenter

Apologies

Health Follp	Invited participant
Anissa Lawrence (Day 2 only)	Conservation Member
Debbie Wisby	Invited Participant

1.2 Declarations of interest

7. SEMAC members noted the conflict of interest requirements as outlined in the *Fisheries Management Paper 1*. Members and participants reviewed and updated the Declarations of Interest made at **Attachment A** including any specific conflicts of interest with items on the agenda.
8. The following Declarations of Interest were made:
 - Industry members declared a conflict of interest for Agenda Items 3, 4, 5 and 6.
 - Dr Michael Steer declared a conflict of interest for Agenda Item 3 (relating to the SPF).
9. The Chair sought advice on how SEMAC should manage these conflicts, and whilst members with a conflict left the room, remaining members agreed that members and invited participants with an agenda conflict will be managed as follows:
 - Industry Members can participate in the discussion and recommendations for agenda Item 3, however if priorities change they should step out
 - Industry Members can participate in the discussion but would be excluded from the meeting for the recommendations for Agenda Items 4, 5 and 6.
 - Mr Boag noted he was surprised at SEMACs decision to exclude him during the formation of recommendations for Agenda Item 4 (by-catch and discard workplan), noting there were no commercial interests associated with this Agenda Item and that SETFIA had historically undertaken much of the work required by the plan. He noted SETFIA would provide feedback on Agenda Item 4 through the Seine and Trawl Advisory Group.
 - Dr Michael Steer will be allowed to participate in the discussion but would be excluded from the meeting for recommendations for Agenda Item 3 relating to the Small Pelagic Fishery (SPF).

1.3 Adoption of agenda

10. SEMAC members adopted the agenda at **Attachment B** as final.

1.4 Minutes of previous meeting

11. SEMAC members noted the final minutes of the SEMAC 42 meeting of 2-4 February 2021 are available on the AFMA website: <https://www.afma.gov.au/fisheries/committees/south-east-management-advisory-committee-semac/south-east-mac-past-meetings>.

1.5 Actions arising from previous meetings

12. A consolidated list of outstanding action items from previous SEMAC meetings was circulated to SEMAC members prior to this meeting at **Attachment C**. Members noted progress and the update provided by the Executive Officer.

1.6 Member Roles and Responsibilities

13. The Chair welcomed Ms Natalie Couchman (Manager, AFMA Policy Environment and Research) to the meeting. Ms Couchman provided SEMAC with a reminder of the role of Management Advisory Committees and responsibilities of members, including those relating to conduct, confidentiality and disclosure of information, public comment and conflicts of interest.

14. SEMAC noted:

- The role of SEMAC is to provide evidence-based advice to AFMA Commission concerning the management of Commonwealth fisheries which is consistent with AMFA's legislative objectives and Australian Government fisheries policy.
- The specific role of each member is outlined in [Fisheries Management Paper 1](#).
- Recommendations arising from SEMAC are not always by consensus. It is important that the Executive Officer records opposing views in the meeting minutes.

15. SEMAC thanked Ms Couchman for her update and Ms Couchman left the meeting at 1030.

Agenda item 2 – Updates

2.1 Managers Update

16. The AFMA member, Ms Fiona Hill, provided an update to SEMAC on the key management issues arising since the meeting on 2-4 February 2021. SEMAC noted the following in relation to each update.

Demersal and Midwater staffing update

- Dr Lara Ainley has started in the role of SPF, Squid and Scallop Manager.
- The Lakes Entrance Office are recruiting (APS5 and APS6 positions).
- Max Bayly will be the SEMAC Executive Officer until recruitment for the Lakes Entrance APS6 position is completed.

Overview of observer coverage in the Commonwealth Trawl Sector (CTS)

- There are between 230-250 days of observer coverage budgeted for the CTS to collect sufficient data for stock assessments (biological targets and discard estimates).
- While there are gaps in the sampling coverage required for Eden Danish Seine, Eden Trawl and NSW offshore trawl due to a lack of effort and boat availability, the biological targets (otoliths and length measurements) for each species are typically met, noting there were issues meeting targets in 2020 due to Covid-19 travel restrictions.

Funding update for Electronic Monitoring and Data Transformation

- A 10 million dollar investment to enhance (or replace) AFMA's systems as they relate to business services (e.g., Pisces). This program will see the delivery of AFMA's Data Strategy.
- A 10 million investment in enhancing and expanding the EM program across Commonwealth fisheries and includes investment in artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML). The

key aim of expanding the program is to improve AFMA's ability to collect fine scale data collection and implement vessel level management arrangements and incentivise the uptake of best practices by individual fishers to achieve a range of outcomes (e.g., reduce protected species interactions, improve bycatch handling practices etc.).

- Further information on both funding components can be found on the AFMA website at the following link: <https://www.afma.gov.au/funding-announced-data-transformation-and-electronic-monitoring>

Summary of eastern pink ling catches for the 2020-21 SESSF fishing season

- Catches by boats under the South East Trawl Fishing Industry Association (SETFIA) arrangement were within the notional limit, and 96 per cent (428.5 tonnes) of the nominal TAC was caught across all boats.
- SETFIA and AFMA have extended the co-management arrangement for the 2021-22 fishing season.
- Mr Simon Boag noted that SETFIA expects AFMA to make a determination on whether pink ling is to be managed as one or two stocks (East and West).

Freezer boats in the SESSF

- AFMA recently approved four New Zealand flagged freezer trawlers to be deemed as 'Australian boats' for limited periods between June and September 2021 – the same four boats that were approved in 2020.
- AFMA clarified that any vessel deemed to be an Australian boat is subject to all management arrangements as any Commonwealth boat fishing in this sector.

School Shark

- Logbooks and electronic logbooks have been updated to include the option for live discards of school sharks. This was welcomed by industry members.
- The independent expert review of the school shark Close Kin Mark Recapture (CKMR) assessment is being finalised. SharkRAG, SESSF-RAG and AFMA have accepted the outcomes of the review, noting a number of key areas for further work to be completed as a priority prior to the next assessment to improve the accuracy and precision of assessment.
- The CKMR independent panel met with Patrick Cordue for the purpose of ensuring the issues identified by Mr Cordue had been properly understood and considered by the Panel.
- With the completion of the Expert Panel review of the CKMR assessment, AFMA will look to progress discussion with the SEMAC school shark sub-committee regarding the review of the School Shark Rebuilding Strategy (the Strategy).

Updated analysis of EM versus logbook data - GHAT

- AFMA has commissioned ABARES to update the analysis 2018 examining the similarity between data collected via Electronic Monitoring (EM) and fishing logbooks. SEMAC will be updated on the progress of this work.

Dolphin Strategy review for the GHAT and SPF

- The Dolphin Strategy for the SPF and GHAT are about to undergo a regular review, with a focus on strengthening the management of dolphin interactions and incorporate new knowledge of mitigation measures.
 - AFMA will consult with appropriate RAGs and MACs during the review process.
- AFMA is developing cross-cutting dolphin databases in the GHAT and SPF. This includes reviewing electronic monitoring and logbook reports of dolphin interactions and creating links to that data across dolphin interaction evaluation reports, current dolphin mitigation plans and compliance frameworks.

Recent dolphin interactions in the SPF

- A boat in the SPF has had an unusually high number of dolphin interactions within a single review period. A total of 17 dolphin interactions exceeds the interaction cap of six dolphins under the SPF Dolphin Strategy, but no significant management response was triggered.
- As a result of the interactions, AFMA has put in place an emergency closure until 01 November 2021. The closure is smaller in area and shorter in time than exclusions triggered under the [SPF dolphin strategy](#). This period will allow for a review of interim management strategies.
- Mr Boag noted the boat has stopped operating as it has become uneconomic with the emergency closure. He also noted his surprise at the emergency closure given the boat was in the limits set out in the SPF dolphin strategy.

2.2 Industry Update

17. The Chair asked industry members to provide an update on any items arising since the last full meeting on 2-4 February 2021. SEMAC noted updates from two industry members, Simon Boag (Southern Shark Industry Alliance (SSIA), Small Pelagic Fishing Industry Association (SPFIA) and SETFIA) and Will Mure.

- Simon Boag (SSIA, SPFIA and SETFIA) noted:
 - Fish prices for the trawl sector had decreased and fuel prices had increased.
 - Western Orange Roughy (WOR) – Commission set a research quota for WOR. Five vessels have been selected to collect WOR data, subject to approval of Scientific Permit applications.
 - Eastern Orange Roughy season has been very good.
 - West coast grenadier should expect a fully caught TAC
 - COVID-19 presenting difficulties in unloading and operating the NZ freezer vessels
 - Trawl vessels have noted near misses with recreational fishers in Lakes Entrance. SETFIA has issued social media posts to assist recreational fishers and notified AMSA.
 - Trawlers have updated e-log software with some initial transition difficulties.
 - SSIA supports the Marion Bay Australian Sea Lion Closure and wrote to AFMA outlining this position.
 - Disappointed that the independent review panel for the school shark Close Kin Mark Recapture did not speak to Patrick Cordue before finalising their report.
- Will Mure noted:
 - The boat has been operating in different waters this year, and as such the gemfish catches observed last year will not be seen this year

- Killer whale activity in blue-eye fishing operations
- Eastern ling is healthy
- Supported the reduction of blue-eye trevalla quota
- The business has recently lost its long term skipper.

Agenda Item 5 – Australian Sea Lion Closure – South Australia

18. AFMA introduced the Agenda Item, seeking support on the implementation of an 11nm radial Australian Sea Lion (ASL) gillnet closure at the site of the new colony, consistent with the approach taken for other colonies of a similar size under the ASL Management Strategy.
19. The presence of a new colony was brought to AFMA's attention by Dr Simon Goldsworthy, in early 2021. Consistent with the approach taken under AFMA's ASL Management Strategy, a colony of this size warrants an 11 nm closure.
20. SEMAC noted:
 - Gillnet effort has reduced by around 80 per cent in waters off South Australia since the ASL Strategy was introduced, implemented a large number of spatial closures and 100 per cent monitoring, all at significant cost to industry. Interactions with gillnet are between 0 to three ASLs per year.
 - Southern Shark Industry Alliance have sent AFMA a letter supporting the proposal prior to the meeting of SEMAC. Mr Boag noted the following:
 - There is some level of support from Industry and the scientific community that GHAT ASL interactions were ever 250 per annum prior to the ASL Management Strategy.
 - ASL populations are showing indications of decline despite very low (0-3) GHAT interactions per year.
 - Fishers have expressed difficulties in inputting circular spatial zones into their plotters and simply draw straight lines.
21. Industry members left the meeting and SEMAC formed a formal recommendation.
22. **SEMAC supported the implementation of an 11nm radial ASL gillnet closure at the site of the new colony, consistent with the approach taken for other colonies of a similar size under the Australian Sea Lion Management Strategy.**

Agenda Item 3 – Research Priorities

23. The Chair noted that there would be four components to this Agenda Item: SESSF Strategic Research Plan 2021-24; SESSF Annual Research Statement 2022-23; SPF Annual Research Statement 2022-23; SSJF Annual Research Statement 2022-23. This was to ensure conflicts of interest specific to the SESSF, SPF and SSJF were managed effectively.

3.1 SESSF Strategic Research Plan

24. Dan Corrie (AFMA presenter) introduced the SESSF Strategic Research Plan (the Plan), providing an update of amendments that had been made to the Plan since it had last been reviewed by SEMAC in March 2021. AFMA noted the Plan is still in draft form and incorporates feedback from SESSF, SEMAC and GABMAC. The Plan will be presented to SESSF in August 2021 for finalisation.
25. **SEMAC provided support for the Plan as written.**

3.2 SESSF Annual Research Statement 2022-23

26. Dan Corrie and Sally Weekes (AFMA presenter) introduced the Agenda Item, seeking SEMAC support for the final draft of the SESSF Annual Research Statement 2022-23 (the draft Statement).
27. SEMAC noted AFMA Research Committee (ARC) timeline for 2022-23 Research Priorities.
28. SEMAC discussed the draft Statement:
 - Concerning the SharkRAG research priority “Improving CPUE standardisation for sharks”, SEMAC sought clarity on why this was ranked a high priority. **SEMAC recommended Ms Sally Weekes and Simon Boag discuss this research priority out of session with Sandy Morison (SharkRAG chair) and report back to SEMAC.**
 - Concerning the Research Priority “Obtaining discard data and fish lengths using electronic monitoring” **SEMAC recommended this research priority be referred to SharkRAG for further consideration in the context of the broader SESSF data strategy.**
 - **SEMAC supported the draft SESSF Annual Research Statement 2022-23.**

3.3 Small Pelagic Fishery Annual Research Statement 2022-23

29. Dr Lara Ainley (AFMA presenter) introduced the Agenda Item, seeking SEMAC support for the final draft of the SPF Annual Research Statement 2022-23 (the draft Statement).
30. **SEMAC supported the research priorities outlined in the SPF Annual Research Statement 2022-23 however recommended AFMA Management include a note to the AFMA Research Committee regarding the priority of undertaking research in the west, as it should not progress if there is no effort in the western part of the fishery. Further AFMA should consider the status of the fishery more generally before progressing the high cost research priorities.**

3.4 SSJF Annual Research Statement 2022-23

31. Dr Lara Ainley (AFMA presenter) introduced the Agenda Item, providing SEMAC with an overview of the final draft of the SSJF Annual Research Statement 2022-23 (the draft Statement).
32. **SEMAC supported the research priority provided in the draft SSJF Annual Research Statement 2022-23.**

Agenda Item 4 – Trawl Bycatch and Discard Workplan

33. Dan Corrie (AFMA presenter) introduced Agenda Item, seeking final approval from SEMAC on the Commonwealth Trawl Sector Bycatch and Discard Workplan (the Workplan). Mr Corrie provided an overview of the Workplan, noting the Workplan is a response document which highlights risks identified by Ecological Risk Assessments (ERAs) for the fishery and identifies how the risks will be mitigated in the fishery.
34. AFMA noted:
 - A list of high-risk species as identified in the [Commonwealth Trawl Sector ERAs](#) is provided in Table 1 of the Workplan.
 - The action items are designed to either mitigate risk where it has been identified, or collect additional information to better understand risk and support future ERAs.
 - The Workplan is to be reviewed annually by SEMAC which provides opportunities to add newly identified bycatch and discard action items.

35. The industry members left the meeting and SEMAC formed a formal recommendation.
- 36. SEMAC supports the Workplan as it is written and request a copy of the finalised Workplan be provided at a future meeting of SEMAC.**
37. The chair closed Day 1 of the meeting at 1515.

DAY 2

Agenda Item 6 – Electronic Monitoring Representativeness in the Manual Longline Sector

38. The Chair welcomed SEMAC members to Day 2 of SEMAC 43 and opened the meeting at 0920 on 21 July 2021.
39. Sally Weekes (AFMA presenter) introduced the Agenda Item, seeking SEMAC advice on whether the current approach of increasing the percentage of footage reviewed from the boats with Electronic Monitoring and the spatial representativeness of this coverage, is appropriate to achieve monitoring targets required by the *Threat Abatement Plan for the incidental catch (or bycatch) of seabirds during oceanic longline fishing operations (2018)* (the TAP) in the manual longline sector.
40. SEMAC noted:
- AFMA review 10% of all EM footage in the manual longline sector, which given the small number of manual hook boats with EM, is not sufficient to meet the observed hooks requirement (10% of hooks set across the fishery) prescribed under the TAP. Currently, AFMA engage EM analysts to perform additional review of the boats with EM to meet the 10% observed hooks requirement.
 - The manual hook sector is made up of five dropline boats that target blue-eye trevalla on the slope, 46 set longline boats that target gummy shark on the shelf and 12 boats that use both dropline and longline gear. Of these boats, six longline have EM and one of these boats also does some droplining.
 - The requirement to have EM in the manual hook sector applies to all boats that fish for 100 days or more. SEMAC had previously discussed lowering the threshold however did not agree to this, subject to AFMA examining the spatial representativeness of EM relative to effort for the purposes of TAP reporting requirements.
 - In terms of spatial coverage of EM coverage versus fishing effort of this sector, there are large gaps in coverage between western Tasmania and South Australia, around King Island, Flinders Island and off Lakes Entrance.
41. SEMAC discussed:
- Spatial coverage of EM versus fishing effort - Increasing the amount of EM footage that is reviewed from boats that already have EM installed may not be appropriate as there is known seabird habitat that is not currently captured by EM.
 - Inequity across the fleet - There are management actions for boats that have EM that are over the rate prescribed under the TAP. However, for boats that do not have EM, they potentially avoid any management action.
 - Several MAC members suggested that there is a need for a 10% level of coverage for all boats in the fleet and that this approach would significantly improve the social licence of the fishery.

- SEMAC considered the potential impact of mandating EM on all manual longline boats, noting it may result in part time boats leaving the fishery due to a reduction in economic viability of operating in the fishery. This concern was strongly reiterated by an industry member throughout discussions.
- AFMA noted that legislatively, decisions are required to assess economic impacts at a fishery level rather than at an individual operator level. AFMA also noted the importance of monitoring across the fleet.
- AFMA advised SEMAC of a Government funded 10 million investment in enhancing and expanding the EM program across Commonwealth fisheries. SEMAC suggested AFMA explore this source of funding for increasing the EM footprint in this sector.

42. The Industry Members left the meeting and SEMAC formed a formal recommendation.

43. SEMAC recommended:

- **Increasing EM footage review for existing boats is not appropriate for the purpose of meeting the TAP requirement to observe 10 per cent of all hooks set, due to the gaps in spatial coverage of where EM boats fish versus the remaining effort in the fishery .**
- **10% monitoring should be implemented on all boats in the manual longline sector, with AFMA to provide flexibility on how this coverage can be achieved, i.e. via observers or EM, to account for operational challenges for individual fishers.**
- **AFMA to explore a business case to secure government funding to improve data collection and independent monitoring through digital surveillance/monitoring in the manual longline sector.**
- **AFMA to provide updates on this work to SEMAC at future meetings via the Managers Update Agenda Item.**

44. The industry Members re-joined the meeting and were advised of the recommendations made by SEMAC.

Agenda Item 7 – SMARP Update

45. Dan Corrie (AFMA presenter) introduced the agenda item, providing SEMAC with an update to key recommendations in the report [Implementation workshop: Effective adoption of the outcomes from the SESSF Declining Indicators project](#) (the Implementation Workshop Report - FRDC 2018/077).

46. AFMA noted:

- There are 39 recommendations, action items or priority areas identified in the Implementation Plan. Many of the recommendations, particularly from SMARP, relate to improving the efficiency of existing data collection, monitoring and reporting processes which will be pursued under the AFMA Agency Data Capture Project, development of an AFMA Data Strategy, as well as through RAG and MAC processes. Others recommendations relate to key priorities and preferred approaches relevant to the development of a revised harvest strategy which will be considered as part of project Development and evaluation of multi-species harvest strategies in the SESSF (MSHSP) ([FRDC 2018-021](#)).
- Of the 39 recommendations, action items or priority areas:
 - 25 are either implemented, partially implemented, or underway;
 - 11 are yet to be formally considered; and
 - three will not be implemented.

47. SEMAC discussed the following:

- Concerning the SMARP recommendation “Seek opportunities for the cost-effective and regular collection of key economic information for the SESSF” the economics member noted the Economics Working Group has developed a list of economic indicators which highlighted a need to clarify the interpretation of AFMA’s economic objective.
- It was noted that a Fisheries Management Paper has been drafted by AFMA concerning the interpretation of the economic objective “*To maximise net economic returns to the Australian community through the ecologically sustainable development of Commonwealth fisheries*”.

48. SEMAC thanked Mr Corrie for the update.

Agenda Item 8 – FRDC Hook Trial

49. The Chair welcomed Ian Knuckey (Fishwell Consulting) to present this Agenda Item. SEMAC noted this was an action item arising from SEMAC 41. Ian Knuckey provided SEMAC with an update and preliminary findings from [FRDC Project 2019-129](#) “*Potential transition of shark gillnet boats to longline fishing in Bass Strait - ecological, cross-sectoral, and economic implications*”. The AFMA member clarified there is no proposal to allow Automatic Longline fishing in the Bass Strait and that this research was funded by FRDC.

50. SEMAC noted the following key outcomes:

- Automatic longline fishing can effectively target gummy shark in Bass Strait waters however there is significant bycatch of draughtboard sharks which can impact fishing operations
- Catches of school shark were low
- The trial had no interactions with seabirds and negligible interaction rates with other TEP species
- There were only low catches of species of interest to other Commonwealth and State commercial fisheries and recreational fisheries
- Details of the economics of transferring from a gillnet to a longline vessel to target Gummy Shark in Bass Strait were presented.

51. SEMAC thanked Ian Knuckey for his presentation and requested the final report be circulated when published.

Agenda Item 9 – AMCS Endemic Shark Report

52. The AFMA member introduced the Agenda Item, citing an Australian Marine Conservation Society (AMCS) report from March 2021, which was distributed to SEMAC prior to the meeting. AFMA noted the report had been reviewed internally.

53. SEMAC noted:

- None of the species in the report were assessed as high risk in the most recent Commonwealth Trawl Sector ERAs.
- The Ecological Risk Management steering group is examining how cumulative impacts across fisheries can be considered in ERAs in the future.

54. SEMAC did not recommend any further action in response to the AMCS report.

Agenda Item 10 – Price / Quantity Relationships in the SESSF

55. The Chair welcomed Dr Sean Pascoe (Marine Resource Economics, CSIRO), to present for this Agenda Item. Dr Pascoe introduced the agenda item and presented key findings from the [FRDC project 2018-017](#) “Demand Conditions and Dynamics in the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery: Empirical Investigation”.
56. The demand modelling focuses on the Sydney Fish Market, but also considers price linkages between the Melbourne and Sydney markets and between key species, and the impact of changes in landings on prices received. The study also looks at the impact of increased imports and farmed salmon production on domestic prices for wild caught species on the Sydney Fish Market.
57. The presentation initiated an interesting discussion between the members, which concluded with SEMAC thanking Dr Pascoe for his presentation.

Agenda Item 11 – Other Business

58. The Chair sought input from members on any other business. No further items of business were raised.
59. SEMAC wished to make special mention of the extensive contributions of Mr Shane Dugins over many years, and expressed gratitude for his long term services as an industry member on SEMAC.

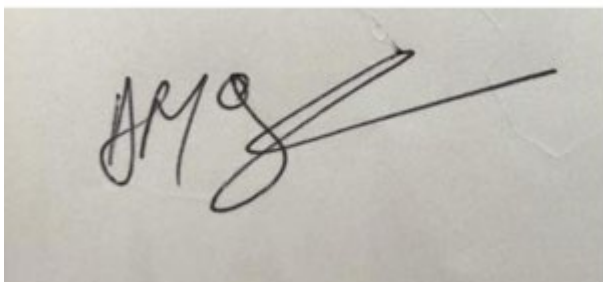
Agenda Item 12 – Review of Action Items and Meeting Close

60. The EO noted no action items arising from SEMAC 43.
61. The Chair thanked attendees for their input and closed the meeting at 1415 on 21 July 2021.

Attachments

- A. SEMAC 43 Declared conflicts of Interest
- B. Final Agenda
- C. Consolidated list of SEMAC action Items

Chair: Dr David McGlennon

A photograph of a handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored surface. The signature is stylized and appears to be 'DMG' followed by a long horizontal stroke.

Signature:

07/10/2021

Attachment A- Declared Conflicts

Declared Interest - Last updated: December2020

Members	
Dr David McGlennon	SEMAC Chair - No interest pecuniary or otherwise
Ms Anissa Lawrence	Director of TierraMar Ltd, Independent consultant TierraMar Consulting Pty Ltd Undertakes contracts for a number of Conservation Non-Government Organisations, government departments, non-government agencies and the private sector on a range of fishery related matters. No pecuniary interest. Conservation member on South Australia Rock Lobster MAC Conservation member on GABMAC Conservation member on SPFRAG
Mr Gerry Geen	A partner in Seafish Tasmania Pty Ltd that holds a SESSF Trawl Boat SFR
Mr Will Mure	Sole Director of Mures Fishing P/L Commonwealth fish receiver permit, Tasmania fish processing licence "Tasmanian Scalefish A" License Scalefish hook boat SFR SEQ Quota Holding Permits Auto longline fishing permit High Seas permit Blue eye trevalla SFRs Ling SFRs Ribaldo ITQ Mixed species Individual Transferable Quotas (ITQs) and SFRs Member of various fishing related associations including Seafood Industry Australia (SIA), South East Trawl Fishing Industry Association (SETFIA), Southern Shark Industry Alliance (SSIA), Tasmanian Seafood Industry Council (TSIC) Agenda items 3 and 5
Dr Michael Steer	Acting Research Director at South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI) Aquatic Sciences Chair of South East Resource Assessment Group (SERAG) Member of Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark RAG (SESSFRAG) Member of the Snapper Management Advisory Committee (SA) No pecuniary interest in the SESSF.
Dr Sarah Jennings	Economics member on SERAG and SESSFRAG Member of AFMA Economics Working Group. Independent economics consultant. No pecuniary or other interest.
Mr John Harrison	FutureFocused Consulting and Executive Chair for FRDC's Seafood Industry Safety Initiative. Member, NW Marine Park Advisory Committee.
Mr Simon Boag	Non-beneficiary Director of two fishing companies in the SESSF. Industry member on SERAG. Executive Officers to SETFIA, SSIA and SPFIA Undertakes contracts as an independent consultant.
Ms Fiona Hill	AFMA Demersal and Midwater Senior Manager – AFMA SEMAC member – no interest pecuniary or otherwise.
Invited participant	
Ms Fiona Mckinnon	no interest pecuniary or otherwise.
Executive Officer	

Max Bayly	AFMA – Senior Management Officer, Demersal and Midwater Fisheries. No interest pecuniary or otherwise.
Observers	
Mr Brett McCallum	AFMA Commissioner – no interest pecuniary or otherwise.
Ms Helen Kroger	AFMA Commission Chair – no interest pecuniary or otherwise.
Mr Dan Corrie	AFMA Trawl, Squid and Scallop Manager - no interest pecuniary or otherwise.
Ms Sally Weekes	AFMA Gillnet Hook and Trap Fishery Manager - no interest pecuniary or otherwise.
Ms Natalie Couchman	AFMA Research and Policy Manager - no interest pecuniary or otherwise.
Dr Lara Ainley	AFMA SPF, SSJF and Scallop Manager - no interest pecuniary or otherwise.

Attachment B- Final Agenda

Agenda Item	Speaker	SEMAC Action	Timing/Duration
DAY 1 – Microsoft Teams Conference			1000-1715
Preliminaries			
1.1 Welcome and apologies	Chair	Advice	60 mins
1.2 Acceptance of agenda	Chair	Advice	1000-1100
1.3 Declarations of interest	Chair	Noting	
1.4 Action items	Executive officer	Noting/questions	
1.5 Member Roles and Responsibilities	Ryan Murphy	Noting	
Updates			
2.1 Managers update (taken as read)	Fiona Hill	Noting/questions	30 min 1100-1130
2.2 Industry update	All	Noting/questions	30 mins

Agenda Item	Speaker	SEMAC Action	Timing/Duration
			1130-1200
Lunch	30 mins		
	1200-1230		
Business Items			
3. Research Priorities	Dan Corrie	Advice	150 mins
- SESSF Strategic Research Plan 2021-2024			1230-1500
- SESSF Annual Research Statement 2022-23			
- SPF Annual Research Statement 2022-23			
- SSJF Annual Research Statement 2022-23			
Afternoon Tea	15 mins		
	1500-1515		
4. Trawl Bycatch and Discard Workplan	Dan Corrie	Advice	90 mins
			1515-1645
5. Australian Sea Lion Closure – South Australia	Sally Weekes	Advice	30 mins
			1645 - 1715

DAY 2 – Microsoft Teams conference		1000-1645	
Business Items			
6. SMARP Update	Dan Corrie	Noting	60 mins 1000-1100
7. FRDC Hook Trial	Ian Knuckey	Noting	60 mins 1100-1200
Lunch	30 mins 1200-1230		
8. EM Representativeness in the Manual Longline Sector (Anissa paper)	Sally Weekes	Advice	45 mins 1230-1315
9. AMCS Report – Endemic Shark Report	Fiona Hill	Noting	45 mins 1315-1400
Afternoon Tea	15 mins 1400-1415		

DAY 2 – Microsoft Teams conference			1000-1645
10. FDRC Project – Price/quantity relationships in the SESSF	Sean Pascoe	Noting	60 mins 1415-1515
Any other business	Chair	Noting/Questions	15 mins 1615-1630
Review of action items	EO	Advice	10 mins 1630-1640
Next Meeting/Meeting Close	Chair	Noting	5 mins 1640-1645

Attachment C- Consolidated List of Action Items

Complete/Redundant	Underway	Yet to start	SEMAC advice required / for noting
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Table 1. Progress of action items from previous meetings

SEMAC Out of Session Meeting (24 March 2021)

	Agenda item ref	No.	Description	Responsibility	Timeframe	Status update
	3. Rebuilding Strategies – Orange Roughy and Blue Warehou	OOS1	AFMA to request South East Resource Assessment Group (SERAG) reconcile any spatial or temporal differences in juvenile and adult components of the blue warehou stocks	Dan Corrie	Next SERAG	Dan Corrie has written to CSIRO seeking advice.
	4. SESSF Five Year Research Plan	OOS2	AFMA to provide SEMAC with an interim update on SMARP implementation at SEMAC 43	Dan Corrie	SEMAC 43	Included as an agenda item for SEMAC 43
	4. SESSF Five Year Research Plan	OOS3	AFMA to provide members with a revised draft SESSF Five-year Strategic Research Plan out of session (incorporating SEMAC comments) prior to seeking final support at SEMAC 43.	Dan Corrie	SEMAC 43	The revised draft is included in the papers for SEMAC 43.

SEMAC 42 (2-4 February 2021)

	Agenda item ref	No.	Description	Responsibility	Timeframe	Status update
	3. SESSF TAC Recommendations for the 2021-22 Fishing Season	42.1	AFMA to request that the SESSFRAG (August 2021) review the current SESSF data plan to ensure suitable data is being collected with a particular focus on discard estimates across sectors and species, and then provide SEMAC an overview of observer coverage in the trawl sector (included days planned vs achieved) in June 2021.	Daniel Corrie	SEMAC 43	To be tabled at SESSFRAG in August 2021 as part of the SESSF Data Plan review. An overview of the observer coverage is included in the SEMAC 43 Managers Update.
	3. SESSF TAC Recommendations for the 2021-22 Fishing Season	42.2	SEMAC recommends SERAG invite a shark biologist to participate in the SERAG 2021 Tier 5 assessment of deepwater sharks, to inform the assessment.	Daniel Corrie	SERAG 2021	The Executive Officer of SERAG has invited Prof. Colin Simpfendorfer to the SERAG 2021 meeting.
	3. SESSF TAC Recommendations for the 2021-22 Fishing Season	42.3	SEMAC recommends SERAG consider the potential impact on future catch per unit effort (CPUE) if discards were to increase when providing recommended biological	Daniel Corrie	2021	This will be included in the John Dory TAC advice paper submitted to SERAG in 2021.

	Agenda item ref	No.	Description	Responsibility	Timeframe	Status update
			catch (RBC) advice for john dory for the 2022-23 fishing year.			
	3. SESSF TAC Recommendations for the 2021-22 Fishing Season	42.4	AFMA to include revised estimates of biomass from the most recent stock assessments in the 'stock status against reference' tables in the SESSF species summary for future SESSF TAC Recommendations.	Daniel Corrie	22/23 TAC	This is yet to be actioned, but will be included in the paper.
	4. SPF TAC Recommendations for the 2021-22 Fishing Season	42.5	AFMA to confirm whether an additional row can be included on recreational fishery catches for SPF fishery species summary to be consistent with SESSF species summary	Lara Ainley	22/23 TAC	State catches presented in species summary do not include recreational catch data. SARDI will request recreational data from States for the 22/23 Species Summary document.
	5. Revised Upper Slope Dogfish	42.6	AFMA to respond to GABIA with outcomes of the public consultation and send the package of documents for the revised Upper Slope Dogfish Strategy to the	Sally Weekes	Feb 2021	AFMA will respond to submissions subsequent to Commission final decision.

	Agenda item ref	No.	Description	Responsibility	Timeframe	Status update
	Management Strategy		GABMAC for information prior to finalisation.			The package of documents was provided to GABMAC for information at its meeting on 25 March 2021.

SEMAC 41 (10-11 November 2020)

	Agenda item ref	No.	Description	Responsibility	Timeframe	Status update
	3.3 Amendments to SESSF Deepwater Closure (a) East of Babel Island and (b) Southern ORMA	41.2	AFMA to provide an update on the final amendment to the SESSF deepwater closure agreed to at SEMAC 41.	Daniel Corrie	SEMAC 42	Completed at March OOS
	3.4 Internal review of electronic monitoring	41.3	AFMA to provide the SESSF data plan to SEMAC out of session and an update on the	Sally Weekes	SEMAC 42	An update was provided to SEMAC at SEMAC 42 in Agenda item 2.1 Managers update

	Agenda item ref	No.	Description	Responsibility	Timeframe	Status update
			progress of the review of data plan at SEMAC 42.			
	3.5 Ecological Risk Assessment (ERA) for the shark gillnet sub-fishery.	41.4	AFMA to seek clarification from Dr Miriana Sporcic regarding the risk rating in the current Gillnet sector ERA report for draughtboard sharks and shortfin mako shark.	Sally Weekes	SEMAC 42	An update was provided to SEMAC at SEMAC 42 in Agenda item 2.1 Managers update
	3.8 Update on protected species management.	41.8	Mr Simon Boag to examine the spatial overlap of auto-longline effort with the known distribution of squalidae species to assist in the development of an industry proposal to allow the retention of non-conservation dependent squalidae species.	SETFIA (Simon)	SEMAC 43	Underway, update to be provided next SEMAC. SETFIA have agreed to a project scope and fee for consultant Ross Daley. A date for the project start is yet to be confirmed.
	2.1 Managers Update	41.1	FDRC Hook Trial - Dr Ian Knuckey to present the outcomes of the project at the SEMAC 42 meeting in February 2021.	Dr Ian Knuckey	SEMAC 43	Provided at agenda Item 7 SEMAC 43.

SEMAC 40 (1-2 July 2020)

	Agenda item reference	No.	Description	Responsibility	Timeframe	Status update
	3.1 SSJF Harvest Strategy	40.5	AFMA to invite Dr Mike Steer to the next SquidRAG meeting as an invited participant (subject to his availability) to provide advice on aspects of the squid harvest strategy review and act as a conduit between SquidRAG and SEMAC on this issue.	Lara Ainley	November 2020	<p>Dr Steer has not been engaged at this point – the review of the Squid Harvest Strategy has been delayed, subject to further investigation of appropriate indicators and assessments approaches.</p> <p>AFMA will consider extending an invite to Dr Steer once the review of the harvest strategy progresses.</p>
	3.3 Research priorities for 2020-21	40.8	AFMA to invite Dr Beth Fulton (CSIRO) to the next SquidRAG meeting to provide a brief presentation regarding her ecosystem modelling research and how this might be considered in the review of the harvest strategy.	Lara Ainley	November 2020	<p>Dr Fulton has not been engaged at this point – the review of the Squid Harvest Strategy has been delayed, subject to further investigation of appropriate indicators and assessments approaches.</p> <p>AFMA will consider extending an invite to Dr Fulton once the review of the harvest strategy progresses.</p>

	Agenda item reference	No.	Description	Responsibility	Timeframe	Status update
	3.5 Trawl ERA	40.9	AFMA to summarise management arrangements for conservation dependent species or species subject to rebuilding in the CTS bycatch and discarding workplan, noting its focus is on high risk ERA species.	Daniel Corrie	SEMAC 43	This was included in the draft workplan and will be presented for adoption at SEMAC 43.
	3.5 Trawl ERA	40.10	AFMA to include a footnote on the Gould squid risk rating under the ERA PSA methodology in the CTS bycatch and discarding workplan to note there is a targeted fishery for this species with triggers that consider trawl catch.	Daniel Corrie	SEMAC 43	This was included in the draft workplan and will be presented for adoption at SEMAC 43.
	3.5 Trawl ERA	40.11	AFMA to consider application of 'enhanced SAFE' (eSAFE) methodology under the CTS bycatch and discarding workplan to better understand the risk to some species assessed as potentially high risk in the 2019 CTS ERA.	Daniel Corrie	SEMAC 43	This was included as a possible research priority in the draft workplan and will be presented for adoption at SEMAC 43.

	Agenda item reference	No.	Description	Responsibility	Timeframe	Status update
	3.5 Trawl ERA	40.12	AFMA to table the revised draft CTS bycatch and discarding workplan at either SEMAC 41 (November 2020) or SEMAC 42 (February 2021).	Daniel Corrie	SEMAC 43	The workplan will be presented for adoption at SEMAC 43.

SEMAC 39 (4-6 February 2020)

	Agenda item reference	No.	Description	Responsibility	Timeframe	Status update
	3.2 (Orange roughy (Cascade))	39.7	AFMA to seek advice from SERAG regarding application of a 100 per cent undercatch provision for orange roughy cascade, as is done for eastern orange roughy.	Daniel Corrie	2021	This will be considered by SERAG at its 2021 meetings.

SEMAC 38 (6-7 November 2019)

	Agenda item reference	No.	Description	Responsibility	Timeframe	Status update
	4.3 (Review of EM requirements)	38.6	AFMA to consider cost effective approaches to determine whether current EM coverage is representative of overall hook fishing effort in the GHAT for the purpose of reporting requirements under the seabird Threat Abatement Plan.	Sally Weekes	SEMAC 43	Agenda item 8 at SEMAC 43
	4.4 (GHAT simplification project)	38.8	AFMA to investigate the introduction of a shark 'trigger' for all Scalefish Hook SFRs, similar to that applicable to Auto longline permits.	Sally Weekes	2021	Ongoing. To be included in the GHAT Simplification Implementation Plan.