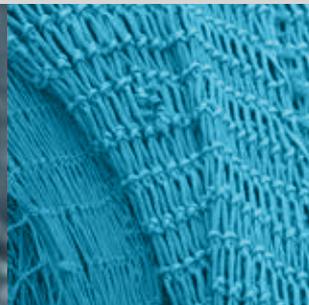
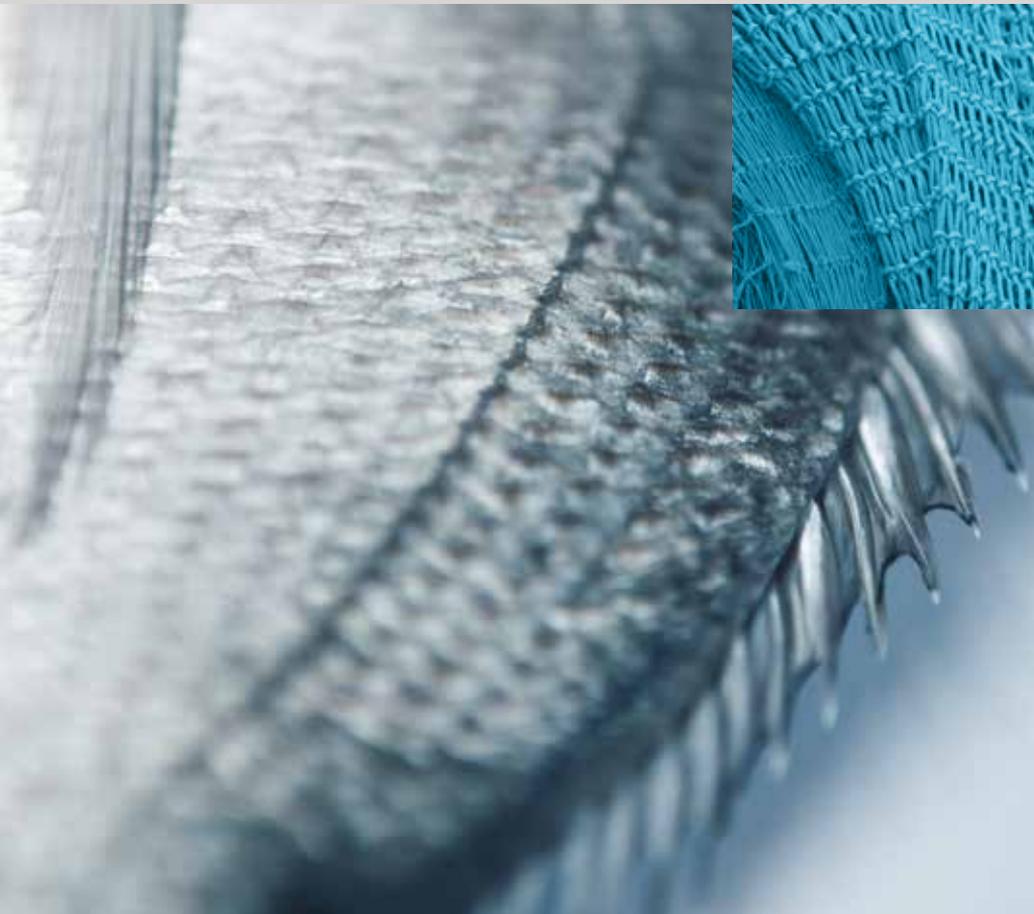




Australian Government

Australian Fisheries Management Authority



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**ANNUAL
REPORT
12.13**



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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL



Australian Government
Australian Fisheries Management Authority

21 October 2013

The Hon Barnaby Joyce MP
 Minister for Agriculture
 Parliament House
 CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister

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 2013. During this period we maintained sound corporate governance to strengthen and support the long term supply of sustainable seafood from Commonwealth fisheries.

This report has been prepared under section 87 of the *Fisheries Administration Act 1991* and in accordance with the Requirements for Annual Reports 2012-13, 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 presentation to Parliament, as required under subsection 87(1) of the *Fisheries Administration Act 1991*.

Yours sincerely

The Hon Michael Egan FAICD
 Chairman

Dr James Findlay
 Chief Executive Officer

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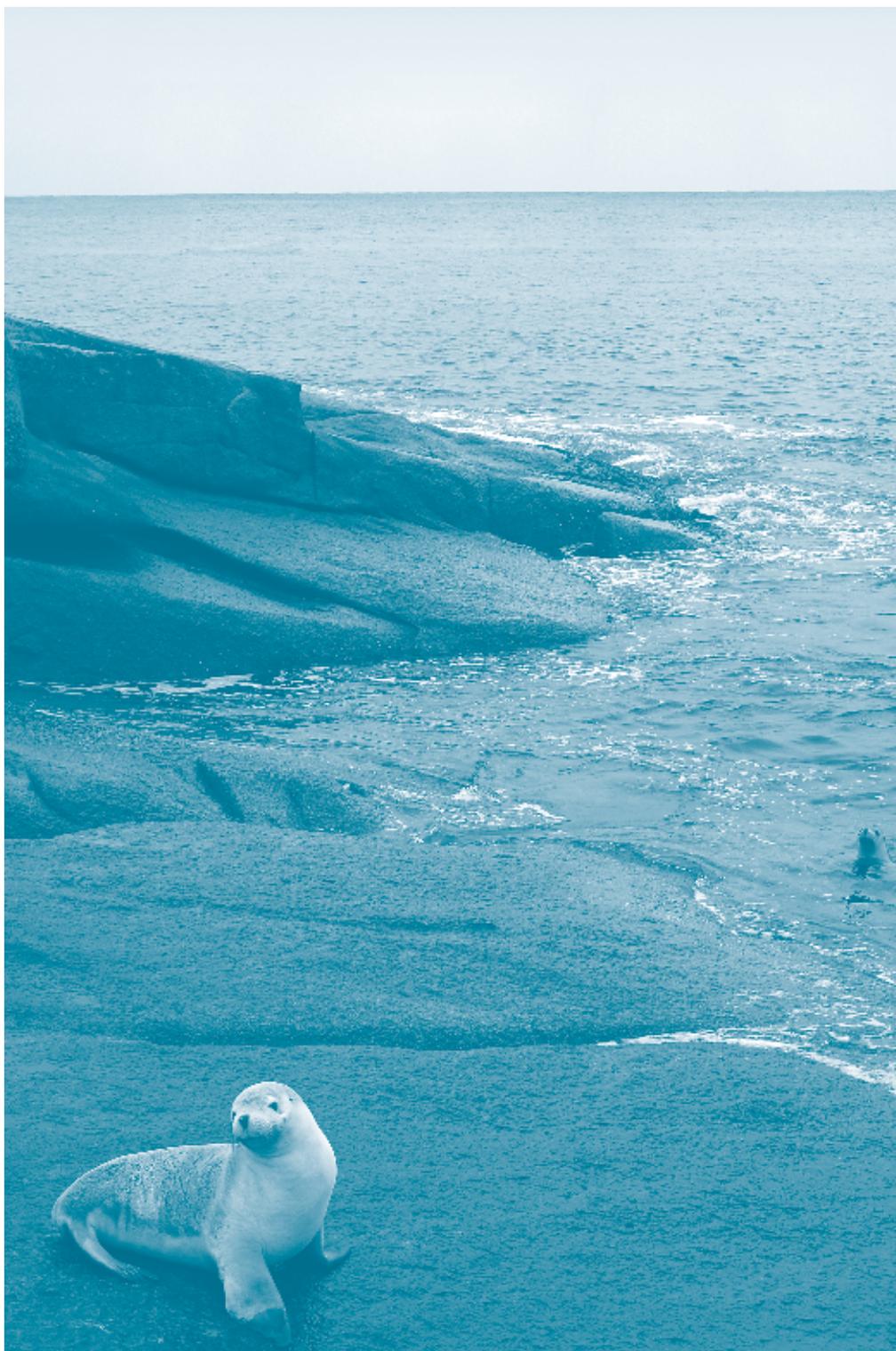
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USER GUIDE

This report provides details of the operations and performance of the Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) for the financial year ending 30 June 2013, as forecast in the Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Portfolio Budget Statements 2012–13.

Part 1 – Overview

Part 1 provides an overview of AFMA's roles and responsibilities and how we have performed throughout the year. This includes the Chairman's and CEO's review, a look at our key achievements in 2012–13, 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, 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 and risk management practices, as well as stakeholder communications.

Part 4 – Our fisheries

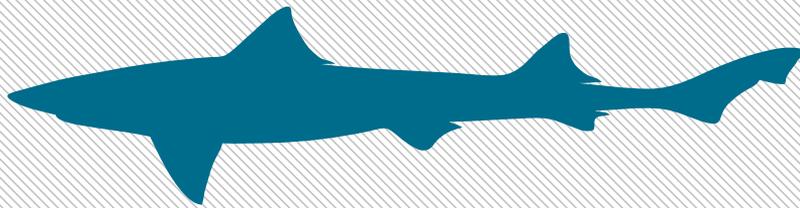
Part 4 gives readers a snapshot of each fishery AFMA manages and includes a report on the effectiveness of statutory management plans where applicable.

Part 5 – Financial statements

Part 5 consists of AFMA's financial statements for the 2012–13 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 include reporting requirements about: details of the Commission and executive committees, management advisory committee meetings, civil litigation outcomes, consultancy services, work health and safety, ecologically sustainable development and environmental performance, disability reporting mechanisms and the Information Publication Scheme.



1

GUMMY SHARK
MUSTELUS ANTARCTICUS

OTHER COMMON NAMES: FLAKE
SIZE: TYPICALLY 2-4KG
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 2012–13

In 2012-13 AFMA continued to strengthen the long term sustainable supply of seafood from Commonwealth fisheries. AFMA also played a central role in keeping illegal foreign fishing at bay, with incursions at a 20 year low.

AFMA's management maintained or improved the health of fish stocks. These stocks are the 'natural capital' that underpins Commonwealth-managed fishing businesses. The risks fishing posed to the ecosystem were further reduced by management action in conjunction with voluntary initiatives by industry. We paid particular attention to ensuring the risks to threatened, endangered and protected species such as Australian sea lions were minimised.

The events surrounding the industry proposal to use a large scale trawler to more economically harvest small pelagic fish in Australia waters had a large impact on our work program and reputation as a fisheries management agency. Several government reviews of AFMA in 2012-13 confirmed previous international reviews that AFMA is an expert fisheries management agency. However, it is clear that Australian consumers and other seafood and marine stakeholders are keen to get more information on how our fisheries are managed. In response, we broadened our engagement with key stakeholders and strengthened our consultation with environmental non-government agencies and recreational fishers in particular.

Financial performance

While demands on both industry and AFMA continue to rise, we made a commitment to industry to keep a lid on cost increases. This included keeping the total recovered costs between 2007 and 2009 below the 2005-06 level and then keeping costs from 2010 onwards at the 2009-10 level indexed for the Consumer Price Index (CPI). While there have been some cost increases for some fisheries, the overall result saw costs kept below the promised limit.

AFMA delivered a small operating surplus for 2012-13 instead of an allowable loss of \$1.7 million. The total expenditure across the agency was \$41.1 million, which includes \$3.0 million in administered expenditure for the caretaking and disposal of illegal foreign fishing boats.

Combined expenditure across the agency reduced by \$0.5 million since the previous year. This decrease mostly relates to less than anticipated activity in our illegal foreign fishing disposal and caretaker program. There has also been a 3.8% reduction in employee expenditure on the prior year, contributing to an overall reduction in departmental expenditure.

Budget Outlook

We are budgeting for a small approved loss in the 2013-14 financial year. This loss represents AFMA's depreciation funding.

Administered expenditure is anticipated to remain at current levels, but is highly dependent on activity with regards to illegal foreign fishing care taking and disposal activities.

Our operating environment

While fisheries management often involves making on-balance judgements based on often uncertain information about highly complex 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 and precautionary approach.

The following major issues are likely to impact on fisheries management over the next five years. Our strategies are aimed at addressing these factors to the extent that our resources allow.

Economic and market factors

Australia is a relatively small player in the world seafood market and the profitability of many of our fishers is affected by the international price for fisheries products and the exchange rate. In addition, the market price for some of the industry's key inputs, like fuel and refrigerants, has risen significantly in the past ten years. While these factors have impacted on the profitability of the fishing fleet and will continue to in the future, our role is to implement management arrangements that allow the industry to maximise profitability subject to these external factors.

Fisheries management funding

Government, industry and community expectations regarding the certainty of fisheries management outcomes are increasing and this compounds the pressure on our 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.

Climate change and increasing overlap between jurisdictions

Australia is already experiencing changes in the distribution and abundance of some commercial species around its shores, particularly in the south-east and south-west of Australia. We are applying individual fisheries actions where necessary and we anticipate that any need to specifically respond to climate change in fishery management arrangements will be limited within the next five years particularly given our responsive and flexible management arrangements. However, changes in the distribution and abundance of fish are exacerbating the existing complexity of inter-jurisdictional management of fisheries management. This is reducing stakeholder certainty about future management.

Government Reviews of Fisheries Policy

The outcomes from the Review of Commonwealth Fisheries: Legislation, Policy and Management, the review of the Commonwealth Fisheries Harvest Strategy Policy, the review of the Commonwealth Policy on Fisheries Bycatch and a number of associated reviews of the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* may impact on AFMA's operations and the operating environment for key stakeholders.

Outlook for 2013–14

Our Annual Operation Plan sets out the following areas as key priorities for 2013-14.

- implementing fisheries management that pursues sustainable and profitable fisheries
- simplifying the regulatory environment
- managing ecological and compliance risks
- further improving engagement of industry, other stakeholders and the community in the responsible management of fisheries resources.

Our focus in 2013-14 continues to be the delivery of fisheries management to ensure 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 target species, by-product, bycatch and the broader marine ecosystem.

In addition, all Commonwealth managed fisheries are accredited or undergoing accreditation 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 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.

For more information, see AFMA's report on domestic fisheries management on page 66 and report on ecologically sustainable development and environmental performance on page 174.



FEATURE STORY**INDUSTRY INNOVATION IS SAVING BIRDS IN THE SOUTH EAST TRAWL**

In an Australian first, fishermen have designed and built a new seabird mitigation device using a water sprayer to scare birds away from warp wires.

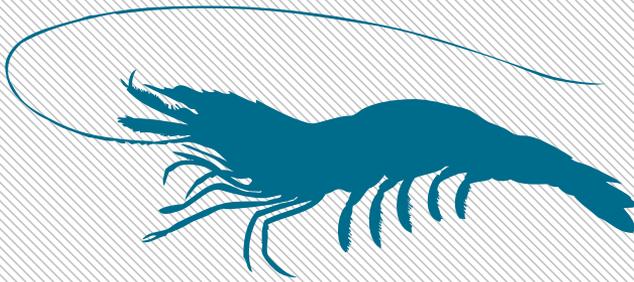
Seabirds are natural scavengers and are attracted to the opportunities that fishing boats offer. In their aggressiveness to get the food they are often not aware of the warp wires that can entangle them until it is too late. The water sprayer works by delivering a spray of water from a boom angled over the area where birds are at greatest risk— where the warp wires enter the water. The birds avoid the jets of water and are less likely to be entangled in the warp wire.

The team has been working hard on developing the water sprayer and is continuing to collect information on its effectiveness to get the device assessed and available to other fishers who may wish to use it. Those involved include the owner of the South East Trawl boat Lady Miriam, based in Lakes Entrance, Tony Guarnaccia, the skipper, Trevor “Bluey” Hunt and his crew, along with Sot Sotirakis, an engineer and South East Trawl Operator.

Industry plays an important role in developing by-catch mitigation devices with a real understanding of how such devices can work in practical applications.

The water sprayer is just one example where fishers have worked to improve outcomes for protected species. Fishers in the South East Trawl Sector continue to work with us to develop by-catch mitigation devices to protect threatened, endangered and protected species.

Activities to improve outcomes for by-catch are also being undertaken in several fisheries managed by us under ‘Caring for our Country’.



2

BANANA PRAWN
PENAEUS MERGUIENSIS

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

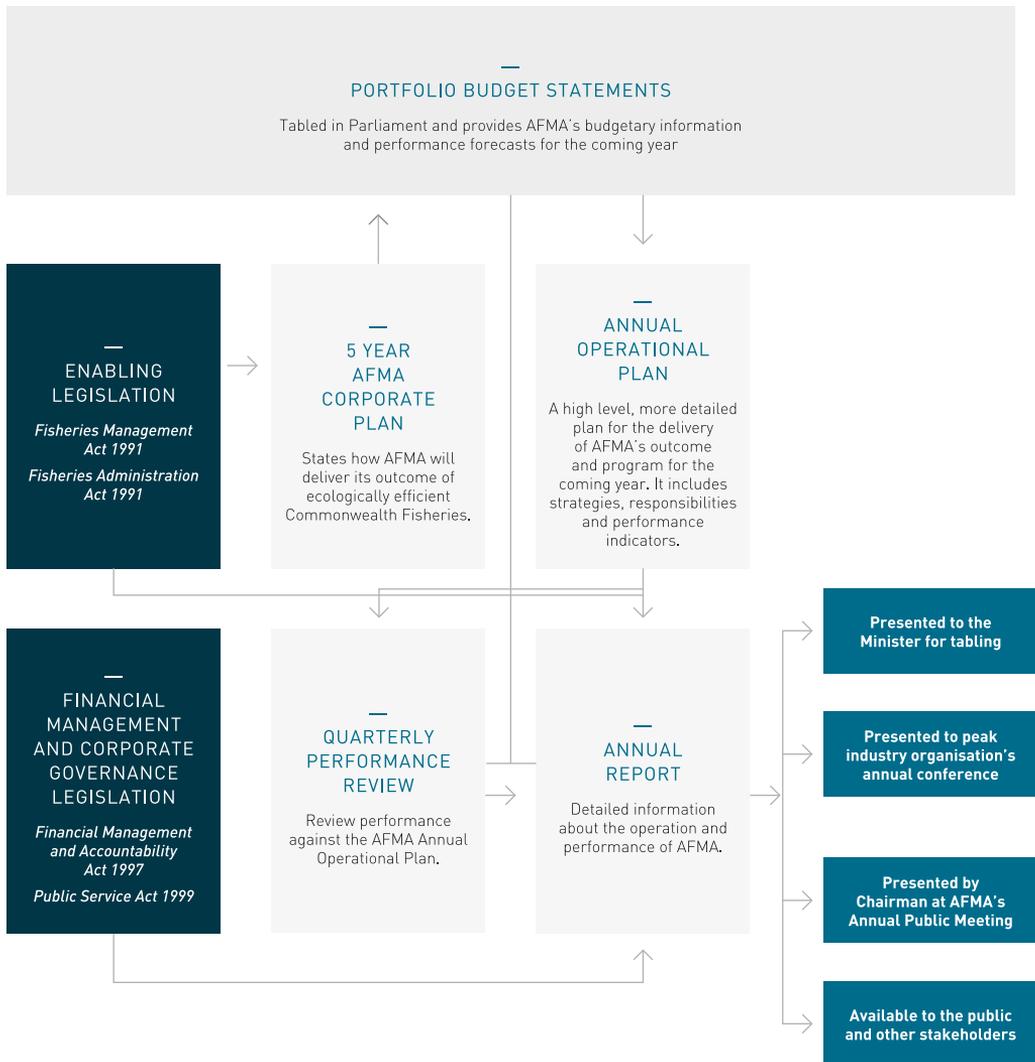
TABLE 1: CORPORATE PLAN 2012–17

GOAL	STRATEGY
Complete the implementation of the Australian Government's policy preference for management by output controls in the form of Individual Transferable Quota ¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Refine quota management for Commonwealth Fisheries – Introduce Individual Transferable Quota management arrangements 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
Prevent unacceptable impacts of Commonwealth fisheries on marine ecosystems and organisms	Assess risks and apply management measures under the AFMA's Ecological Risk Management Framework
Implement management arrangements and framework that encourage voluntary 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 ² in Commonwealth fisheries and continually improve consultative processes	Apply lessons from co-management trials to enhance industry and other stakeholder's role in the management of commercial fisheries

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

2 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.

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 Quota¹

Strategy: Refine quota management for Commonwealth Fisheries

Introduce Individual Transferable Quota management arrangements in the Northern Prawn Fishery

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

Individual transferable quotas provide a direct and responsive capacity to regulate catches of target 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 all Commonwealth quota-managed fisheries, and to maintain focus on developing a quota management system for the Northern Prawn Fishery – one of the Commonwealth's most valuable fisheries.

The implementation of individual transferable quota in the Northern Prawn Fishery continued during 2012–13, however the scheduled implementation date has been delayed until 2014. This is to allow risk analysis to be undertaken to provide greater confidence that quota management will not be cost prohibitive or otherwise detrimental to the fishery.

To improve the cost-effectiveness and efficiency of the quota system, the AFMA Commission implemented a new Quota Administration Policy. Quota reconciliation practices were changed in early 2013 to reflect this policy. We will continue to implement other elements of the policy in 2013–14.

INTENDED ACTIONS IN 2012–13	ACHIEVED (✓ / ✘)	COMMENT
Implement a revised quota administration policy for all quota managed fisheries.	✓	We introduced a quota administration policy in January 2013. Implementation has commenced and will take several years to complete.
Determine the amended <i>Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995</i> introducing individual transferable quota.	✘	We were not able to make a confident decision about the use of individual transferable quotas in the Northern Prawn Fishery during 2012–13. Scientific and economic analysis was undertaken to assess the merits of using such quotas in the fishery. This involved a study comparing individual transferable quotas and other potential management systems to the current system in terms of their relative economic performance. We also commissioned a risk assessment of potential management options. The outcomes of these studies will be considered early in the next financial year.

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

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

The Commonwealth Fisheries Harvest Strategy Policy and Guidelines has maximising economic yield as its target reference point for Commonwealth fisheries. This target was adopted for fisheries management to improve industry profitability. For several years, we have been working to increase the number of fishery harvest strategies that have targets based on maximising economic yield.

We continued to set catch limits consistent with the policy, based on science and economics, as reflected in fishery specific harvest strategies.

In March 2012, the then Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Senator Joe Ludwig, announced two separate but coordinated reviews of the Commonwealth Harvest Strategy Policy and the Bycatch Policy.

On 27 May 2013, the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry released the final report on the review of the Commonwealth Fisheries Harvest Strategy Policy and Guidelines. Overall the review found that the harvest strategy policy is widely regarded as having been a very successful initiative for improving the management of Commonwealth fisheries and remains a strong foundation for Commonwealth fisheries management. The review also found that the policy and guidelines meet or exceed the standards of relevant international obligations and continue to represent best practice in most respects.

The key outcomes of the Commonwealth Bycatch Policy review include recommending a revised bycatch policy with new objectives and principles and an improved definition for bycatch.

INTENDED ACTIONS IN 2012-13	ACHIEVED (✓ / ✗)	COMMENT
Implement harvest strategies which have targets based on maximum economic yield or the best available proxy.	✓	There are 18 species with a harvest strategy based on maximum economic yield or best available proxy. Harvest strategies provide a framework to recommend catch or effort limits to ensure biological and economic targets in the fisheries are met.

INTENDED ACTIONS IN 2012-13	ACHIEVED (✓ / ✖)	COMMENT
Set total allowable catch or total allowable effort at levels that will 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"> • Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery • Bass Strait Central Zone Scallop Fishery • Macquarie Island Toothfish Fishery • Heard Island and McDonald Islands Fishery • Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery • Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery • Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery • Northern Prawn Fishery • Small Pelagic Fishery • Southern Squid Jig Fishery. <p>There has been a high level of consistency between years due to the framework provided by the harvest strategies for key Commonwealth species.</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. The Orange Roughy Conservation Programme supports the rebuilding of orange roughy. The Gulper Shark Management Strategy was approved in early 2013 and supports the rebuilding of Harrison's and southern dogfish.</p>
Provide support for development and management of regional and international fisheries.	✓	<p>We participated in a number of international meetings during 2012-13, either by attendance or by contributing to relevant fisheries briefings.</p> <p>We also continued to provide specialist advice on current fisheries management approaches and monitoring, control and surveillance aspects of management.</p>

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

Strategy: Assess risks and apply management measures under the AFMA’s Ecological Risk Management Framework

Under our ecological risk management framework, ecological risk management reports for each fishery outline how we will address the impacts that fishing activities have on target species, by-product and discard species, and threatened and endangered species.

In June 2012, the AFMA Commission approved a revitalisation of the ecological risk assessment process, which will see guidelines developed to help fisheries managers conduct ecological risk assessments. This will include updating the assessments as they become due, and consideration of how marine habitats and communities will be considered as part of the assessments.

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.

INTENDED ACTIONS IN 2012-13	ACHIEVED (✓ / ✗)	COMMENT
Finalise development of ecological risk management framework.	✓	<p>We commenced a project called <i>Environmental Risk Assessment and Establishment of an ongoing risk management framework for fisheries</i> (the Risk Review). The objectives of the project included establishing an ongoing risk management framework for fisheries management.</p> <p>A review of the risks that AFMA takes in managing its fisheries and to establish an ongoing risk management framework is underway. Finalisation of the report is expected in late 2013.</p>
Reassess ecological risk assessments as required by triggers.	✓	<p>Reassessments of the Northern Prawn Fishery and the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery were completed.</p> <p>Data continues to be collected on the three priority species through AFMA’s Scientific Observer Program and through the Crew Member Observer Program.</p> <p>A project to revitalise the ecological risk assessment and the ecological risk management framework, which includes defining the timing and scope of reassessments, is underway.</p>

INTENDED ACTIONS IN 2012-13	ACHIEVED (✓ / ✖)	COMMENT
Progress implementation of ecological risk management responses.	✓	<p>We continued to implement management responses to high risk species identified through ecological risk assessments.</p> <p>Australian sea lions and four species of dogfish were listed as high risk through the AFMA assessment. Comprehensive management measures and data monitoring are in place for all of these species with the Australian Sea Lion Management Strategy and the revised management strategy for high risk upper-slope dogfish that was implemented in February 2013.</p> <p>Australian fur seals caught in trawl nets in the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery were assessed as being at potentially high risk. Research is currently under way investigating new seal excluder devices and other gear modifications to mitigate interactions.</p>
Determine the appropriateness of introducing output controls for bycatch and threatened, endangered and protected species.	✓	<p>Output controls were introduced for threatened, endangered and protected species in the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery, Heard Island and McDonald Islands Fishery and the Macquarie Island Fishery.</p>
Conduct education activities with fishing concession holders to raise awareness of reporting obligations and to encourage responsible fishing practices.	✓	<p>Educational activities were undertaken in Commonwealth fisheries including the Northern Prawn Fishery, Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery, Commonwealth Trawl Sector and the Gillnet, Hook and Trap Sector of the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery.</p> <p>There were education programs and at-sea extension activities that encouraged responsible fishing practices. Topics included accurate reporting and the use of bycatch reduction devices. Other extension activities included the distribution of species identification guides.</p>

FEATURE STORY**EDUCATION TO HELP PROTECTED SPECIES**

We are continuing to focus on sustainability, bycatch and the impact of fishing on protected species. In collaboration with industry, we have run a number of education programs for industry through co-funding from the Australian Government's Caring for our Country initiative.

These workshops examined a range of issues facing the fisheries and worked on developing strategies and actions that fishers can adopt to further improve the sustainability of the industry. Topics included accurate reporting of interactions with protected species, the use of devices to reduce bycatch and fish stock assessments.

Over 120 fishers from across eastern Australia have improved their understanding of bycatch and other sustainable fishing practices. Education programs have been run in the Northern Prawn Fishery, Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery and the Commonwealth Trawl Sector of the Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery.

Industry is actively participating in these programs and the understanding of many fishers about environmental issues and the need to use devices to reduce bycatch has improved.

The workshops follow a similar initiative for trawl fishing that won the South East Australia Maritime Education Centre and the South East Trawl Fishing Industry Association a joint award at the 2011 Victorian Seafood Industries training awards.

Goal: Implement management arrangements and framework that encourage voluntary compliance

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

A best practice approach to compliance and enforcement is one 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 understood by the fishing industry.

We also try to make sure that the rules are concise, easy to understand and where possible, consistent across fisheries.

Voluntary compliance is following the rules because of an appreciation and understanding of the benefits of the rules and regulations, rather than the fear of negative consequences for non-compliance.

INTENDED ACTIONS IN 2012-13	ACHIEVED (✓ / ✗)	COMMENT
Continue to reform fishery management rules to reduce complexity	✓	The quota administration policy was developed to simplify quota management and make administration more efficient. Key initiatives include applying the 28-day quota reconciliation rule across all fisheries and standardising the rules applying to the personal use of catch.
Engage in international meetings to ensure agreed outcomes can be implemented by Australia.	✓	We contributed to meetings of a number of regional fisheries management organisations including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Western Central Pacific Fisheries Commission • Indian Ocean Tuna Commission • The Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna • The South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation • The Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources. Easily understood regulations were developed to give effect to conservation measures applicable to boats operating on the high seas.

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

Strategy: Conduct and enable compliance programs that target identified risks

We continued to apply a risk-based national compliance program that enabled compliance and enforcement activity to be targeted to areas of most need. In developing the program we used a series of steps to identify and assess the risks of non-compliance. We then applied tailored compliance measures to control these risks.

We have also maintained a general presence/deterrence role in ports and at sea in order to discourage non-compliant behaviour by fishers.

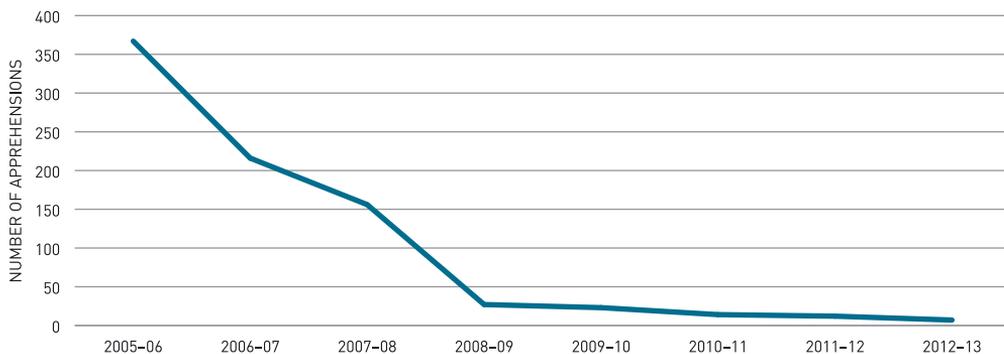
In order to maintain skill levels, our officers were trained in sea safety, first aid, defensive tactics, investigation techniques, and training and assessment – the latter being useful in assisting our officers’ in delivering capacity building activities and training the Navy and Customs personnel. All AFMA fisheries officers have obtained or maintained as a minimum, Certificate IV qualifications in Government Investigations. To enhance their skills, some officers have also undertaken training in surveillance, expert witness, computer forensics, work place health and safety and Indonesian language skills.

During 2012–13, the sustained deterrence program continued to keep the incidence of illegal foreign fishing in the Australian Fishing Zone at very low levels. The program involves AFMA and other government departments cooperating to deter illegal foreign fishing. We achieved this by intercepting and prosecuting offenders, confiscating and destroying forfeited foreign fishing vessels and working “in country” to prevent fishers from embarking on illegal forays.

Regional efforts and collaborative partnerships, including capacity building initiatives, are also contributing to the prevention of illegal, unreported and unregulated operators undertaking forays into the Australian Fishing Zone.

Only seven illegal foreign fishing vessels were apprehended during 2012–13.

FIGURE 1: APPREHENSION OF ILLEGAL FOREIGN FISHING VESSELS



INTENDED ACTIONS IN 2012-13	ACHIEVED (✓ / ✖)	COMMENT
Undertake compliance activities in accordance with priority areas established through risk assessments.	✓	<p>Compliance risk management teams were established in 2011-12 to develop and implement intervention and mitigation of identified risks in AFMA's domestic fisheries.</p> <p>Mitigation strategies were implemented for the following identified risks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • interactions with threatened, endangered and protected species • failure to have vessel monitoring systems in operation at all times • fishing/navigating in closed areas against regulation • failing to reconcile quota within the required time-frame • quota evasion. <p>Surveillance flights revealed high levels of compliance by fishing operators with the requirements to deploy seabird interaction mitigation devices.</p> <p>On average 97 per cent of the Commonwealth fishing fleet had an operational vessel monitoring system at any one time. The rate of the incidence of vessels breaching fishery closures remained low with only eight recorded in 2012-13 compared to 214 three years ago.</p> <p>There was an improvement in the number of fishing operators covering their over-catches by the due date compared to the previous year.</p> <p>In addition to the 70 domestic inspections conducted at sea, AFMA officers attended 24 ports on 64 occasions – a total of 96 days in the field. They conducted 232 vessel and 49 fish receiver inspections which assisted in deterring quota evasion activities.</p> <p>Several overt and covert operations were launched to detect and investigate offenders involved in quota evasion.</p>

INTENDED ACTIONS IN 2012-13	ACHIEVED (✓ / ✗)	COMMENT
Develop a compliance intelligence capacity that is fully effective.	✓	<p>Analysis of data was undertaken to identify and target potential areas of non-compliance, for example fishery closures and vessel monitoring system compliance.</p> <p>Supporting intelligence and case management systems have been implemented.</p> <p>An audit was conducted by Australia's National Audit Office on our domestic compliance arrangements. The audit found that improvements to intelligence functions have helped us effectively deliver the Domestic Compliance Program.</p> <p>A quality assurance review of our intelligence program has also been conducted and recommendations are currently being implemented.</p>
Collaborate with like-minded agencies on deterring illegal, unreported and unregulated activity and developing fisheries management arrangements and capacity building.	✓	<p>We have strengthened strategic alliances with state, territory and New Zealand fisheries agencies to foster cooperation and mutual assistance in monitoring, control and surveillance of shared fish stocks.</p> <p>We worked through regional networks and shared surveillance information on vessels known to be engaged in illegal, unreported and unregulated activities, and sought cooperation in denying these vessels access to port services.</p> <p>We ran capacity building programs in Australia and across the region, involving fisheries officers from Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Timor Leste and Kiribati. The officers undertook fisheries management and compliance training as well as participating in patrols. AFMA officers in Indonesia continued to deliver an in-country public information campaign to prevent illegal fishers from embarking on illegal forays into Australian waters.</p> <p>We participated in multilateral fisheries surveillance operations with regional partners in the Pacific and Southeast Asian waters. The purpose of these was to deter illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, and provide on the job capacity development for fisheries compliance officers from partner countries.</p>

INTENDED ACTIONS IN 2012-13	ACHIEVED (✓ / ✗)	COMMENT
<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>Partly in response to the issues raised in the report “<i>Review of Commonwealth Fisheries: Legislation, Policy and Management</i>” by Mr David Borthwick, we established a working group to analyse the current domestic compliance regime and to recommend legislative amendments. It is expected that the working group will develop a proposal to the Department of Agriculture and AFMA executive within 12 months of commencing the review.</p> <p>The <i>Fisheries Legislation Amendment Act 2013</i> came into force in 2013 and amongst other things, strengthens the provisions to make corporations and other persons responsible for unlawful conduct engaged in by their employees, agents or directors in particular circumstances. The amendments make the provisions more effective in holding, for example, corporate or other concession holders responsible for the conduct of the master of a boat or members of the crew fishing under their concession.</p> <p>We also had significant input into the drafting of the <i>Maritime Powers Act 2013</i>. The Act, amongst other things, consolidates and harmonises the Commonwealth’s existing maritime enforcement regime.</p>



FEATURE STORY

WORKING TOGETHER TO FIGHT ILLEGAL FOREIGN FISHING



Attempts by an illegal foreign fishing vessel, the 'Thunder', to offload millions of dollars' worth of illegal catch in south-east Asia, were thwarted by a strike force team made up of Australian, Malaysian and Indonesian authorities.

This strong regional co-operation has made a big difference in creating an international deterrence for illegal foreign fishing operations.

This boat had been changing its name and flag to deceive authorities and avoid detection.

However, Australia remained one step ahead and tracked the vessel to south-east Asia – warning authorities and requesting that the boat be denied access to port.

After being refused access to the Malaysian port of Penang, the boat then tried to dock in Indonesia where it was boarded by Indonesian authorities assisted by our fisheries officers. The boat was refused access and other ports in the region alerted.

Illegal fishing is becoming less viable. By cutting off the market end of illegal fishing operations, those responsible are finding it increasingly difficult to offload their catch, which will hurt them where it hurts most – in their hip pocket.

Since 2007, we have been working hard to increase regional engagement and co-operation and has promoted and engaged with a network of ten countries including Indonesia, Singapore and Malaysia to share information and deny port access to vessels suspected of being involved in illegal activity.

Taking collaborative action against illegal fishers demonstrates to the world that the region is working together to ensure sustainable fisheries into the future.

Since 2004, no illegal, unreported or unregulated boats have been detected in Australian southern waters but a threat remains from vessels undertaking illegal fishing outside of Australian waters. These vessels fish in the Southern Ocean and use south-east Asian ports to unload their illegal catch and re-supply. The operations are highly organised, mobile and elusive.

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 we revised our Fee for Service Policy for licensing and logbook services. The revised policy 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. The revised fee for service policy took effect from 1 July 2013.

We have trialled electronic monitoring in a number of Commonwealth fisheries and found it to be a cost effective data collection tool. We are now developing an electronic monitoring program which is expected to be delivered in the Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery and the Gillnet, Hook and Trap Sector over the coming 12 months.

In 2012, we made an open approach to market to determine whether our observer program in the Northern Prawn Fishery could be undertaken more cost effectively. The process determined that the AFMA Observer program represents the best value for money and provides reliable, high quality service at a competitive cost.

INTENDED ACTIONS IN 2012-13	ACHIEVED (✓ / ✗)	COMMENT
Continue to implement appropriate and cost effective fisheries management arrangements in Torres Strait fisheries on behalf of the Protected Zone Joint Authority, including development of management plans.	✓	<i>The Torres Strait Prawn Fishery Management Plan 2009</i> continues to provide effective management of the fishery. The plan was determined in June 2013, to provide for sustainable management of the fishery. We started work on developing a management plan for the Tropical Rock Lobster Fishery which is due to be completed in 2015.
Work with key fishing industry associations to increase the uptake of e-logs, GOFish and e-monitoring.	✓	Work on the fee-for-service provisions took place in 2012-13 and was put into effect in July 2013 for Licensing and Logbook Services. The costs associated with processing these services have been removed from the general levy base, and charged directly to the operators using the service on a transaction by transaction basis.
Contribute to the implementation of the Australian Government's response to the review of the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> .	✓	We continue to work with Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities in implementing the government's response.

Goal: Facilitate co-management in Commonwealth fisheries and continually improve consultative processes

Strategy: Apply lessons from co-management trials to enhance industry and other stakeholder’s role in the management of commercial fisheries

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.

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.

Both of these industry groups remain interested in working collaboratively which has a positive effect on management outcomes in these fisheries.

INTENDED ACTIONS IN 2012-13	ACHIEVED (✓ / ✗)	COMMENT
Utilise outcomes from the co-management trials to maintain and expand where possible, co-management arrangements with industry groups.	✓	The co-management arrangements used in the Northern Prawn Fishery and Great Australian Bight Trawl Fishery continued and additional management functions were investigated in the Northern Prawn Fishery.



REPORT AGAINST SERVICES AND DELIVERABLES

DELIVERABLES AND SERVICES	2011-12 PREDICTED	2011-12 ACTUAL	2012-13 PREDICTED	2012-13 ACTUAL	COMMENT
Completed research projects including Torres Strait Fisheries ¹	10<	11	10<	7	Seven Torres Strait research projects were completed during 2012-13, in line with recommendations from the Torres Strait Scientific Advisory Committee.
Completed fishery independent surveys	10	8	10	7	<p>Seven fishery surveys were completed in 2012-13 instead of the predicted ten due to budgetary constraints in some fisheries including the Great Australian Bight Fishery and the South Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery.</p> <p>The seven surveys completed were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northern Prawn Fishery (spawning and recruitment surveys) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Summer survey (Jan. - Feb.) - Winter survey (July. - Aug.) • Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery independent survey Winter 2012 • Heard Island and Macquarie Islands industry research survey • Bass Strait Central Zone Scallop Fishery survey • Southern bluefin tuna aerial survey in the Great Australian Bight • Torres Strait tropical rock lobster survey and stock assessment • Torres Strait bêche-de-mer survey.
Regulate fisheries including Torres Strait Fisheries under plans of management	12	11	12	12	<p>Plan development for the Northern Prawn Fishery continued during 2012-13.</p> <p>The Torres Strait Finfish Fishery Management Plan was determined in June 2013 and came into effect on 16 July 2013.</p>
Apply harvest strategies	11	11	11	13	<p>All major domestic Commonwealth fisheries have harvest strategies applied.</p> <p>The government has commenced a review of the Commonwealth Fisheries Harvest Strategy Policy and Guidelines which was released in May 2013.</p>

DELIVERABLES AND SERVICES	2011-12 PREDICTED	2011-12 ACTUAL	2012-13 PREDICTED	2012-13 ACTUAL	COMMENT
COMPLETED LICENSING TRANSACTIONS					
Manual completed transactions	2,376	1,645	1,269	1,120	Of the licensing services that provide the option for processing – either electronic or manual processes – 82% of these services were provided electronically.
Automated completed transactions	1,333	2,003	3,946	1,943	
Collect levies	99%<	99.7%	99%< of levies collected	99.2%	Debt recovery action for the 2012–13 financial year is still continuing with additional funds expected to be recovered.
Prosecute illegal foreign fishers	Note ²	22	Note ²	10	Of the ten illegal foreign fishermen prosecuted in 2012–13 all were Indonesian Nationals.
Dispose of illegal foreign fishing vessels	Note ²	12	Note ²	7	Four in Darwin, one in Gove, one in Broome and one at sea.
ADMINISTERED: ILLEGAL FOREIGN FISHING VESSEL CARETAKING AND DISPOSAL					
Number of disposal facilities constructed	1	0	0	0	There were no requirements to construct disposal facilities in 2012–13.
Forfeited vessels disposed of ³	100%	100%	100%	100%	All six forfeited vessels were disposed of. There were four in Darwin, one in Gove and one in Broome.
Completion of annual domestic risk assessment	100%	0%	100%	100%	Risk assessments are now conducted every two years. The 2013–15 risk assessment was undertaken in April 2013.

1. 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
2. Performance cannot be forecast reliably.
3. 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.

FEATURE STORY:

AUSTRALIAN TOOTHFISH – THE SUSTAINABLE CHOICE



We were excited to hear that Monterey Bay Aquarium’s Seafood Watch program labelled Australian-caught Patagonian toothfish as ‘best choice’.

The Seafood Watch program advises global consumers on seafood sustainability using independent peer-reviewed science and is highly regarded worldwide.

Australia has two fisheries for Patagonian toothfish (also known as Chilean Seabass) - the Macquarie Island Toothfish Fishery, and the Heard Island and McDonald Islands Fishery with both fisheries already accredited as sustainable by the Marine Stewardship Council.

Consumers can be confident that Australian-caught Patagonian toothfish is sustainably fished using best-practice methods. We have very strict regulations in place to ensure the fishery is sustainable. The Australian fishing industry doesn’t just meet these conditions, they go above and beyond to absolutely make sure their fishing has a minimal impact on the environment.

All Australian vessels fishing for Patagonian toothfish are required to carry two AFMA observers to ensure all fishing operations are monitored around the clock and all unloads of fish are monitored by fishing inspectors.

Patagonian toothfish has been subject to significant levels of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing by foreign fishing vessels in the past. A collaborative effort by the Australian industry, government and conservation groups has seen illegal fishing of toothfish decline significantly and no illegal fishing vessels have been detected in the Australian Fishing Zone since January 2004.

REPORT AGAINST KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

The Commonwealth Fisheries Harvest Strategy Policy and Guidelines and associated guidelines provide a framework to maintain key commercial stocks at ecologically sustainable levels and maximise net economic returns through fisheries management and applying a precautionary approach.

We regularly review and test harvest strategies to assess their effectiveness at meeting the objectives of the Commonwealth Fisheries Harvest Strategy Policy and Guidelines.

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

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	2012-13 FORECAST ³	2012-13 ACTUAL
For economically significant stocks ¹		
Maximise the number of key commercial stocks with harvest strategy targets based on maximum economic yield or the best available proxy ²	21	18
Improve the number of stocks assessed as being on target	14	13
For those stocks that are assessed as not on target, improve the number that are heading towards their target reference point	7	6

1. The top 32 fish stocks contributing 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.
3. These are forecast figures, not targets.

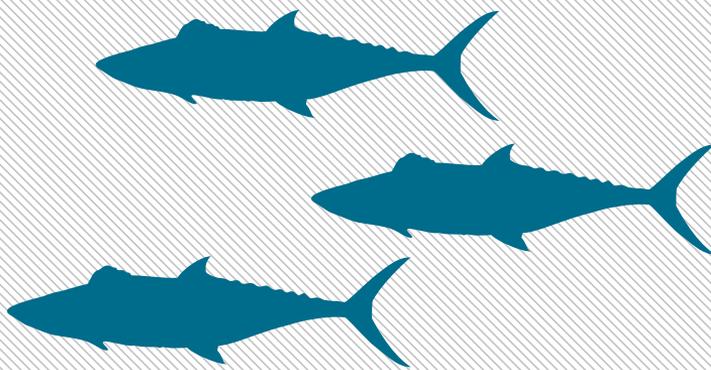


KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	2012-13 FORECAST	2012-13 ACTUAL	COMMENT
Minimise the number of fish stocks subject to overfishing ¹	0	4	<p>The Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences Fishery Status Report 2011 notes that in 2011 only four stocks managed solely by the Australian Government were subject to overfishing. These were eastern gemfish, school shark and two species of upper slope dogfish - Harrison's dogfish and southern dogfish.</p> <p>All stocks are the subject of a rebuilding or management strategy aimed at rebuilding them to their targets within time frames consistent with the Commonwealth Fisheries Harvest Strategy Policy and Guidelines.</p>
Minimise the number of species assessed a remaining at high risk after mitigation ²	90	69	We had anticipated that the number of shark species assessed at high risk would increase with the use of more conservative reference points, but this did not eventuate.
Maximise the disposal of apprehended foreign illegal unregulated and unreported vessels and suspected illegal entry vessels	100%	100%	All apprehended foreign, illegal, unregulated and unreported vessels and suspected irregular entry vessels were disposed in 2012-13.
Per cent of treatment targets for priority domestic compliance risks met	90%	82%	Out of the 17 treatment targets under the 2012-13 annual program 14 were met. The main area where targets were not met was in the area of quota evasion which will be the focus of an enhanced program in 2013-14.

1. In AFMA managed fisheries, not including jointly and internationally managed fisheries.

2. Ecological Risk Assessments for Commonwealth managed fisheries and sub-fisheries have been completed covering almost 1200 species. Species considered to be potentially at high risk are the subject of mitigation measures and further assessment. This may mean that projections of numbers of high risk species may vary from year to year.



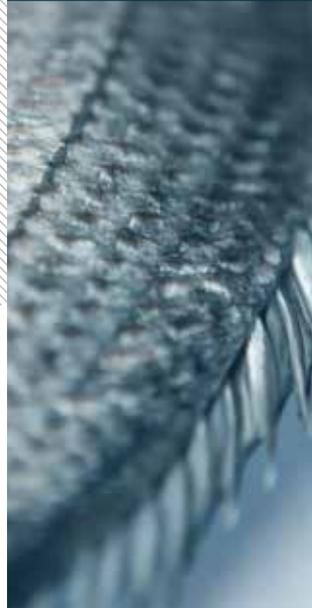


SPANISH MACKEREL
SCOMBER AUSTRALASICUS

OTHER COMMON NAMES: SNOOK, SPANIARD, NARROW-BARRED SPANISH MACKEREL.
SIZE: UP TO AT LEAST 50CM
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

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRACTICES

PEOPLE MANAGEMENT

STAKEHOLDER SATISFACTION

OUR AGENCY

History and establishment

The *Fisheries Administration Act 1991* established AFMA in 1992 to manage Australia's Commonwealth fisheries, by applying the provisions of the *Fisheries Management Act 1991*. The 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, Fisheries and Forestry, has responsibility for strategic fisheries policy advice and leading international and inter-jurisdictional negotiations.

On 1 July 2008 AFMA became a commission which changed governance arrangements and is responsible under the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997* and the *Public Service Act 1999*.

The AFMA Commission is responsible for domestic Commonwealth fisheries management. The Chief Executive Officer, who is also a Commissioner, is responsible for foreign compliance and assisting the Commission.

During 2012–13 our Minister was Senator the Hon. Joe Ludwig, the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, and the Hon. Sid Sidebottom MP was the Parliamentary Secretary for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

Role and functions

Our role is to manage Australia's Commonwealth fisheries on behalf of the Australian community.

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

The Commonwealth is responsible for international fisheries matters, including preventing illegal foreign fishing in the Australian Fishing Zone and managing high seas fishing by Australian operators. 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.

We act as a resource manager, making sure we manage our fisheries efficiently and cost effectively in a way that takes into account the impact of fishing activities and encourages ecologically sustainable development. At the same time, we regulate the use of these fisheries with the aim of maximising economic returns from them. We are accountable to stakeholders and the broader Australian community.

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 also 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 interests and other government agencies. Stakeholders and stakeholder consultation are discussed further on page 61.

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 guided by the APS Values and Code of Conduct.

Organisational structure

FIGURE 2: ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE



AFMA office locations

STREET ADDRESS	POSTAL ADDRESS	ENQUIRIES
CANBERRA OFFICE		
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
DARWIN OFFICE		
Level 6 NT House 22 Mitchell Street DARWIN NT 0800	GPO Box 131 DARWIN NT 0801	Ph: (08) 8943 0333 Fax: (08) 8942 2897
THURSDAY ISLAND OFFICE		
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

The largest of our offices is in Canberra, employing 144 people and managing most of AFMA's functions. This includes fisheries management, licensing, environment and research, national compliance operations, foreign compliance policy, and corporate services.

The Darwin office employed 32 staff, with a focus on our foreign compliance and international engagement functions.

The Thursday Island office manages the Torres Strait fisheries and employed 5 staff. We also employed 20 casual field observers.

FEATURE STORY:

WHEN THE CAT'S ARE AWAY THE DOGS WILL PLAY
UPPER-SLOPE DOGFISH FURTHER PROTECTED



Earlier this year, we implemented the revised Upper-Slope Dogfish Management Strategy which was designed to stop population declines caused by fishing pressure and support the recovery of upper-slope dogfish.

The strategy, based on research done by CSIRO, includes a network of fisheries closures which covers more than 4738 km². These closures were designed to protect key dogfish habitat.

Fishers are not allowed to keep any gulper shark caught and are required to handle any caught sharks in a way that will maximise their post release survival. They are also subject to monitoring, trigger limits, and move-on provisions.

In 2013, Harrison's and Southern dogfish were listed in the conservation dependent category of the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act.

The efforts of AFMA and industry to stop the decline and support the recovery of these species meant a higher conservation listing was not chosen. This allowed fisheries to stay open and continue fishing sustainably.

Upper-slope dogfish are a small shark found off the east coast of Australia and was mainly targeted for liver oil. They reproduce slowly, with females tending to have only one to two pups every one to two years. Due to their slow breeding, populations can take decades to recover.

After consultation with industry, conservation groups, scientists and government, we were able to finalise the arrangements for the strategy and help this species re-build.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRACTICES

Governing body

As provided in the *Fisheries Administration Act 1991*, we were established to manage Commonwealth fisheries. The Authority is a body corporate which can sue and be sued, however the Authority cannot hold money and all financial liabilities are taken to be liabilities of the Commonwealth.

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

The Chief Executive Officer 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 Chief Executive Officer and staff constitute a Statutory Agency under the *Public Service Act 1999*.

The Minister for Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry appoints the Chairman, part-time Commissioners and the Chief Executive Officer. 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 our corporate plan, annual operational plan and all fishery management plans determined by AFMA.

The Chief Executive Officer 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 policies and programs.

For more information about AFMA's Commissioners see Appendix 2 on page 163.

Conflicts of interest

Commissioners must disclose to the minister any financial or other interest that may relate to their AFMA functions, both prior to appointment and whenever such interests arise during their terms of office. Disclosures of interests are kept on a register of interests held by the Commission, and 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 after every meeting. Issues reviewed may include its success in pursuing AFMA's objectives; strategic direction; committee effectiveness; procedural matters including meeting frequency and detail, conduct of meetings, protocol and clarity of roles; and individual performance including attendance, contribution and knowledge of briefs.

Internal scrutiny

Risk Management

Our corporate risk management has been in place since 2008 and its processes are embedded in agency planning, project management and fraud control. The risk management framework and corporate risk registers are reviewed twice annually. The last review conducted in February 2013 recommended a revision of the risk management framework and register organisation that is currently being implemented.

Changes to risk registers are communicated through the Risk Management Committee and updated registers are ratified by the executive as part of the review process. The risk management process is monitored by the 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.

Business Continuity

The AFMA 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 the AFMA pandemic plan.

The Business Continuity Plan was implemented in 2010 and is updated annually to accommodate operational changes. The AFMA Audit and Risk Committee monitor the maintenance and testing of the plan.

Fraud Control

AFMA investigated 121 external fraud related matters primarily associated with breaches of the domestic quota management arrangements and failure to complete log books. Three fraud matters were carried over from previous years, with two remaining open and one being closed during 2012–13.

Of the 121 fraud matters investigated, we finalised 87 domestic matters and seven foreign matters as a result of instituting either administrative or prosecution action. There are 27 matters currently under investigation, referred to the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions, in court or otherwise in the process of finalisation.

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. The fraud risk assessment and fraud control plan are due for update in 2014.

The AFMA Audit and Risk Committee monitors the status of the fraud control plan and its recommendations.

Audit and Risk Committee

The AFMA Audit and Risk Committee was established under the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997* by the Chief Executive Officer. The purpose of the committee is to provide independent assurance and assistance to the Chief Executive Officer and the Commission on our risk, control, and compliance framework, and our external accountability responsibilities.

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

External scrutiny

In February 2013 the Australian National Audit Office completed a follow up audit of our domestic fishing compliance program. The objective of the audit was to assess the effectiveness of the domestic fishing compliance program. The report was very positive of AFMA and our improvements since the last audit.

There were no reports made to the Attorney-General of parliamentary committee in relation to AFMA, however four complaints were made to the Commonwealth Ombudsman over separate matters, one of which has been resolved with the remaining three ongoing.

In September 2012 the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry initiated, under s44A of the *Financial Management & Accountability Act 1997*, a departmental investigation of the effectiveness of AFMA's performance of its statutory obligations. The investigation was completed in December 2012 and found no evidence to indicate any systemic issues or weaknesses in relation to AFMA's or the AFMA Commission's performance of these obligations.

AFMA's financial statements and financial controls are scrutinised annually by the Australian National Audit Office. The audit office conducts field work to test our internal controls and the validity of our financial statements. This independent audit ensures that the financial statements represent a true, accurate and fair view of AFMA's financial position and performance for the period.

In relation to external scrutiny involving judicial tribunals and decisions of administrative tribunals please refer to Appendix 1: civil litigation outcomes on page 162.

Purchasing and asset management

Purchasing

Purchasing is conducted individually by each branch in accordance with AFMA's Chief Executive Instructions and AFMA Procurement Guidelines.

The AFMA Procurement Guidelines 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 in the guidelines as they apply to the value and risk of a proposed procurement.

In some cases, major procurements were undertaken by using panel arrangements that had been established by other Commonwealth agencies.

Major procurements undertaken during the year included:

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

We have undertaken a review of the Chief Executive Instructions and will be issuing new instructions for the 2013–14 financial year. New procurement guidelines were implemented from 1 July 2013, in line with whole of government procurement guidelines.

Our assets are managed in accordance with the relevant *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997* requirements, accounting standards, finance ministers orders and Chief Executive Instructions. Our assets total \$27 million, and this includes, cash, receivables, land, buildings, property, plant and equipment, intangibles, and other assets.

Administered assets total \$1 million and includes vessel disposal facilities and receivables.

We maintain an asset register in our financial management system for all assets with a value greater than \$2,000. The Australian Valuation Office undertook an asset revaluation for AFMA in the 2012–13 financial year. The results of the stocktake and valuation are evident in the 2012–13 financial statements on page 100.

Contracts

During the financial year we entered into contracts with a range of suppliers for the provision of goods and services. We maintain a contracts register within our financial management system for all contracts entered into above \$10,000 in value. For procurement reporting we:

- publish all contracts over \$10,000 on the Austender website
- publish a list of all contracts that exceed \$100,000 on AFMA's website twice a year.

During the year, the agency entered into 40 new consultancy contracts valued at \$2.782 million. This is because the specialised or professional skills were either not present or available internally or where a need for an independent third party was appropriate.

For further information on AFMA's consultancy contracts visit the Austender website at www.tenders.gov.au

Advertising and market research

During the financial year we spent \$14,000 on advertising. This expenditure primarily related to recruitment, fishery notices and media monitoring. There were no individual payments above \$4,000.

Discretionary grants

We do 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 our operating environment that may affect operations, and sets out our principal goals for the next three, four or five years. The plan also outlines the strategies we 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 2012–17 on pages 16 to 31.

Annual Operational Plan

The annual operational plan covers 12 months and gives detail to the strategies identified in the relevant corporate plan. We have reported against the key performance indicators described in our Annual Operational Plan 2012–13 on pages 17 to 31.

Portfolio Budget Statements

We contribute to the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry 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, we set out our broad strategic direction, budget estimates against specific outputs and key performance indicators.

Internal reporting

Each quarter, a report is generated for our Chief Executive Officer and Commission against the key result areas, strategies and key performance indicators identified in the corporate and annual operational plans. This ensures that progress is on track and simplifies the process of annual reporting.

Annual Report

The annual report provides information on our operations and performance, including reporting against the measures set out in the corporate plan, annual operational plan and portfolio budget statements.

FEATURE STORY:

ILLEGAL BLAST FISHERS CONVICTED AND BOATS DESTROYED



Three Indonesian fishers were convicted for illegal fishing after two boats were caught 'blast fishing' with explosives inside Australian waters in early October 2012.

Following investigations by AFMA three men were charged by the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions office and all pleaded guilty in the Darwin courts. They were fined a total of \$43,000. Both boats were confiscated by AFMA and were destroyed by incineration at AFMA's vessel destruction facilities in Broome and Darwin.

AFMA received reports from an Australian whale research boat that they had acoustically monitored a number of underwater detonations. Both vessels were then sighted by surveillance aircraft from the Australian Border Protection Command and apprehended by patrol boats from the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service.

The first boat was apprehended on 1 October at Scott Reef about 250 nautical miles north of Broome and the second boat was apprehended on 2 October at Evans Shoal about 100 nautical miles north-west of Darwin and 18 nautical miles inside Australian waters.

Both vessels had chemicals on board, including TNT and detonators to make small bombs for the purpose of fishing. Both masters admitted to using the equipment to undertake blast fishing in Australian waters.

AFMA General Manager Fishing Operations Peter Venslovas said that court outcomes reflected the serious nature of the offences and the environmental destruction that blast fishing can cause.

"The convictions and fines coupled with the confiscation and incineration of both vessels send a strong message to illegal foreign fishers", Mr Venslovas said.

"Blast fishing is a fishing method not previously encountered in Australian waters and we warn others that this type of activity will not be tolerated by Australia's border protection authorities."

PEOPLE MANAGEMENT

Our staff

At 30 June 2013, AFMA employed a total of 201 staff – 174 ongoing and 27 non-ongoing. The majority of staff were located in the Canberra office, with 32 located in Darwin, 5 on Thursday Island, and 20 casual field observers who undertake duties on commercial fishing vessels around Australia. The total also includes four employees on long-term leave.

Our employment profile has not changed significantly from 2011–12. The proportion of part-time staff has increased slightly to 14.4 per cent in 2012–13 from 12.8 per cent in 2011–12.

The proportion of females has increased from 30 per cent in 2011–12 to 34 per cent. The percentage of women at EL1–2 levels has declined over the past few years and is at 23 per cent for 2012–13.

There was a decrease in the number of staff from non-English speaking backgrounds and a slight increase in the number of staff whose parents come from a non-English speaking background. The number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff members was up from the previous year. There was no change in employees who identified as having a disability in 2011–12.

TABLE 3: EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROFILE OF AFMA STAFF AS AT 30 JUNE 2013

LEVEL	NESB1	NESB2	PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY	ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER	WOMEN	MEN	TOTAL STAFF AT LEVEL
APS 2–4	1	4	1	3	24	45	69
APS 5–6	5	7	2	1	34	47	81
EL1	0	1	0	0	6	26	32
EL2	0	0	1	0	5	11	16
SES	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
Total	6	12	4	4	69	132	201

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 30 JUNE 2013

LEVEL	LOCATION	WOMEN		MEN		TOTAL STAFF AT LEVEL
		PART TIME	FULL TIME	PART TIME	FULL TIME	
APS 1-2	Canberra	2	0	14	0	16
	Darwin	0	1	0	0	1
	Thursday Island	0	0	0	0	0
APS 3-4	Canberra	0	1	7	1	9
	Darwin	0	0	0	0	0
	Thursday Island	0	0	0	0	0
APS 5-6	Canberra	0	0	0	1	1
	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
Total		2	2	21	2	27*

*These figures include 20 observers who are engaged as intermittent/irregular (casual) employees.

TABLE 5: ONGOING STAFF EMPLOYED BY LOCATION, GENDER AND EMPLOYMENT STATUS AS AT 30 JUNE 2013

LEVEL	LOCATION	FEMALE		MALE		TOTAL STAFF AT LEVEL
		PART TIME	FULL TIME	PART TIME	FULL TIME	
APS 1-2	Canberra	4	1	0	1	6
	Darwin	1	0	0	0	1
	Thursday Island	0	0	0	0	0
APS 3-4	Canberra	5	7	0	14	26
	Darwin	0	2	0	6	8
	Thursday Island	0	1	0	1	2
APS 5-6	Canberra	10	21	2	29	62
	Darwin	0	3	0	13	16
	Thursday Island	0	0	0	2	2
EL1	Canberra	1	4	2	20	27
	Darwin	0	1	0	3	4
	Thursday Island	0	0	0	1	1
EL2	Canberra	1	4	0	10	15
	Darwin	0	0	0	1	1
	Thursday Island	0	0	0	0	0
SES	Canberra	0	0	0	2	2
	Darwin	0	0	0	1	1
	Thursday Island	0	0	0	0	0
Total		22	44	4	104	174*

* This figure includes staff on long-term leave and excludes staff on temporary transfer to other Australian Public Service agencies.

Our human resource management

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

The *AFMA Enterprise Agreement 2011* commenced on 7 November 2011 and has a nominal end date of 30 June 2014. The agreement provides improvements in conditions for staff and is offset against a number of efficiencies. This agreement was negotiated in good faith and is consistent with the government's direction through the Australian Public Service Bargaining Framework. The Enterprise Agreement includes a nine per cent salary increase over three years and additional improvements to terms and conditions for employees.

The additional improvements included paid leave for NAIDOC purposes, an increase in the at-sea allowance for observers, inclusion of paid community service leave for emergency service volunteers, changes to adoption and foster care leave provisions, changes to bereavement / compassionate provisions, and an increase in overtime arrangements for employees on restricted duty.

In May 2013, staff participated in the Australian Public Service Employee Census in which an additional 10 questions were included that directly related to AFMA. These questions focussed on organisational effectiveness, stakeholder engagement, recruitment and selection, and performance management. The questions were developed in consultation with AFMA's People Initiatives Committee and the executive.

Our high performing staff members were acknowledged through a number of rewards and recognition programs throughout the year. Each year we offer staff the opportunity to nominate for a Development Award. The intention of the award is to recognise and reward performance on the part 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 2012 to the team/s and the individual/s that had made a significant contribution to AFMA during the year.

There were two recipients of the individual outstanding achievement awards, which went to Sophie Dening, Manager, Communications and Planning, and John Marrington, Manager, Compliance Operations Thursday Island.

Sophie Dening was recognised for her outstanding work through coordinating and developing media responses, designing media campaigns and implementing strategies to promote AFMA.

John Marrington was recognised for his commitment and pivotal role in developing and implementing the Torres Strait Treaty Vessel Identification Label System.

The team outstanding achievement award was presented our International Engagement team. They were able to promote professionalism whilst contributing to the reduction of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing in the South East Asian and Pacific regions.

FEATURE STORY
CHEAP AS CHIPS - AFMA REDUCING COSTS FOR FISHERS


We have been working with the Australian fishing industry to implement a number of initiatives to reduce costs for fishers.

Late last year, we announced that 2012-13 levies for Commonwealth fishers were \$275,000 less than the 2009-10 budget amount once adjusted for CPI increases.

This is the result of some hard work by both AFMA and the Commonwealth fishing industry to improve cost- efficiency in managing fisheries while delivering necessary management and regulatory services.

Initiatives such as increasing use of cameras on boats instead of human observers and the increasing use of online business through AFMA's GoFISH portal are delivering cost savings which are being directly passed on to the fishing industry.

A revised system of calculating levies in the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery has also been introduced to better reflect the 'user pays' approach.

We have also provided industry with greater budget transparency, quarterly acquittals, and increased consultation on budgets. We are continuing to work with the Commonwealth Fisheries Association to find further cost savings and efficiencies.

Cost recovery from industry makes up around one-third of AFMA's total operating budget of \$42.052 million in 2012-13 and, in addition to delivering lower than anticipated costs to industry, AFMA has also absorbed government savings while meeting increasing stakeholder demands.

AFMA sustainably manages Commonwealth fisheries on behalf of the Australian community, with the cost of providing that management shared between the Australian Government and the fishing industry, through levies.



During 2012-13, the human resources section undertook significant work to prepare for a number of important amendments to the *Public Service Act 1999* which came into effect on 1 July 2013. The changes include the establishment of new APS Values and APS Employment Principles, and changes to the APS Code of Conduct. The human resources section worked at making sure that AFMA's policies, procedures and guidelines reflected the changes. This included reviewing and amending the Recruitment and Selection Policy, AFMA's Conduct and Ethics Policy, Review of Actions and procedures for Determining and Reporting Breaches of the Code of Conduct. Information sessions regarding the new legislation were conducted on the key changes affecting AFMA and staff.

Our terms and conditions of employment

The conditions of employment for all of our staff, except senior executives, are covered by the *AFMA Enterprise Agreement 2011* and associated policies. Senior executive salaries are determined through individual agreements.

Under the Enterprise Agreement, the agency head and employees covered under the agreement may decide to make an individual flexibility agreement to vary the effect of terms of the agreement. This is only if the arrangement deals with one or more of the following matters and meets the genuine needs of the agency and employee:

- arrangements about when work is performed
- overtime rates
- penalty rates
- allowances
- remuneration
- leave.

We made 48 Individual Flexibility Agreements for 32 staff during 2012-13. The details of the agreements made since the enterprise came into effect are shown in table 6.

TABLE 6: INDIVIDUAL FLEXIBILITY AGREEMENTS FOR 2012-13

CLASSIFICATION	NUMBER
APS 1	0
APS 2	8
APS 3	2
APS 4	9
APS 5	5
APS 6	11
EL1	7
EL2	6

We also made 4 individual determinations under section 24(1) of the *Public Service Act 1999*. These determinations were in relation to senior executive employment.

Our salary ranges are contained in the *AFMA Enterprise Agreement 2011*. The salary minimum and maximum amounts at each classification as at 30 June 2013 are shown in table 7.

TABLE 7: COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT SALARY RANGES AS AT 30 JUNE 2013

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 Agency Head may approve additional salary of up to 20 per cent.

We do not have performance bonuses.

The salary ranges for senior executive staff are contained in the AFMA Executive Remuneration Policy. The salary amounts as at 30 June 2013 are shown in table 8.

TABLE 8: AFMA SENIOR EXECUTIVE REMUNERATION POLICY SALARY RANGES AS AT 30 JUNE 2013

CLASSIFICATION	MINIMUM	MAXIMUM
SES Band 1	\$157,556	\$178,409
SES Band 2	\$199,642	\$221,330

The remuneration of senior executives is determined with reference to the remuneration survey published by the Australian Public Service Commission. This is commensurate with the assessed complexity of their work, and they are not eligible for a bonus amount. In addition to the salary ranges above, and as part of their total remuneration package, senior executives 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 the senior executives remuneration packages is not made available to avoid identification of individuals.

Remuneration for the Chief Executive Officer is determined by the Remuneration Tribunal. Details are available from the Remuneration Tribunal website.

We did not make use of any non-salary benefits in 2012-13.



Training and development

We are highly committed to providing opportunities for staff development. This ensures we have a capable workforce and encourage continuous learning.

In 2012–13 we focused on training in the following areas:

- leadership and management
- writing concisely
- accessibility training
- writing for the web
- science writing and editing
- policy and formulation
- sea safety training
- first aid and fire warden training
- using Microsoft excel – introductory to advanced
- health and safety representative training and refreshers
- stock assessments and harvest strategies
- project management
- APS job application and interview techniques.

Training needs are identified by annual performance capability plans, which identifies both essential and desirable training for each staff member. The training needs are then compiled to assess agency training requirements. Individuals can also self-nominate or be nominated by a manager for any specific training. This system has worked well in determining training priorities, and ensuring individuals are given opportunities for development within their roles and responsibilities.

We also offer a studies assistance program to staff wanting to pursue formally recognised qualifications. This can be in the form of funding and/or study leave.

In 2012–13, there were 11 staff members granted studies assistance for studies in various areas including maritime safety, diplomacy and trade, law, marine and environmental science, project management, information technology and public policy.

All staff participated in a leadership program which involved attending workshops designed to capture the minds (rational commitment) and hearts (emotional commitment) of participants for personal and organisational change. The workshops explored and developed leaders and teams in effective ways. We looked at how to build a shared vision for culture, reinforce learning and trust, and how to work together as a team. In addition to the leadership workshops, 19 staff were selected for stage two of the leadership program which expanded on the key concepts in stage one.

In 2013 all staff were provided the opportunity to undertake the Hermann Brain Dominance Instrument Profile. The profiling is a non-psychometric self-awareness tool scored from a survey of 120 questions that measures individual preferences in four unique and distinct modes of thinking. It is based on 20 years of scientific research by Ned Hermann who developed the whole brain thinking model. Individual profiles helped to provide staff with insights into their thinking preferences and approaches to things like working in a team, communicating, decision making and problem solving.



Work health and safety performance

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

Ethical standards

In working towards our 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, 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 interests, prescribed peak industry body – the Commonwealth Fisheries Association – and sectoral associations, recreational/charter fishing representatives, researchers and environment/conservation organisations.

We engage with stakeholder groups through management advisory committees, resource assessment groups, working groups, liaison meetings, port visits, electronic newsletters, and direct mail to concession holders in Commonwealth fisheries. These partnership arrangements are especially important as we continue to encourage our stakeholders to take more active roles in managing fisheries to ensure their ecological sustainability. In accordance with legislation, we also consult with the public on the development of fishery management plans.

Communication channels

The *Fisheries Management Act 1991* contains specific provisions on the communication and consultation processes, and channels for communicating information about regulations. This is particularly important when managements plans for Commonwealth fisheries are being developed or amended.

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

We also consult extensively with stakeholders on management decisions. The main point of contact with stakeholders is through management advisory committees for each of the major fisheries. There is more information on management advisory committees on page 62.

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

Additionally, we have the ability to use an integrated computer vessel monitoring system. This is a satellite based system used to communicate with fishing vessels via text message/email anywhere in the world.

Management advisory committees

Our management advisory committees are established under the *Fisheries Administration Act 1991* to assist AFMA in the management of fisheries. AFMA Fisheries Management Paper No. 1 provides guidance on requirements for management advisory committee members.

They comprise a chair, an AFMA fisheries manager, up to seven other members and, in some instances, additional invited participants.

Members generally have experience as commercial fishers, processors, environmentalists, marine researchers, recreational fishers, charter boat operators and can include representatives from relevant state and Australian Government agencies.

The committees that operated throughout 2012–13 are as follows:

- Tropical Tuna Management Advisory Committee
- Great Australian Bight Management Advisory Committee
- Northern Prawn Fishery Management Advisory Committee
- Southern Bluefin Tuna Management Advisory Committee
- Bass Strait Central Zone Scallop Management Advisory Committee
- South East Management Advisory Committee
- Sub-Antarctic Management Advisory Committee

For information on specific management advisory committees and meetings held during 2012–13 see appendix 3.

Client service charter

Our Client Service Charter sets out the services and standards that all clients or stakeholders can expect from us. It applies to all of the fisheries administration and corporate services we provide, including our licensing function. The Client Service Charter is available on our website at www.afma.gov.au.

We have performed well against the customer service standards in our Client Service Charter, and continue to streamline processes to improve our customer service.

GOFish – our electronic licensing system – has assisted in improving the timeliness of responses for licensing transactions. GOFish allows concession holders to lease and transfer concessions, and nominate a selected boat without the assistance of our licensing staff.

Ninety-nine per cent of all licensing transactions were within the time frames provided in the client service charter.

FEATURE STORY**AUSSIE SEAFOOD THE BEST BET FOR SUSTAINABILITY**

Australian fisheries are ranked among the best in the world by independent experts and this includes environmental sustainability.

AFMA CEO Dr James Findlay said that consumers can be confident that local seafood is managed and caught responsibly and sustainably.

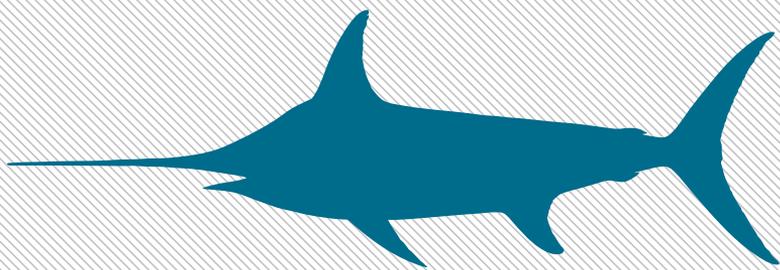
“Australian fisheries use strong science-based management to monitor fish stocks and set sustainable catch limits. This means that consumers can be confident that by eating Australian seafood, they are supporting sustainable fishing practices as well as a local industry.”

Industry members in some fisheries have chosen to be assessed by independent programs such as the Marine Stewardship Council. The Marine Stewardship Council has certified seven of Australia’s fisheries as sustainable and four of these are managed by AFMA.

“This shows that the fishing industry is dedicated to the long-term sustainability of Australian fisheries and AFMA continues to work closely with them to ensure they are using best practice methods” Dr Findlay said.

The recently updated Australian Dietary Guidelines have recommended that Australians increase their fish consumption by more than 40 per cent.

Consumers who eat Australian seafood can be confident it is both healthy and sustainable.

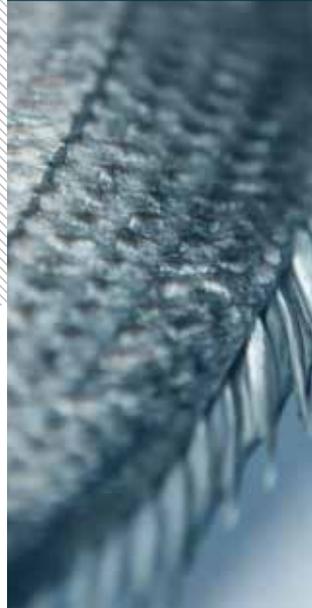


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SWORDFISH
XIPHIAS GLADIUS

OTHER COMMON NAMES: BROADBILL SWORDFISH, BROADBILL, ESPADON
SIZE: MAXIMUM SIZE AROUND 450CM FORK LENGTH AND 540KG 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. An interesting way to prepare swordfish is to poach steaks in a strong fish stock, infused with olives. Dress with dried red capsicum, dried tomatoes, olives and oven-roasted garlic, and serve on a bed of angel hair pasta with a mash of salsify.



PART 4

OUR FISHERIES

QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE TO DOMESTIC FISHERIES 2012–2013

- ANTARCTIC FISHERIES
- 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

QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE TO DOMESTIC FISHERIES 2012–2013

- ✓ Performance target met or exceeded for 2012–13
- ✓ Performance target partially met for 2012–13
- * Performance target met for 2012–13

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	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Coral Sea Fishery	✓	n/a	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Heard Island and McDonald Islands Fishery	✓	✓	n/a	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Macquarie Island Toothfish Fishery	✓	✓	n/a	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Norfolk Island Fisheries	✓	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a			
Northern Prawn Fishery	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
North West Slope Trawl Fishery	✓	n/a	✓	✓	✓	✓	n/a	✓			
Skipjack Tuna Fishery	✓	n/a	n/a	✓	✓	✓	n/a	n/a			
Small Pelagic Fishery	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery	✓	✓	✓	n/a	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Southern and Eastern Scaleshark and Shark Fishery	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Southern Squid Jig Fishery	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Western Deepwater Trawl Fishery	✓	n/a	✓	✓	✓	✓	n/a	✓			
Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery	✓	✓	✓	n/a	✓	✓	✓	✓			

FIGURE 3: MAP OF COMMONWEALTH FISHERIES

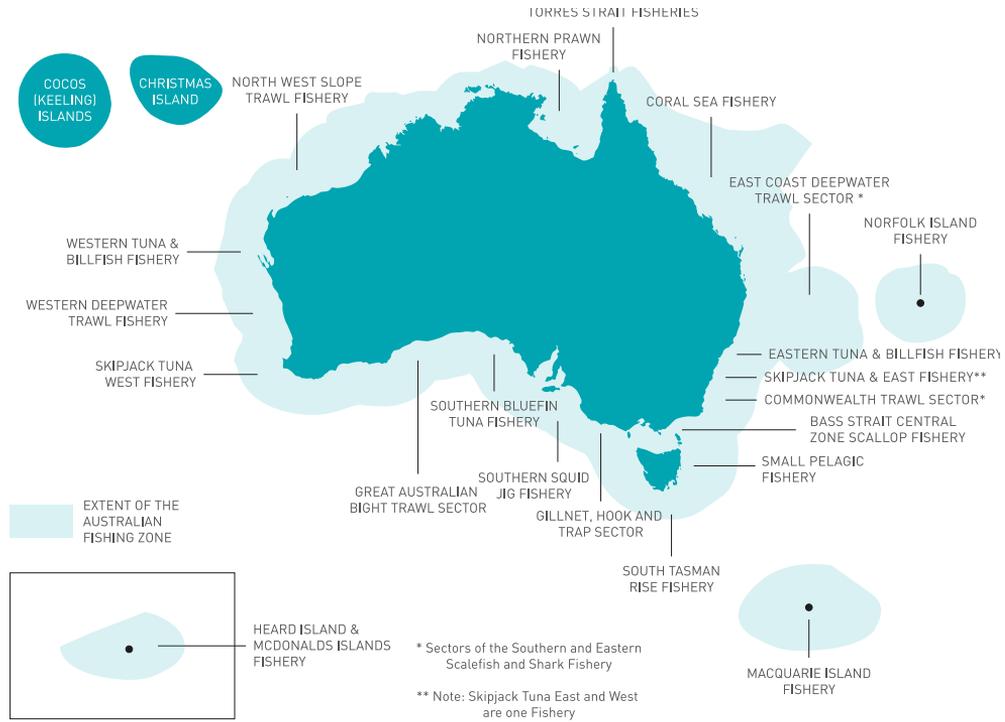
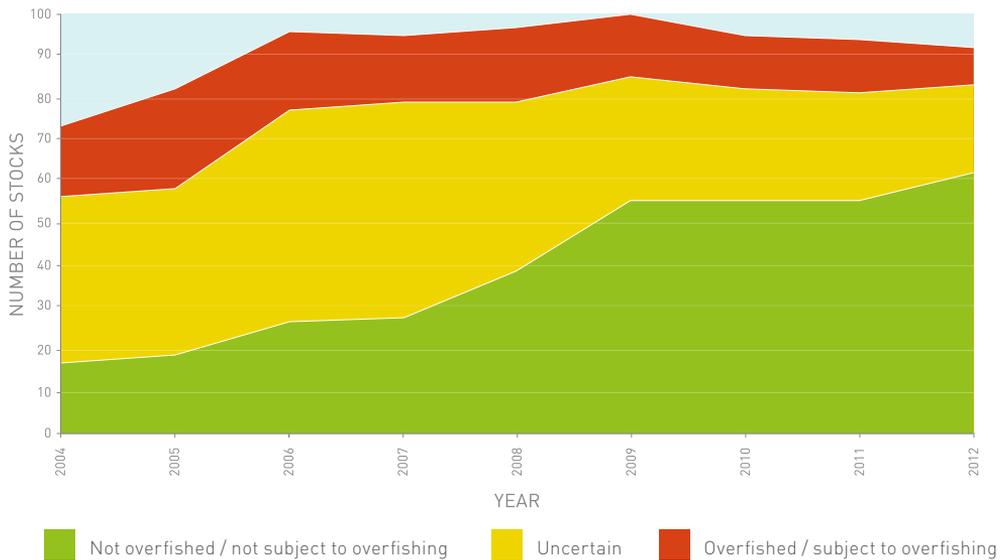


FIGURE 4: FISH STOCKS STATUS (SOURCE: ABARES STATUS REPORTS 2011)



Stock status of target species

■	Not overfished / not subject to overfishing
■	Uncertain
■	Overfished / subject to overfishing

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

FISHERY	COMMON NAME (SCIENTIFIC NAME)	STATUS			
		2011		2012	
		FISHING MORTALITY	BIOMASS	FISHING MORTALITY	BIOMASS
AFMA MANAGED STOCKS					
Bass Strait Central Zone Scallop Fishery	Commercial scallop (<i>Pecten fumatus</i>)				
Coral Sea Fishery: Sea Cucumber Sector	Black teatfish (<i>Holothuria whitmaei</i>)				
Coral Sea Fishery: Sea Cucumber Sector	Prickly redfish (<i>Thelenota ananus</i>)				
Coral Sea Fishery: Sea Cucumber Sector	Surf redfish (<i>Actinopyga mauritiana</i>)				
Coral Sea Fishery: Sea Cucumber Sector	White teatfish (<i>Holothuria fuscogilva</i>)				
Coral Sea Fishery: Sea Cucumber Sector	Other sea cucumber species (11 spp.)				
Coral Sea Fishery: Aquarium Sector	Multiple species				
Coral Sea Fishery: Lobster and Trochus Sector	Tropical rock lobster (Panulirus ornatus, possibly other species)				
Coral Sea Fishery: Line and Trap Sector	Mixed reef fish				
Coral Sea Fishery: Trawl and Trap Sector	Demersal and mid-water fish and crustaceans				
Northern Prawn Fishery	Red-legged banana prawn (<i>Fenneropenaeus indicus</i>)				
Northern Prawn Fishery	White banana prawn (<i>Fenneropenaeus merguensis</i>)				
Northern Prawn Fishery	Brown tiger prawn (<i>Penaeus esculentus</i>)				
Northern Prawn Fishery	Grooved tiger prawn (<i>Penaeus semisulcatus</i>)				

FISHERY	COMMON NAME (SCIENTIFIC NAME)	STATUS			
		2011		2012	
		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>)				

FISHERY	COMMON NAME (SCIENTIFIC NAME)	STATUS			
		2011		2012	
		FISHING MORTALITY	BIOMASS	FISHING MORTALITY	BIOMASS
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl and Scalefish Hook sectors	Blue warehou (<i>Seriolella brama</i>)	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Red
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl Sector	Deepwater sharks, eastern zone (18 spp.)	Green	Yellow	Green	Yellow
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl Sector	Deepwater sharks, western zone (18 spp.)	Green	Yellow	Green	Yellow
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl Sector	Eastern school whiting (<i>Sillago flindersi</i>)	Green	Green	Green	Green
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl Sector	Flathead (<i>Neoplitycephalus richardsoni</i> and 4 other spp.)	Green	Green	Green	Green
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl and Scalefish Hook sectors	Gemfish, eastern zone (<i>Rexea solandri</i>)	Red	Red	Red	Red
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl and Scalefish Hook sectors	Gemfish, western zone (<i>Rexea solandri</i>)	Green	Green	Green	Green
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl and Scalefish Hook sectors	Gulper sharks (<i>Centrophorus harrissoni</i> , <i>C. moluccensis</i> , <i>C. zeehaani</i>)	Red	Red	Yellow	Red
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl and Scalefish Hook sectors	Jackass morwong (<i>Nemadactylus macropterus</i>)	Green	Green	Green	Green
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl Sector	John dory (<i>Zeus faber</i>)	Green	Green	Green	Green

FISHERY	COMMON NAME (SCIENTIFIC NAME)	STATUS			
		2011		2012	
		FISHING MORTALITY	BIOMASS	FISHING MORTALITY	BIOMASS
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>)				
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> , <i>Oreosoma atlanticum</i>)				

FISHERY	COMMON NAME (SCIENTIFIC NAME)	STATUS			
		2011		2012	
		FISHING MORTALITY	BIOMASS	FISHING MORTALITY	BIOMASS
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 dentex</i>)				
SESSF: Commonwealth Trawl Sector	Silver warehou (<i>Seriolella punctata</i>)				
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>)				

FISHERY	COMMON NAME (SCIENTIFIC NAME)	STATUS			
		2011		2012	
		FISHING MORTALITY	BIOMASS	FISHING MORTALITY	BIOMASS
SESSF: Great Australian Bight Trawl Sector	Orange roughy <i>(Hoplostethus atlanticus)</i>	Green	Yellow	Green	Yellow
SESSF: Shark Gillnet and Shark Hook sectors	Elephant fish <i>(Callorhynchus milii)</i>	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow
SESSF: Shark Gillnet and Shark Hook sectors	Gummy shark <i>(Mustelus antarcticus)</i>	Green	Green	Green	Green
SESSF: Shark Gillnet and Shark Hook sectors	Sawshark <i>(Pristiophorus cirratus, P. nudipinnis)</i>	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
SESSF: Shark Gillnet and Shark Hook sectors	School shark <i>(Galeorhinus galeus)</i>	Red	Red	Red	Red
Southern Squid Jig Fishery	Gould's squid <i>(Nototodarus gouldi)</i>	Green	Green	Green	Green
Western Deepwater Trawl Fishery	Deepwater bugs <i>(Ibacus spp.)</i>	Green	Yellow	Green	Yellow
Western Deepwater Trawl Fishery	Orange roughy <i>(Hoplostethus atlanticus)</i>	Green	Yellow	Green	Yellow
Western Deepwater Trawl Fishery	Ruby snapper <i>(Etelis carbunculus)</i>	Green	Yellow	Green	Yellow
Macquarie Island Toothfish Fishery	Patagonian toothfish <i>(Dissostichus eleginoides)</i>	Green	Green	Green	Green
JOINTLY MANAGED STOCKS - INTERNATIONAL					
South Tasman Rise Trawl Fishery	Orange roughy <i>(Hoplostethus atlanticus)</i>	Green	Red	Green	Red
Torres Strait Finfish Fishery	Coral trout <i>(Plectropomus and Variola spp.)</i>	Green	Green	Green	Green

FISHERY	COMMON NAME (SCIENTIFIC NAME)	STATUS			
		2011		2012	
		FISHING MORTALITY	BIOMASS	FISHING MORTALITY	BIOMASS
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 ananus</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	Up to 15 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 tuna (<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>)				
Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery	Bigeye tuna (<i>Thunnus obesus</i>)				

FISHERY	COMMON NAME (SCIENTIFIC NAME)	STATUS			
		2011		2012	
		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 tuna <i>(Thunnus alalunga)</i>				
Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery	Bigeye tuna <i>(Thunnus obesus)</i>				
Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery	Longtail tuna <i>(Thunnus tonggol)</i>				
Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery	Yellowfin tuna <i>(Thunnus albacares)</i>				
Heard Island and McDonald Islands Fishery	Mackerel icefish <i>(Champscephalus gunnari)</i>				
Heard Island and McDonald Islands Fishery	Patagonian toothfish <i>(Dissostichus eleginoides)</i>				
Antarctic Waters Fishery	Toothfish <i>(Dissostichus eleginoides, D. mawsoni)</i>				

Two stocks assessed in 2011 were not assessed in 2012: longtail tuna in the Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery and toothfish in the Antarctic Waters Fishery.

ANTARCTIC FISHERIES

Major species:

- Patagonian toothfish
- Mackerel icefish

Fishery/Sector:	Estimated catch 2011–12:	Gross value of production 2011–12:
Heard Island and McDonald Islands Fishery	2,954 tonnes	Due to the small number of operators, this information is confidential.
Macquarie Island Toothfish Fishery	360 tonnes	Due to the small number of operators, this information is confidential.

Developments in 2012–13

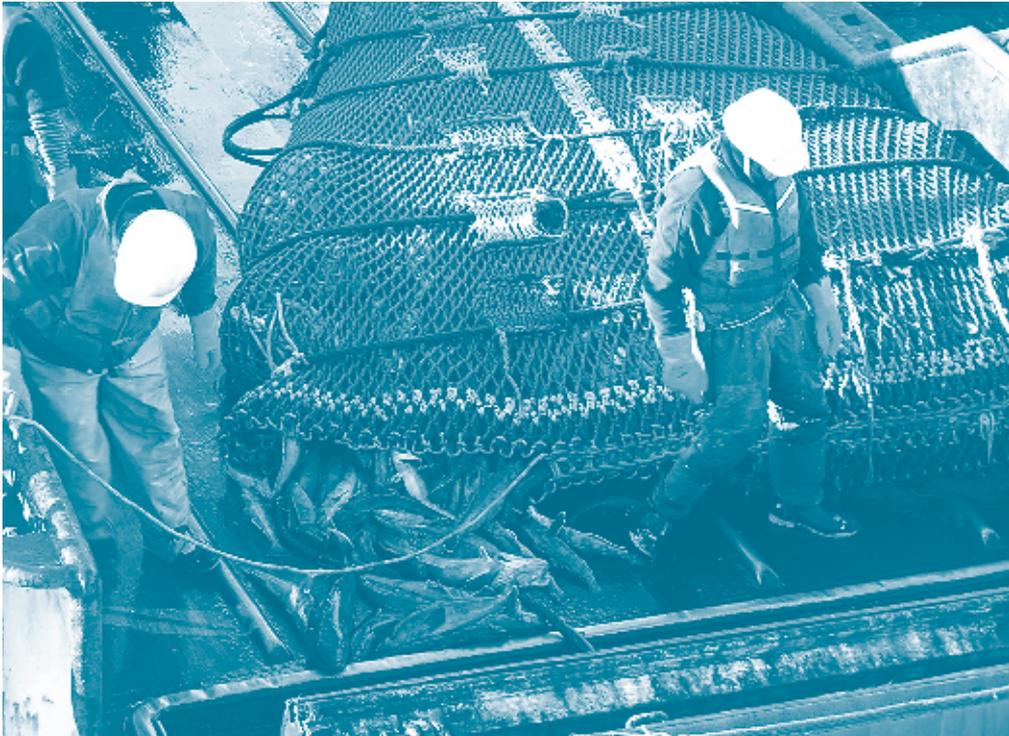
Heard Island and McDonald Islands Fishery

In April 2013, the Monterey Bay Aquarium Seafood Watch program labelled Australian caught Patagonian Toothfish as 'best choice'. The Seafood Watch program advises global consumers on seafood sustainability using peer-reviewed science and is highly regarded worldwide. This follows Marine Stewardship Council certification of Australian caught toothfish in 2012.

We prepared a Bycatch and Discard Workplan, with input from stakeholders, for Australian sub-Antarctic fisheries. This will be updated annually and will document bycatch trends in the fisheries.

Macquarie Island Toothfish Fishery

In December 2012, the *Macquarie Island Toothfish Fishery Management Plan 2006* was amended to allow the dates of the fishing season to be set through a Determination, to make minor changes to some definitions, and to remove specific reference to the Bycatch Action Plan. We subsequently made a Determination which changed the start of the fishing season from 15 April to 1 May which aligned with the start of the longline season. The change provides operational flexibility by allowing industry to take any toothfish remaining uncaught after the longline season – by methods other than longlining – prior to the start of the following season.



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 2012–13.

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 2012–13.

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).

Please note that the collection of live coral is prohibited in this fishery.

Fishery/Sector:	Estimated catch 2011–12:	Gross value of production 2011–12:
Coral Sea Fishery	40 tonnes	Due to the small number of operators, this information is confidential.

Developments in 2012–13

On 16 November 2012, the Hon. Tony Burke – the then Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities – announced Commonwealth marine reserves will be implemented from July 2014. This includes the Coral Sea Marine Reserve, which is an important national asset. The new marine reserve will reduce the number of fishing methods allowed in the Coral Sea and will shrink the area available to fishing. The government has announced that assistance will be provided to fisheries and commercial fishers to adjust to changes resulting from the new marine reserves.

Report against Management Plans

A determination was made under the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* that a statutory management plan, under division 2 section 17(1A), is not warranted at this time. The principal legal framework for the management of the fishery is specified in the Act 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:

- Inshore fishery
 - Red throat emperor
- Offshore Demersal Finfish Fishery
 - n/a

Fishery/Sector:	Estimated catch 2011–12:	Gross value of production 2011–12:
Norfolk Island Fishery	No commercial catch. Recreational and charter fishing only.	Nil

Developments in 2012–13

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 us to provide management expertise and guidance to the Norfolk Island Government and the Norfolk Island Fishing Association. We have helped in implementing appropriate management arrangements and assisting with the collection and analysis of fisheries catch data.

To meet the intent of the *Norfolk Island Inshore Fishery Management Policy*, the Norfolk Island Government is responsible for legislation to regulate boat safety, registration and data gathering. The Norfolk Island Government will continue this work in 2013–14 in consultation with Australian Government agencies.

Offshore fishery

The fishery is currently closed.

A determination was made under the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* that a statutory management plan, under division 2 section 17(1A), is not warranted at this time. A strategic approach to managing all small, developing and exploratory Commonwealth fisheries, including this fishery, is underway.

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

Fishery/Sector:	Estimated catch 2011–12:	Gross value of production 2011–12:
Northern Prawn Fishery	6,304 tonnes	\$64.7 million

Developments in 2012–13

Each year, we undertake stock assessments for the Northern Prawn Fishery. The assessments evaluate the biological, economic and fishing-related information, collected each year, using computer-based models. The assessment in 2012–13 indicated that the fishery is meeting key sustainability and economic objectives set out in the Northern Prawn Fishery Harvest Strategy.

In 2012, the banana prawn season ran from 1 April to 15 June and the total catch was approximately 4,901 tonnes. The tiger prawn season ran from 1 August to 22 November and the total catch was approximately 1,203 tonnes.

We continue to work closely with the Northern Prawn Fishery Industry Pty Ltd under revised co-management arrangements. They directly manage the catch and effort data, the crew member observer program and coordinate pre-season briefings for the fishery. We liaise directly with the Northern Prawn Fishery Industry Pty Ltd on matters relating to management costs, spatial closures and other operational issues in the fishery.

Report against Management Plans

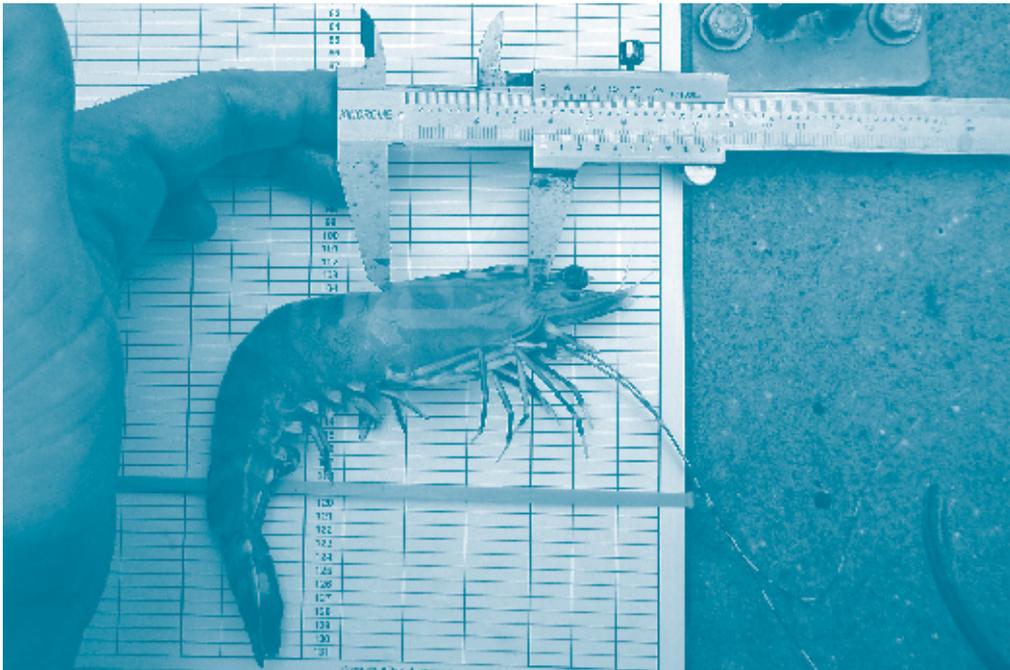
The fishery is currently managed through a combination of input controls which are implemented under the *Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995*. This includes limited entry, spatial and temporal closures and gear restrictions.

We continue to work towards implementing revised management arrangements in the fishery.

In December 2012, the AFMA Commission made a decision that the current management arrangements would be replaced prior to the commencement of the 2014 banana prawn fishing season. The Commission also requested a risk assessment of the following two management options be undertaken:

- An individual transferable quota management system for the three main prawn species – tiger, white banana and red-legged banana prawns – with an in-season update for white banana prawns.
- A highly modified individual transferable effort management system, including a maximum economic yield target for the three main prawn species.

We are working closely with stakeholders, including Northern Prawn Fishery Industry Pty Ltd, Northern Prawn Fishery Management Advisory Committee and the Northern Prawn Resource Assessment Group on the risk assessment. These are due to be finalised in early August 2013 with a decision on the future management arrangements for the fishery expected in late August 2013.



FEATURE STORY**AUSSIE PRAWNS GET THE WHITE TICK OF SUSTAINABILITY**

The Northern Prawn Fishery has now been certified by the Marine Stewardship Council.

This certification is recognition of many years of hard work, investment and commitment by the industry to ensure it meets and exceeds the highest standards for environmental sustainability.

It also shows that we have continued to deliver responsible and sustainable fisheries management that all Australians can have confidence in.

The white tick means consumers can be sure that they are buying sustainable seafood from a world-class fishery.

Marine Stewardship Council certification requires the industry to satisfy a rigorous, independent assessment against internationally recognised environmental standards.

The Northern Prawn Fishery supplies both Woolworths and Coles in addition to many independent retailers, so sustainable prawns are readily available to most Australians. It's also one of only a handful of prawn fisheries worldwide to reach the Marine Stewardship Council standard and the first Marine Stewardship Council certified fishery to supply banana and tiger prawns.

The Marine Stewardship Council maintains a highly respected and accepted global standard for the certification of wild caught seafood. The certification standard is defined by three core principles: the status of the fish stock, the impact of the fishery on the marine ecosystem, and the management system overseeing the fishery.

The number of Australian fisheries accredited by the Marine Stewardship Council is now seven, with four of these managed by the Australian Fisheries Management Authority.

NORTH WEST SLOPE AND WESTERN DEEPWATER TRAWL FISHERIES

Major species:

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

Fishery/Sector:	Estimated catch 2011–12:	Gross value of production 2011–12:
North West Slope Trawl Fishery	69 tonnes	Due to the small number of operators, this information is confidential.
Western Deepwater Trawl Fishery	5 tonnes	Due to the small number of operators, this information is confidential.

Developments in 2012–13

The Statement of Management Arrangements for the North West Slope Trawl and Western Deepwater Trawl Fisheries were updated to reflect the revised Harvest Strategy for the two fisheries.

The fisheries were granted a three year Wildlife Trade Operation approval, in accordance with subsection 303FN(2) and paragraph 303FN (10)(d) of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

The Australian and Western Australian governments continue to discuss the potential realignment of the boundary descriptions of the fisheries. This would bring it in line with an updated definition of the 200 metre depth contour off Western Australia. In May 2013, the Western Trawl Consultative Panel met to discuss the Commonwealth’s preferred position in relation to the boundary realignment. We will continue to work with Western Australia on the boundary realignment in the 2013–14 financial year.

Report against Management Plans

The fisheries were managed in accordance with the Harvest Strategy 2011, the Statement of Management Arrangements 2012 and a series of permit conditions.

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
 - Silver warehou
 - Tiger flathead.
- Victorian Inshore Trawl Sector
 - School whiting
 - Tiger flathead.

Fishery/Sector:	Estimated catch 2011–12:	Gross value of production 2011–12:
Great Australian Bight Trawl Sector	2,363 tonnes	\$11.6 million
Gillnet, Hook and Trap Sector	3,631 tonnes	\$20.8 million
East Coast Deepwater Trawl Sector	219 tonnes	Due to the small number of operators, this information is confidential.
South East Trawl Sector	14,750 tonnes	\$50.6 million
Victorian Inshore Trawl Sector	87 tonnes	\$297,000

Developments in 2012–13

The Upper Slope Dogfish Management Strategy was introduced in 2013 for the Commonwealth Trawl and Auto Longline Sectors of the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery. The Strategy was developed in consultation with the fishing industry, scientific experts, conservation groups, and other interested stakeholders. The Strategy relies on a new network of fishing closures, regulated handling procedures and monitoring. The management actions are specifically targeted at rebuilding populations of Harrison's dogfish and southern dogfish. Because of the efforts AFMA and industry employed to stop the decline and support the recovery of these species, they were listed as "conservation dependent" and a higher listing category was not chosen; allowing fisheries to stay open and to continue fishing sustainably. Work is continuing on developing effective seal mitigation and exclusion devices in the trawl fishery. Trials of acoustic triggered seal exclusion devices are being conducted, along with trials of a device that holds the trawl net mouth closed until it reaches a depth too deep for seals.

Together with the South East Trawl Fishing Industry Association, we are trialling shortened cod end nets on boats in the fishery. The design of these nets is aimed at reducing seal interactions without

affecting fish catch rates. We have also continued our joint optical acoustic survey of orange roughy in the eastern zone. Information from this survey will inform stock structure questions and future management decisions.

We also facilitated a blue warehou workshop in April 2013 to develop a suitable index of abundance for the blue warehou stock assessment. A number of priorities were identified to be undertaken during 2013 including obtaining additional catch and effort data, reviewing current assessments and examining alternate assessments.

In another joint venture, we partnered with the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences to successfully obtain the Fisheries Research Development Corporation funding. The funding helped with the investigation of western gemfish stock structure and spawning locations. The information gathered will be used to inform stock assessments and the development of recommended biological catch estimations.

We have strengthened management measures to further protect sea lions in the Commonwealth Gillnet Sector in 2012–13. Additional fishing closures were implemented around two recently identified sea lion breeding colonies. The management measures included in the Australian Sea Lion Management Strategy have proven effective at minimising sea lion mortalities. All gillnet boats fishing off South Australia are subject to 100 per cent monitoring and only one sea lion mortality has been reported during 2012–13.

Measures to protect the dolphins in the Coorong region of South Australia remain in place with the gillnet fishing closure extended by 12 months. AFMA has received an industry proposal for research into dolphin mitigation, and is in the process of developing longer term arrangements for mitigating impacts on dolphins.

Management arrangements to provide additional fishing opportunities for gillnet fishers displaced by closures in South Australia continued in 2012–13. This included temporary hook permits that authorised manual longlines in the gillnet closures, and a trial of automatic longline equipment. The automatic longline trial concluded at the end of March 2013 and the final report is due to be published in July 2013.

A strategic review on the future management arrangements in the Gillnet, Hook and Trap sector was undertaken during 2012–13. The review was supported through the establishment of the future directions working group that included representatives from all sectors of the fishery. The outcomes of the review and proposed future options will be made available for public consultation in mid 2013.

Measures to prevent targeting of school shark were continued under permit arrangements for the gillnet sector. The measures support the school shark stock rebuilding strategy that will be reviewed in the coming year.

An expert review assessing methods for developing an independent index of abundance for school shark is underway. An index of abundance is crucial for assessing the current state and recovery for school shark.

A revised formula for calculating levies was developed with assistance from fishing industry representatives. The formula aims to ensure the distribution of levies is more closely aligned with operators' driving management costs. Through applying this formula, the proportion of the levy share applied to boat fishing rights decreased and the share applied to quota rights increased.

Report against Management Plans

The *Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery Management Plan 2003* was determined in 2003. Relevant Commission decisions relating to measures to implement the plan include:

- Development of the Upper-Slope Dogfish management Plan to rebuild populations of Harrison's Dogfish and Southern Dogfish;
- The Blue Warehouse Stock Rebuilding Strategy November 2008 was updated in September 2012. The updated version now includes reporting requirements for all catches in excess of 250 kg per trip, for both the trawl and non-trawl sectors in the fishery.
- Individual seabird management plans were introduced in the otter trawl sector of the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark fishery during 2011–12. The effectiveness of seabird mitigation measures in this fishery is being assessed on an ongoing basis.
- A reduced total allowable catch was implemented for deepwater flathead, ocean perch, pink ling and silver warehou.
- A multiyear total allowable catch is in place for four species due to the ecologically robust nature of the stock assessments. These species are bight redfish, john dory, blue grenadier and spotted (silver) warehou.

The total allowable catch and other limits for the 2012–13 fishing year increased for alfonsino, bight redfish, elephantfish, western gemfish, gummy shark, mirror dory, oreo-basket, saw shark, school shark, school whiting and silver trevally. These increases can be attributed to updated stock assessments with new data or increased confidence (e.g. alfonsino, mirror dory), natural variability of some short-lived species (e.g. school whiting) and in some cases additional precaution and protection for species provided by closures (e.g. oreo basket, silver trevally).



BASS STRAIT CENTRAL ZONE SCALLOP FISHERY

Major species:

- Commercial Scallops

Fishery/Sector:	Estimated catch 2011–12:	Gross value of production 2011–12:
Bass Strait Central Zone Scallop Fishery	484 tonnes	\$1 million

Developments in 2012–13

The 2012 season was expected to open in July, however pre-season surveys in May showed reduced availability of scallops in the area planned to be harvested. A joint Scallop Management Advisory Committee and Scallop Resource Assessment Group meeting developed an alternative proposal for the 2012 season. On the basis of that recommendation, the AFMA Commission set the total allowable catch for commercial scallops at 2,000 tonnes and opened all the Eastern Zone of the fishery. Only two areas remained closed in order to protect spawning biomass. The Western Zone of the fishery remained closed.

Shortly after the August season opening, operators reported low catch rates and poor quality scallops. The majority of the fleet moved to the Tasmanian state scallop fishery where better catches were reported. A small number of Victorian vessels remained active. At the end of the season 484 tonnes was landed.

A two stage process for review of the harvest strategy was adopted in 2011. This allowed for initial changes to the harvest strategy for the 2012 season and a more comprehensive review in 2013. This will be informed by new research which has recently become available.

Report against Management Plans

During 2012–13, the fishery continued to be managed under the arrangements in the *Bass Strait Central Zone Scallop Fishery Management Plan 2002*. The application of the fishery's harvest strategy was varied in 2012 because of the changing conditions and reduced availability of scallops in the area expected to be opened. Additional areas were open to fishing during the season to allow for exploration to identify new beds. However, the areas fished during the season were primarily those that had been fished in previous seasons and no significant new beds were discovered.

SOUTHERN SQUID JIG FISHERY

Major species:

- Arrow squid

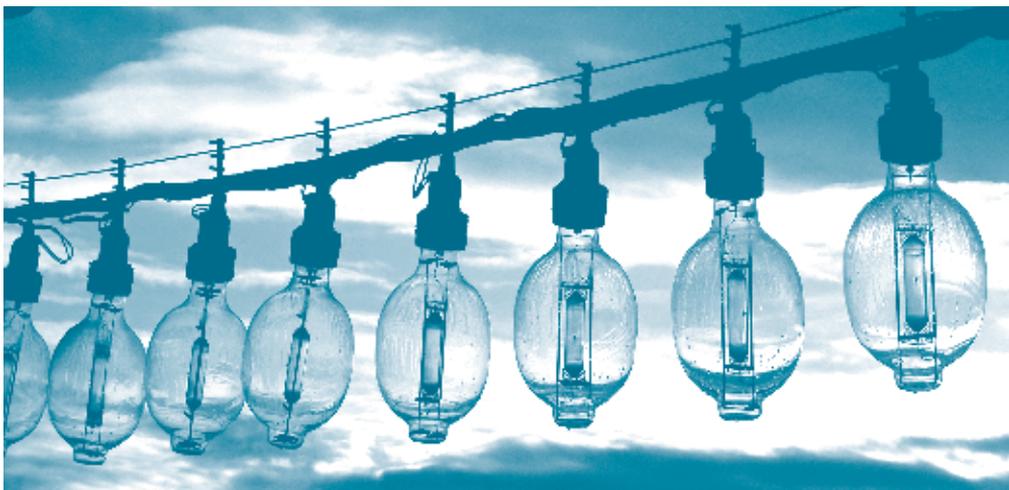
Fishery/Sector:	Estimated catch 2011–12:	Gross value of production 2011–12:
Southern Squid Jig Fishery	830 tonnes	\$2 million

Developments in 2012–13

Activity in the fishery increased by about 200 tonnes from 2011–12, but remains low relative to the harvest strategy trigger of 3,000 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 2012–13, 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 2013 season was changed from 560 standard squid jigging machines to 550. This would allow use of 55 standard jig vessels. However, no more than 17 vessels have operated in any jig season since 2008.



SKIPJACK TUNA FISHERY

Major species:

- Skipjack tuna

Fishery/Sector:	Estimated catch 2011–12:	Gross value of production 2011–12:
Skipjack Tuna Fishery	-	No fishing occurred

Developments in 2012–13

Effort in the fishery has remained low due to the adoption of new conservation and management measures by both the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission and the Western Central Pacific Fisheries Commission. We amended the Skipjack Tuna Fisheries fishing concession conditions to include a ban on intentionally setting purse seine nets around whale sharks and cetaceans.

Report against Management Plans

There is no current statutory management plan as described under division 2 section 17(1A) of the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* for the Skipjack Tuna Fisheries.

FEATURE STORY**SIMPLIFYING QUOTA RULES IN COMMONWEALTH FISHERIES**

A new quota administration policy was developed, introducing consistent rules across AFMA's quota-managed fisheries. This will strengthen statutory fishing rights, provide long-term cost savings and ultimately reduce industry levies.

The policy introduced the new maximum 28-day reconciliation rule to all our fisheries. In a nutshell, fishers now need to reconcile their catch quota within 28 days of it being unloaded. This will replace quarterly reconciliation in a number of fisheries, making it easier for fishers and AFMA to check that catches do not exceed catch limits.

Some of these changes took effect in May 2013 whilst some others will be implemented over the next year or two.

Personal-use allowances (in fisheries where these currently apply) will also be removed. This means that fishers wanting to take fish for personal use will have to deduct it out of their quota. Removing these personal use allowances will help us identify illegal or undocumented fish.

Over the last five years, we consulted with a lot of stakeholders to develop this Policy. There were a number of suggestions taken on board including delaying the review of under-catch and over-catch provisions, which will now begin in 2015.

We will continue to implement the other elements of the policy over the next year or two, including arrangements to better manage discarding of unwanted fish.

Controls on the amount of fish that each fisher can take are one of the many approaches AFMA is using to ensure sustainable and profitable Commonwealth fisheries.

SMALL PELAGIC FISHERY

Major species:

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

Fishery/Sector:	Estimated catch 2011–12:	Gross value of production 2011–12:
Small Pelagic Fishery	158 tonnes	Due to the small number of operators, this information is confidential.

Developments in 2012–13

Statutory Fishing Rights took effect on 1 May 2012. Total allowable catch is now allocated between operators through individual transferable quota.

Fishing effort in 2012–13 effort was low.

The Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences Fishery Status Reports 2011 listed all stocks of Small Pelagic Fishery species- except for redbait (west) – as ‘not overfished and not subject to overfishing’. Redbait (west) is assessed as ‘uncertain’ to being overfished, because of limited information available to assess its status. Low catches indicate that overfishing is not occurring.

Various experts reviewed the science used to set the jack mackerel (east) total allowable catch for the 2012–13 season. These reviews generally concluded that although different daily egg production method models can estimate spawning biomass, the model that was used to set the total allowable catch was plausible given existing data sets and understanding of the ecosystem.

Report against Management Plans

Statutory Fishing Rights took effect under the *Small Pelagic Fishery Management Plan 2009* on 1 May 2012 at the start of the 2012–13 season. Operators have since been required to hold quota to cover their catch of each of the four quota species.

FEATURE STORY

PROPOSED USE OF A LARGE FACTORY VESSEL IN THE SMALL PELAGIC FISHERY



Late in 2012, the proposed use of a large factory / freezer vessel in the small pelagic fishery generated a lot of interest and concern in the community.

For more than 10 years, the use of large scale mid-water trawl vessels to target small pelagic fish species has been proposed by industry. In 2012, an Australian Company, Seafish Tasmania Pty Ltd, sought to operate a 143 metre mid-water trawl vessel (FV Abel Tasman) in the Small Pelagic Fishery. This was delayed for up to two years by a declaration made following an amendment in September 2012 to the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

Responding to community concerns and queries about the proposed operations of such a vessel consumed a large amount of AFMA staff time and resources. Valuable lessons were learnt from the process, including a need to more clearly communicate our objectives and functions to our stakeholders and the science that supports the AFMA Commission decision making processes.

EASTERN TUNA AND BILLFISH FISHERY

Major species:

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

Fishery/Sector:	Estimated catch 2011–12:	Gross value of production 2011–12:
Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery	4,733 tonnes	\$28 million

Developments in 2012–13

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

The total allowable commercial catch limits for the 2012–13 fishing season were set at

- 2,500 tonnes for albacore tuna
- 1,056 tonnes for bigeye tuna
- 2,200 tonnes for yellowfin tuna
- 1,396 tonnes for broadbill swordfish
- 370 tonnes for striped marlin

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 CSIRO, sea surface temperatures and industry information. In previous years, the zones had been updated fortnightly. The weekly update was introduced at the request of industry to better take into account moon phase and more real time information.

In response to the adoption of new conservation and management measures by the Western Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, we amended the Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery fishing concession conditions to include a ban on the take of oceanic white tip sharks.

In collaboration with the Australian Antarctic Division and the fishing industry, we have trialled a new seabird mitigation line weighting method for live-baiting in pelagic longline fisheries. The trial investigated the impact of 60 g weights within one meter of the hook on bait life status and catch rates. Similar line weighting regimes trialled in Australia using dead bait in 2010 showed that a 'sliding' 40 g weight at or near the hook is potentially safer for crew, cheaper, improves sink rates and reduces risks of seabird bycatch, while maintaining fish catch rates.

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.

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



SOUTHERN BLUEFIN TUNA FISHERY

Major species:

- Southern Bluefin Tuna

Fishery/Sector:	Estimated catch 2011–12:	Gross value of production 2011–12:
Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery	4,659 tonnes	\$40.6 million

Developments in 2012–13

The Australian total allowable catch for southern bluefin tuna was increased from 4,528 tonnes to 4,698 tonnes, and was set in line with the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna management procedure. This is designed to limit global catches to help rebuild the spawning tuna stock.

To increase the precision of the weight estimates, we increased the number of fish requiring weighing in each tow cage in 2012–13. As fish are transferred from tow to farm pontoons, fishers are now required to weigh a total of 100 fish, up from 40 in the previous year. 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. The increase has improved the precision of the weight estimates.

A competitive tender process was conducted to obtain monitoring services to the farm sector in Port Lincoln. The successful tenderer was Protech Marine. They conducted 100 fish weight samples and are contracted to provide stereo video sampling from 1 December 2013.

Report against Management Plans

Globally, southern bluefin tuna is considered overfished and is the only species covered by the *Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery Management Plan 1995*. The Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna Extended Scientific Committee noted in 2011 that while the current spawning biomass remains very low – about five per cent of historic levels – the outlook for the stock is positive, with a more optimistic view of the future recovery rate.

In the 2012 season, several companies exceeded their quota by minor amounts totalling approximately 34 tonnes. In accordance with the requirements of the *Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery Management Plan 1995*, the corresponding amount was deducted from each company's 2013 quota holdings.

In 2013, the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry accepted amendments to the management plan to allow for the inclusion of undercatch arrangements as agreed by the commission for the conservation of southern bluefin tuna. Other changes to the management plan include provision for changes to the monitoring arrangements in the fishery, changes to the way the season date is set, and the streamlining of some aspects of the total allowable catch setting process.

WESTERN TUNA AND BILLFISH FISHERY

Major species:

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

Fishery/Sector:	Estimated catch 2011–12:	Gross value of production 2011–12:
Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery	362 tonnes	Due to the small number of operators, this information is confidential.

Developments in 2012–13

Compared to the early 2000s, the Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery has continued to operate at low levels of effort due to economic conditions, although effort has slightly increased compared to 2011–12.

The total allowable commercial catch limits for the 2012–13 fishing season was set at 2,000 tonnes for bigeye tuna, 5,000 tonnes for yellowfin tuna, 3,000 tonnes for broadbill swordfish, and 125 tonnes for striped marlin.

In response to the adoption of new Conservation and Management Measures by the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, we amended the Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery fishing concession conditions to prohibit the take of oceanic whitetip sharks.

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 performance criteria outlined in the management plan.

HIGH SEAS PERMITS FISHERY

Major species:

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

Fishery/Sector:	Estimated catch 2011–12:	Gross value of production 2011–12:
Western Deepwater Trawl Fishery	5 tonnes	Due to the small number of operators, this information is confidential.

Developments in 2012–13

High Seas Permits fishery allow Australian operators to fish for non-highly migratory species on the high seas in the South Pacific and Southern Indian Ocean. This excludes the South Tasman Rise, of which the high seas area is under the governance of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation.

The first South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation Commission meeting was held in late January 2013. Throughout 2012–13, Australia and New Zealand worked to develop bottom fishing measures to ensure the sustainable management of regional fish stocks and the protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems on the high seas. This will continue in 2013–14.

The Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences published the High Seas Sustainability Assessment in December 2012. This report concluded that no stocks fished by High Seas permit holders were overfished or subject to overfishing. Orange roughy in the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation area and orange roughy and alfonsino in the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement area were assessed as uncertain.

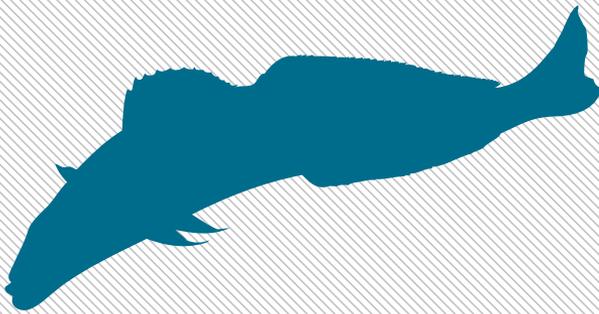


On 20 May 2013, the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities amended the list of exempt native specimens to include species that are caught by High Seas Permit holders until 18 May 2018.

Four vessels fished in 2012–13 and primarily targeted orange roughy and alfonsino using trawl methods.

Report against Management Plan

There is no current statutory management plan as described under division 2 section 17(1A) of the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* for the High Seas Permits Fishery.



PATAGONIAN TOOTHFISH
DISSOSTICHUS ELEGINOIDES

OTHER COMMON NAMES: CHILEAN SEA BASS, MERO
SIZE: UP TO 2.2 METRES IN LENGTH AND 100 KILOGRAMS IN WEIGHT
STOCK STATUS: NOT OVERFISHED

Patagonian toothfish are quite 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.

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PART 5
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Australian Fisheries Management Authority for the year ended 30 June 2013, which comprise: a Statement by the Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer; Statement of Comprehensive Income; Balance Sheet; 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; Schedule of Administered Commitments; and Notes to and forming part of the financial statements comprising 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 the 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.

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 2013 and of 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 2013

**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

for the period ended 30 June 2013

STATEMENT BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

In our opinion, the attached financial statements for the period ended 30 June 2013 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
September 2013



Lanya Howitt
Chief Finance Officer
September 2013

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
for the period ended 30 June 2013

	Notes	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000
EXPENSES			
Employee benefits	3A	20,406	21,182
Supplier	3B	16,007	15,483
Depreciation and amortisation	3C	1,608	1,713
Write-down and impairment of assets	3D	2	-
Total expenses		38,023	38,378
LESS:			
OWN-SOURCE INCOME			
Own-source revenue			
Sale of goods and rendering of services	4A	1,207	2,727
Rental income	4B	576	345
Total own-source revenue		1,783	3,072
Gains			
Sale of assets	4C	-	5
Other gains	4D	38	34
Total gains		38	39
Total own-source income		1,821	3,111
Net cost of services		36,202	35,267
Revenue from Government	4E	36,604	35,897
Surplus attributable to the Australian Government		402	630
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME			
Changes in asset revaluation reserve		689	-
Total other comprehensive income		689	-
Total comprehensive income attributable to the Australian Government		1,091	630

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
BALANCE SHEET
as at 30 June 2013

	Notes	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000
ASSETS			
Financial Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	5A	356	415
Trade and other receivables	5B	16,611	13,742
Total financial assets		16,967	14,157
Non-Financial Assets			
Land and buildings	6A,C	5,843	5,805
Property, plant and equipment	6B,C	1,107	1,171
Intangibles	6D,E	2,044	2,554
Other non-financial assets	6F	758	291
Total non-financial assets		9,752	9,821
Total assets		26,719	23,978
LIABILITIES			
Payables			
Suppliers	7A	33	207
Other payables	7B	5,035	3,392
Total payables		5,068	3,599
Provisions			
Employee provisions	8A	4,242	4,215
Total provisions		4,242	4,215
Total liabilities		9,310	7,814
Net assets		17,409	16,164
EQUITY			
Contributed equity		10,028	9,874
Reserves		4,543	3,854
Retained surplus		2,838	2,436
Total equity		17,409	16,164

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 2013

	Retained earnings		Asset revaluation surplus		Contributed equity/capital		Total equity	
	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Opening balance								
Balance carried forward from previous period	2,436	1,806	3,854	3,854	9,874	9,416	16,164	15,076
Adjusted opening balance	2,436	1,806	3,854	3,854	9,874	9,416	16,164	15,076
Comprehensive income								
Asset revaluations	-	-	689	-	-	-	689	-
Surplus for the period	402	630	-	-	-	-	402	630
Total comprehensive income	402	630	689	-	-	-	1,091	630
Transactions with owners								
Departmental capital budget	-	-	-	-	154	458	154	458
Sub-total transactions with owners	-	-	-	-	154	458	154	458
Closing balance as at 30 June attributable to the Australian Government	2,838	2,436	4,543	3,854	10,028	9,874	17,409	16,164

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 2013

	Notes	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000
OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Cash received			
Appropriations		35,080	32,844
Sales of goods and rendering of services		1,834	3,123
Net GST received		-	1,842
Total cash received		<u>36,914</u>	<u>37,809</u>
Cash used			
Employees		20,440	20,172
Suppliers		16,135	17,670
Net GST paid		168	-
Total cash used		<u>36,742</u>	<u>37,842</u>
Net cash from (used by) operating activities	9	<u>172</u>	<u>(33)</u>
INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Cash received			
Proceeds from sales of property, plant and equipment		-	11
Total cash received		<u>-</u>	<u>11</u>
Cash used			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		385	829
Total cash used		<u>385</u>	<u>829</u>
Net cash (used by) investing activities		<u>(385)</u>	<u>(818)</u>
FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Cash received			
Appropriations - departmental capital budget		154	658
Total cash received		<u>154</u>	<u>658</u>
Net cash from financing activities		<u>154</u>	<u>658</u>
Net decrease in cash held			
		<u>(59)</u>	<u>(193)</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		415	608
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	5A	<u>356</u>	<u>415</u>

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

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY SCHEDULE OF COMMITMENTS

as at 30 June 2013

	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000
BY TYPE		
Commitments receivable		
Sublease rental income ¹	2,062	1,705
Net GST recoverable on commitments	1,919	1,579
Total commitments receivable	<u>3,981</u>	<u>3,284</u>
Commitments payable		
Capital commitments		
Property, plant and equipment	109	187
Total capital commitments	<u>109</u>	<u>187</u>
Other commitments		
Operating leases ²	12,325	14,361
Research and development	3,458	4,822
Contractors	5,336	132
Other ³	4,387	1,299
Total other commitments	<u>25,506</u>	<u>20,614</u>
Total commitments payable	<u>25,615</u>	<u>20,801</u>
Net commitments by type	<u>21,634</u>	<u>17,517</u>
BY MATURITY		
Commitments receivable		
Operating lease income		
One year or less	423	1,117
From one to five years	1,639	588
Over five years	-	-
Total operating lease income	<u>2,062</u>	<u>1,705</u>
Net GST recoverable on commitments		
One year or less	456	485
From one to five years	1,139	826
Over five years	324	268
Total net GST recoverable on commitments	<u>1,919</u>	<u>1,579</u>
Total commitments receivable	<u>3,981</u>	<u>3,284</u>
Commitments payable		
Capital commitments		
One year or less	109	187
From one to five years	-	-
Over five years	-	-
Total capital commitments	<u>109</u>	<u>187</u>
Operating lease commitments		
One year or less	2,355	2,284
From one to five years	6,758	8,865
Over five years	3,212	3,212
Total operating lease commitments	<u>12,325</u>	<u>14,361</u>

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY SCHEDULE OF COMMITMENTS

as at 30 June 2013

	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000
Research and development, Contractors and other commitments		
One year or less	3,616	4,569
From one to five years	8,894	1,684
Over five years	671	-
Total research and development and other commitments	13,181	6,253
Total commitments payable	25,615	20,801
Net commitments by maturity	21,634	17,517

Note: Commitments are GST inclusive where relevant.

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

² 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.

³ The nature of other commitments is for the purchase of ongoing services, including fishery management research.

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 2013

	Notes	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000
EXPENSES			
Suppliers	15A	2,901	2,818
Depreciation and amortisation	15B	35	35
Write-down and impairment of assets	15C	161	361
Total expenses administered on behalf of Government		3,097	3,214
LESS:			
OWN-SOURCE INCOME			
Own-source revenue			
Levies and charges	16A	14,866	14,374
Total taxation revenue		14,866	14,374
Non-taxation revenue			
Fees and fines	16B	256	481
Interest	16C	31	60
Other revenue	16D	8	10
Total non-taxation revenue		295	551
Total own-source revenue administered on behalf of Government		15,162	14,925
Net cost of services		(12,065)	(11,711)
Surplus		12,065	11,711
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME			
Items not subject to subsequent reclassification to profit or loss			
Changes in asset revaluation surplus		139	-
Total comprehensive income		12,204	11,711

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
ADMINISTERED SCHEDULE OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
as at 30 June 2013

	Notes	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000
ASSETS			
Financial assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	17A	2	4
Trade and other receivables	17B	220	520
Total financial assets		<u>222</u>	<u>524</u>
Non-financial assets			
Land and buildings	18A	630	526
Other non-financial assets	18C	-	32
Total non-financial assets		<u>630</u>	<u>558</u>
Total assets administered on behalf of Government		<u>852</u>	<u>1,082</u>
LIABILITIES			
Payables			
Suppliers	19A	-	23
Other	19B	154	216
Total payables		<u>154</u>	<u>239</u>
Total liabilities administered on behalf of Government		<u>154</u>	<u>239</u>
Net assets		<u>698</u>	<u>843</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 2013

	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000
Opening administered assets less administered liabilities as at 1 July	843	390
Surplus (deficit) items:		
Plus: Administered income	15,162	14,925
Less: Administered expenses	(3,097)	(3,214)
Other comprehensive income:		
Administered revaluations taken to/from reserves	139	-
Administered transfers to/from Australian Government:		
Appropriation transfers from OPA:		
Annual appropriations for administered expenses	3,108	3,252
Transfers to OPA	(15,458)	(14,510)
Closing administered assets less administered liabilities as at 30 June	698	843

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
ADMINISTERED CASH FLOW
for the period ended 30 June 2013

	Notes	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000
OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Cash received			
Levies and charges		15,035	13,958
Interest		31	60
Fees		55	84
Fines		209	407
Net GST received		315	341
Total cash received		<u>15,645</u>	<u>14,850</u>
Cash used			
Suppliers		3,297	3,595
Total cash used		<u>3,297</u>	<u>3,595</u>
Net cash flows from operating activities		<u>12,348</u>	<u>11,255</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		4	7
Cash from Official Public Account for:			
- Appropriations		3,108	3,252
		<u>3,108</u>	<u>3,252</u>
Cash to Official Public Account for:			
- Appropriations		(15,458)	(14,510)
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	17A	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>

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

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

as at 30 June 2013

	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000
BY TYPE		
Commitments receivable		
Net GST recoverable on commitments	803	1,088
Total commitments receivable	<u>803</u>	<u>1,088</u>
Commitments payable		
Capital commitments		
Property, plant and equipment	-	45
Total capital commitments	<u>-</u>	<u>45</u>
Other commitments		
Project Commitments ¹	9,633	13,016
Total other commitments	<u>9,633</u>	<u>13,016</u>
Total commitments payable	<u>9,633</u>	<u>13,061</u>
Net commitments by type	<u>8,830</u>	<u>11,973</u>
BY MATURITY		
Commitments receivable		
Net GST recoverable on commitments		
One year or less	496	732
From one to five years	307	356
Over five years	-	-
Total net GST recoverable on commitments	<u>803</u>	<u>1,088</u>
Total commitments receivable	<u>803</u>	<u>1,088</u>
Commitments payable		
Capital commitments		
One year or less	-	45
From one to five years	-	-
Over five years	-	-
Total capital commitments	<u>-</u>	<u>45</u>
Other commitments		
One year or less	5,948	8,742
From one to five years	3,685	4,274
Over five years	-	-
Total other commitments	<u>9,633</u>	<u>13,016</u>
Total commitments payable	<u>9,633</u>	<u>13,061</u>
Net commitments by maturity	<u>8,830</u>	<u>11,973</u>

Note: Commitments are GST inclusive where relevant.

¹ 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.

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

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Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

1.1 Objectives 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.

AFMA conducts the following administered activities: Collection of levies and charges from the commercial fishing industry (revenue) and caretaking and disposal of illegal foreign fishing vessels (expense).

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 executor 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 10: Departmental Contingent Liabilities and Assets or Note 21: 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.

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* (2012) 288 ALR 410, 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

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
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appropriate actions to respond to risks of expenditure not being consistent with constitutional or other legal requirements.

Administered revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities and cash flows reported in the Schedule of Administered Items and related notes are accounted for on the same basis and using the same policies as for departmental items, except where otherwise stated at Note 1.18.

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 estimated by an independent valuer.
- Long service leave liability has been valued using the short hand method as permitted by the Finance Minister's Orders for financial reporting.

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.

No new standards, revised standards, interpretations and amending standards that were issued prior to the signoff date and were applicable to the current reporting period had a material financial impact on AFMA.

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 are expected to have a material financial impact on AFMA for future reporting periods.

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.

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*.

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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.

Parental Leave Payments Scheme

Amounts received under the Parental Leave Payments Scheme by the entity not yet paid to employees were presented gross as cash and a liability (payable). The total amount received under this scheme was \$0 (2012: \$48,354).

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.

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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.

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, and is discounted using Commonwealth Government bond rates.

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 by the Department of Finance and Deregulation as an administered item.

AFMA makes employer contributions to the employee's superannuation scheme at rates estimated by an actuary to be sufficient to meet the current cost to the Government. AFMA 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.

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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.

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 Cash

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

- cash on hand;
- 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;
- cash held by outsiders; and
- cash in special accounts.

1.11 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.

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.

Financial assets held at amortised cost - if there is objective evidence that an impairment loss has been incurred for receivables, 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.

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1.12 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).

1.13 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.

1.14 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.

1.15 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.

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
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Revaluations

Fair values for each class of asset are determined as shown below:

<i>Asset Class</i>	<i>Fair value measured at</i>
Land	Market selling price
Buildings exc. leasehold improvements	Market selling price
Leasehold improvements	Depreciated replacement cost
Property, plant and equipment	Market selling price

Following initial recognition at cost, property plant and equipment are carried at fair value less subsequent accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Valuations are conducted with sufficient frequency to ensure that the carrying amounts of assets do not differ materially from the assets' fair values as at the reporting date. The regularity of independent valuations depends upon the volatility of movements in market values for the relevant assets.

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

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

All AFMA land, buildings, software and leasehold improvement assets including property, plant and equipment were formally valued as at 30 June 2013 by a qualified independent valuer.

Depreciation

Depreciable property, plant and equipment assets are written-off to their estimated residual values over their estimated useful lives to AFMA 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:

	2013	2012
Buildings on freehold land	40 years	40 years
Leasehold improvements	Lease term	Lease term
Plant and Equipment	4 to 13 years	4 to 13 years

Impairment

All assets were assessed for impairment at 30 June 2013. 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.

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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.

1.16 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 (2012: 3 to 10 years).

All software assets were assessed for indications of impairment as at 30 June 2013.

1.17 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:

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

1.18 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 and Deregulation. 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.

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.

Revenue is generated from the collection of fishing levies, fines and the proceeds of apprehended catch and vessels on behalf of the Commonwealth as provided by Sections 7 and 8 of the *Fisheries Administration Act 1991* when the proceeds of apprehended catch or vessels become the property of the Commonwealth. Administered fee revenue is recognised when invoiced to the fee payer.

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 2013.

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Note 3: Expenses

	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000
Note 3A: Employee Benefits		
Wages and salaries	15,855	16,088
Superannuation:		
Defined contribution plans	1,436	1,510
Defined benefit plans	1,535	1,351
Leave and other entitlements	1,580	2,233
Total employee benefits	20,406	21,182
Note 3B: Suppliers		
Goods and services		
Research	4,172	4,376
Surveillance and compliance	563	346
Consultants and contractors	3,342	3,126
Travel and meetings	1,507	1,683
Information technology and communications	1,234	1,195
Training and development	679	321
Building repairs and outgoings	621	711
Contributions to QLD State Government for Compliance Activities	-	135
General insurance	141	-
Other legal costs	443	-
General administrative	886	1,257
Total goods and services	13,588	13,150
Goods and services are made up of:		
Goods and services - related entities	3,616	3,422
Goods and services - external parties	9,972	9,728
Total goods and services	13,588	13,150
Other supplier expenses		
Operating lease rentals - external parties:		
Minimum lease payments	2,054	2,078
Workers compensation expenses	365	255
Total other supplier expenses	2,419	2,333
Total supplier expenses	16,007	15,483
Note 3C: Depreciation and Amortisation		
Depreciation:		
Property, plant and equipment	391	449
Buildings	699	684
Total depreciation	1,090	1,133
Amortisation:		
Computer software purchased	103	166
Computer software internally developed	415	414
Total amortisation	518	580
Total depreciation and amortisation	1,608	1,713
Note 3D: Write-Down and Impairment of Assets		
Asset write-downs and impairments from:		
Write-down of property, plant and equipment	2	-
Total write-down and impairment of assets	2	-

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
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Note 4: Income

	2013	2012
REVENUE	\$'000	\$'000

Note 4A: Sale of Goods and Rendering of Services

Rendering of services - related entities	423	201
Rendering of services - external parties	784	2,526
Total sale of goods and rendering of services	1,207	2,727

Represented by:

Observer fees	637	437
Other charges to the fishing industry	-	95
Caring for our Country	121	-
Compliance	337	-
Other revenue	112	2,195
Total sale of goods and rendering of services	1,207	2,727

Note 4B: Rental Income

Operating lease:

Sublease - Canberra office	468	195
Sublease - Thursday Island office	13	36
Employee car parking	95	114
Total rental income	576	345

GAINS

Note 4C: Sale of Assets

Property, plant and equipment:

Proceeds from sale	-	11
Carrying value of assets sold	-	(6)
Net gain from sale of assets	-	5

Note 4D: Other Gains

Resources received free of charge

	38	34
Total other gains	38	34

REVENUE FROM GOVERNMENT

Note 4E: Revenue from Government

Appropriations:

Departmental appropriation	21,917	22,527
Special Appropriation (Levies and licensing charges) ¹	14,687	13,370
Total revenue from Government	36,604	35,897

¹ 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: Financial Assets

	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000
Note 5A: Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Special Accounts	356	415
Total cash and cash equivalents	356	415
Note 5B: Trade and Other Receivables		
Good and Services:		
Goods and services - related entities	161	101
Goods and services - external parties	119	221
Total receivables for goods and services	280	322
Appropriations receivable:		
For existing programs - Special Account	15,943	13,200
Total appropriations receivable	15,943	13,200
Other receivables:		
GST receivable from the Australian Taxation Office	388	220
Total other receivables	388	220
Total trade and other receivables	16,611	13,742
Receivables are expected to be recovered in:		
No more than 12 months	668	542
More than 12 months	15,943	13,200
Total trade and other receivables	16,611	13,742
Receivables are aged as follows:		
Not overdue	16,424	13,448
Overdue by:		
0 to 30 days	148	148
31 to 60 days	-	48
61 to 90 days	1	8
More than 90 days	38	90
Total receivables	16,611	13,742

Credit terms for Goods and Services were within 30 days for 2013 (2012: 30 Days)

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Note 6: Non-Financial Assets

	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000
Note 6A: Land and Buildings		
Freehold land at fair value	1,220	229
Buildings on freehold land:		
Fair value	906	1,658
Accumulated depreciation	-	(129)
Total buildings on freehold land	906	1,529
Leasehold improvements:		
Fair value	3,717	5,281
Accumulated depreciation	-	(1,234)
Total leasehold improvements	3,717	4,047
Total land and buildings	5,843	5,805

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

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 6B: Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment:		
Fair value	1,129	2,582
Accumulated depreciation	(22)	(1,411)
Total property, plant and equipment	1,107	1,171

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.

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
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Note 6: Non-Financial Assets (Continued)

Note 6C: Reconciliation of the Opening and Closing Balances of Property, Plant and Equipment 2013

	Land \$'000	Buildings \$'000	Improvements \$'000	Leasehold Total land and buildings \$'000	Property, plant & equipment \$'000	Total \$'000
As at 1 July 2012						
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)
Net book value 1 July 2012	229	1,529	4,047	5,805	1,171	6,976
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)
Net book value 30 June 2013	1,220	906	3,717	5,843	1,107	6,950

Net book value as of 30 June 2013 represented by:

Gross book value	1,220	906	3,717	5,843	1,129	6,972
Accumulated depreciation and impairment	-	-	-	-	(22)	(22)
	1,220	906	3,717	5,843	1,107	6,950

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the period ended 30 June 2013

Note 6: Non-Financial Assets (Continued)

Note 6C (Cont'd): Reconciliation of the Opening and Closing Balances of Property, Plant and Equipment 2012

	Land \$'000	Buildings \$'000	Leasehold Improvements \$'000	Total land and buildings \$'000	Property, plant & equipment \$'000	Total \$'000
As at 1 July 2011						
Gross book value	229	1,567	5,078	6,874	2,214	9,088
Accumulated depreciation and impairment	-	(89)	(590)	(679)	(978)	(1,657)
Net book value 1 July 2011	229	1,478	4,488	6,195	1,236	7,431
Additions:						
By purchase	-	91	203	294	390	684
Depreciation expense	-	(40)	(644)	(684)	(449)	(1,133)
Disposals	-	-	-	-	(6)	(6)
Net book value 30 June 2012	229	1,529	4,047	5,805	1,171	6,976
Net book value as of 30 June 2012 represented by:						
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)
	229	1,529	4,047	5,805	1,171	6,976

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the period ended 30 June 2013

Note 6: Non-Financial Assets (Continued)

	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000
Note 6D: Intangibles		
Computer software:		
Internally developed - in use	4,330	4,354
Internally developed - accumulated amortisation	(2,400)	(2,009)
Purchased	734	765
Purchased - accumulated amortisation	(620)	(556)
Total computer software	2,044	2,554

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 6E: Reconciliation of the Opening and Closing Balances of Intangibles 2013

	Computer software internally developed \$'000	Computer software purchase \$'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)
Net book value 1 July 2012	2,345	209	2,554
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)
Net book value 30 June 2013	1,930	114	2,044
Net book value as of 30 June 2013 represented by:			
Gross book value	4,330	734	5,064
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	(2,400)	(620)	(3,020)
	1,930	114	2,044

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the period ended 30 June 2013

Note 6: Non-Financial Assets (Continued)

Note 6E (Cont'd): Reconciliation of the Opening and Closing Balances of Intangibles 2012

	Computer software internally developed \$'000	Computer software purchased \$'000	Total \$'000
As at 1 July 2011			
Gross book value	4,293	681	4,974
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	(1,595)	(390)	(1,985)
Net book value 1 July 2011	2,698	291	2,989
Additions:			
By purchase or internally developed	61	84	145
Amortisation	(414)	(166)	(580)
Net book value 30 June 2012	2,345	209	2,554

Net book value as of 30 June 2012 represented by:

Gross book value	4,354	765	5,119
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	(2,009)	(556)	(2,565)
	<u>2,345</u>	<u>209</u>	<u>2,554</u>

2013	2012
\$'000	\$'000

Note 6F: Other Non-Financial Assets

Prepayments	222	134
Accrued revenue	536	157
Total other non-financial assets	<u>758</u>	<u>291</u>

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
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the period ended 30 June 2013

Note 7: Payables

	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000
Note 7A: Suppliers		
Trade creditors and accruals	33	207
Total supplier payables	33	207
Supplier payables expected to be settled within 12 months:		
Related entities	-	159
External parties	33	48
Total Supplier Payables	33	207

Settlement is usually made within 30 days.

Note 7B: Other Payables

Accrued expenses	2,875	1,377
Lease incentives	115	264
Operating lease rentals	906	939
Wages and salaries	574	635
Unearned revenue	565	177
Total other payables	5,035	3,392

Total other payables are expected to be settled in:

No more than 12 months	4,014	2,189
More than 12 months	1,021	1,203
Total other payables	5,035	3,392

Note 8: Provisions

	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000
Note 8A: Employee Provisions		
Leave	4,242	4,215
Total employee provisions	4,242	4,215
Employee provisions are expected to be settled in:		
No more than 12 months	1,411	1,299
More than 12 months	2,831	2,916
Total employee provisions	4,242	4,215

In 2013, AFMA revised its approach identifying employee entitlements that were expected to be settled within 12 months or greater than 12 months. As a result, the classification of 2012 employee provisions have been reclassified. The basis of this reclassification is to better reflect expected settlement timeframes.

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the period ended 30 June 2013

Note 9: Cash Flow Reconciliation

	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000
Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents as per Balance Sheet to Cash Flow Statement		
Cash and cash equivalents as per:		
Cash flow statement	356	415
Balance sheet	356	415
Difference	-	-
Reconciliation of net cost of services to net cash from / (used by) operating activities:		
Net cost of services	(36,202)	(35,267)
Add revenue from Government	36,604	35,897
Adjustments for non-cash items		
Depreciation / amortisation	1,608	1,713
Net write down of non-financial assets	2	-
Gain on disposal of assets	-	(5)
Changes in assets / liabilities		
(Increase) / decrease in net receivables	(3,248)	(2,663)
(Increase) / decrease in prepayments	(88)	200
Increase / (decrease) in unearned revenue	388	(75)
Increase / (decrease) in employee provisions	27	825
Increase / (decrease) in supplier payables	(174)	(155)
Increase / (decrease) in other payable	1,255	(503)
Net cash from / (used by) operating activities	172	(33)

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the period ended 30 June 2013

Note 10: 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 significant potential security, environmental and other risks that cannot be quantified.

Note 11: Senior Executive Remuneration

Note 11A: Senior Executive Remuneration Expenses for the Reporting Period

	2013	2012
	\$	\$
Short-term employee benefits:		
Salary	822,432	782,245
Annual leave accrued	74,703	72,556
Total short-term employee benefits	<u>897,135</u>	<u>854,801</u>
Post-employment benefits:		
Superannuation	277,960	279,963
Total post-employment benefits	<u>277,960</u>	<u>279,963</u>
Other long-term benefits:		
Long-service leave	31,839	31,029
Total other long-term benefits	<u>31,839</u>	<u>31,029</u>
Total	<u>1,206,933</u>	<u>1,165,793</u>

Notes:

- Note 11A was prepared on an accrual basis.
- Note 11A excludes acting arrangements and part-year service where remuneration expensed was less than \$180,000.
- No allowances or bonuses were paid to Senior Executive staff during the 2012-13 period.

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the period ended 30 June 2013

Note 11: Senior Executive Remuneration (Continued)

Note 11B: Average Annual Reportable Remuneration Paid to Substantive Senior Executives during the Reporting Period

Average annual reportable remuneration paid to substantive senior executives in 2013

Average annual reportable remuneration ¹	Substantive senior executives	Reportable salary ²	Contributed superannuation ³	Total reportable remuneration
	No.	\$	\$	\$
Total remuneration (including part-time arrangements):				
less than \$180,000	-	-	-	-
\$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
Total number of substantive senior executives	4			

Average annual reportable remuneration paid to substantive senior executives in 2012

Average annual reportable remuneration ¹	Substantive senior executives	Reportable salary ²	Contributed superannuation ³	Total reportable remuneration
	No.	\$	\$	\$
Total remuneration (including part-time arrangements):				
less than \$180,000	-	-	-	-
\$210,000 to \$239,999	1	187,947	38,270	226,217
\$240,000 to \$269,999	1	213,962	36,514	250,476
\$270,000 to \$299,999	1	232,175	48,862	281,037
\$300,000 to \$329,999	1	265,177	39,301	304,478
Total number of substantive senior executives	4			

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 2012-13 period.

Note 11C: Other Highly Paid Staff

There were no non-senior executive staff who were employed by AFMA during the reporting period whose reportable remuneration was \$180,000 or more for the financial period.

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the period ended 30 June 2013

Note 12: Remuneration of Auditors

	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000
Financial statement audit services were provided free of charge to AFMA by the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO).		
Fair value of the services provided		
Financial statement audit services	38	34
Total	<u>38</u>	<u>34</u>

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

Note 13: Financial Instruments

	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000
Note 13A: Categories of Financial Instruments		
Financial Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	356	415
Receivables for goods and services	280	322
Carrying amount of financial assets	<u>636</u>	<u>737</u>
Financial Liabilities		
At amortised cost:		
Trade creditors	33	207
Carrying amount of financial liabilities	<u>33</u>	<u>207</u>

Note 13B: Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The fair value of financial instruments approximates their carrying amounts.

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the period ended 30 June 2013

Note 13: Financial Instruments (Continued)

Note 13C: 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 2013 of \$280,000 (2012: \$322,000). AFMA has assessed the risk of default as nil in 2013 (2012: nil) to an allowance for impairment account.

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

	Not past due nor impaired	Not past due nor impaired	Past due or impaired	Past due or impaired
	2013	2012	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Cash and cash equivalents	356	415	-	-
Receivables for goods and services	93	28	187	294
Total	449	443	187	294

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

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

Ageing of financial assets that were past due but not impaired for 2012

	0 to 30 days	31 to 60 days	61 to 90 days	90+ days	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Receivables for goods and services	148	48	8	90	294
Total	148	48	8	90	294

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

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the period ended 30 June 2013

Note 13: Financial Instruments (Continued)

Note 13D: 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 2013 were \$33,000 (2012: \$207,000) 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 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
Total	-	33	-	-	33

Maturities for non-derivative financial liabilities 2012

	On demand \$'000	within 1 year \$'000	1 to 2 years \$'000	2 to 5 years \$'000	Total years \$'000
Trade creditors and accruals	-	207	-	-	207
Total	-	207	-	-	207

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

Note 13E: 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 14: Financial Assets Reconciliation

		2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000
Financial assets	Notes		
Total financial assets as per balance sheet		16,967	14,157
Less: non-financial instrument components:			
Appropriations receivable	5B	15,943	13,200
GST Receivable from the Australian Taxation Office	5B	388	220
Total non-financial instrument components		16,331	13,420
Total financial assets as per financial instruments note		636	737

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
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for the period ended 30 June 2013

Note 15: Administered - Expenses

	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000
EXPENSES		
<u>Note 15A: Suppliers</u>		
Goods and services		
Surveillance and compliance	2,841	2,736
Consultants & contractors	-	7
General administration	-	15
Total goods and services	<u>2,841</u>	<u>2,758</u>
Goods and services are made up of:		
Rendering of services - related entities	7	-
Rendering of services - external parties	2,834	2,758
Total goods and services	<u>2,841</u>	<u>2,758</u>
Other supplier expenses		
Operating lease rentals - related entities:		
Minimum lease payments	60	60
Total other supplier expenses	<u>60</u>	<u>60</u>
Total suppliers expenses	<u>2,901</u>	<u>2,818</u>
<u>Note 15B: Depreciation and Amortisation</u>		
Depreciation:		
Buildings	35	35
Total depreciation	<u>35</u>	<u>35</u>
<u>Note 15C: Write-Down and Impairment of Assets</u>		
Asset write-downs and impairments from:		
Impairment of levies and charges receivable	161	361
Total write-down and impairment of assets	<u>161</u>	<u>361</u>

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
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Note 16: Administered - Income

	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000
OWN-SOURCE REVENUE		
Taxation Revenue		
<u>Note 16A: Other Taxes</u>		
Levies and charges	14,866	14,374
Total other taxes	<u>14,866</u>	<u>14,374</u>
<u>Note 16B: Fees and Fines</u>		
Other fees from regulatory services	47	74
Fines	209	407
Total fees and fines	<u>256</u>	<u>481</u>
<u>Note 16C: Interest</u>		
Interest on overdue levies	31	60
Total interest	<u>31</u>	<u>60</u>
<u>Note 16D: Other Revenue</u>		
Other	8	10
Total other revenue	<u>8</u>	<u>10</u>

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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Note 17: Administered - Financial Assets

	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000
FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Note 17A: Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Cash on hand or on deposit	2	4
Total cash and cash equivalents	2	4
Note 17B: Trade and Other Receivables		
Levies and charges:		
Levies and charges receivable - external parties	735	884
Total receivables levies and charges	735	884
Other receivables:		
Appropriation Receivable	-	-
GST receivable from Australian Taxation Office	33	90
Total other receivables	33	90
Total trade and other receivables (gross)	768	974
Less: impairment allowance account:		
Levies and charges	(548)	(454)
Total impairment allowance account	(548)	(454)
Total trade and other receivables (net)	220	520
Receivables are expected to be recovered within 12 months.		
Receivables were aged as follows:		
Not overdue	2	69
Overdue by:		
0 to 30 days	58	-
31 to 60 days	106	-
61 to 90 days	-	24
More than 90 days	603	881
Total receivables (gross)	768	974
The impairment allowance account is aged as follows:		
Not overdue	-	-
Overdue by:		
0 to 30 days	-	-
31 to 60 days	-	-
61 to 90 days	-	-
More than 90 days	(548)	(454)
Total impairment allowance account	(548)	(454)
Credit terms for goods and services were within 30 days (2012: 30 days).		

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the period ended 30 June 2013

Note 17: Administered - Financial Assets (Continued)

Reconciliation of the Impairment Allowance Account:
Movements in relation to 2013

	Levies and charges \$'000	Total \$'000
Opening balance	(454)	(454)
Amounts written off	67	67
Movement recognised in net surplus	(161)	(161)
Closing balance	(548)	(548)

Movements in relation to 2012

	Levies and charges \$'000	Total \$'000
Opening balance	(140)	(140)
Amounts written off	47	47
Amounts recovered and reversed	(361)	(361)
Closing balance	(454)	(454)

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the period ended 30 June 2013

Note 18: Administered - Non-Financial Assets

	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000
NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS		
<u>Note 18A: Land and Buildings</u>		
Leasehold improvements:		
Fair value	630	699
Accumulated depreciation	-	(173)
Total leasehold improvements	630	526
Total land and buildings	630	526

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 18B – Land and Buildings (2012-13)

	Leasehold Improvements	Total
	\$'000	\$'000
As at 1 July 2012		
Gross book value	699	699
Accumulated depreciation and impairment	(173)	(173)
Net book value 1 July 2012	526	526
Revaluations and impairments recognised in other comprehensive income	139	139
Depreciation expense	(35)	(35)
Net book value 30 June 2013	630	630

Net book value as of 30 June 2013 represented by:

Gross book value	630	630
Accumulated depreciation and impairment	-	-
	630	630

Reconciliation of Land and Buildings (2011-12)

	Leasehold Improvements	Total
	\$'000	\$'000
As at 1 July 2011		
Gross book value	699	699
Accumulated depreciation/amortisation and impairment	(138)	(138)
Net book value 1 July 2011	561	561
Depreciation expense	(35)	(35)
Net book value 30 June 2012	526	526

Net book value as of 30 June 2012 represented by:

Gross book value	699	699
Accumulated depreciation and impairment	(173)	(173)
	526	526

Note 18C: Other Non-Financial Assets

Accrued revenue	-	32
Total other non-financial assets	-	32

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

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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Note 19: Administered - Payables

	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000
PAYABLES		
<u>Note 19A: Suppliers</u>		
Trade creditors and accruals	-	23
Total suppliers	<u>-</u>	<u>23</u>
Supplier payables expected to be settled within 12 months:		
External entities as per prior year	-	23
Total	<u>-</u>	<u>23</u>
<u>Note 19B: Other Payables</u>		
Accrued expenses	56	138
GST payable	44	78
Unearned income	54	-
Total other payables	<u>154</u>	<u>216</u>
Total other payables are expected to be settled in:		
No more than 12 months	<u>154</u>	<u>216</u>
Total other payables	<u>154</u>	<u>216</u>

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
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Note 20: Administered - Cash Flow Reconciliation

	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000
Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents as per Administered Schedule of Assets and Liabilities to Administered Cash Flow Statement		
Cash and cash equivalents as per:		
Schedule of administered cash flows	2	4
Schedule of administered assets and liabilities	2	4
Difference	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Reconciliation of net cost of services to net cash flows from operating activities		
Net cost of services	12,065	11,711
Adjustments for non-cash items		
Depreciation / amortisation	35	35
Net write down of non-financial assets	161	361
Changes in assets / liabilities		
(Increase) / decrease in net receivables	140	(297)
Increase / (decrease) in unearned revenue	32	6
Increase / (decrease) in supplier payables	(23)	(287)
Increase / (decrease) in other payable	(62)	(274)
Net cash flows from operating activities	<u>12,348</u>	<u>11,255</u>

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the period ended 30 June 2013

Note 21: Administered - Contingent Assets and Liabilities

Quantifiable Administered Contingencies

	Guarantees		Total	
	2013	2012	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Contingent assets				
Balance from previous period	987	-	987	-
New	-	987	-	987
Total contingent assets	987	987	987	987

The Schedule of Contingencies refers to two bank guarantees for vessels seized as security against convictions for illegal fishing of \$987,000 (2012: \$987,000). This case is presently before the court and could result in assets being transferred to AFMA.

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 2013.

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the period ended 30 June 2013

Note 22: Administered - Financial Instruments

	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000
<u>Note 22A: Categories of Financial Instruments</u>		
Financial Assets		
Receivables:		
Cash and cash equivalents	2	4
Carrying amount of financial assets	2	4
Financial Liabilities		
At amortised cost:		
Trade creditors	-	23
Carrying amount of financial liabilities	-	23

The fair value of financial instruments approximates their carrying amounts.

Note 22B: 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 2013.

Note 22C: 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 2013 are all within one year.

Note 22D: 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'.

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the period ended 30 June 2013

Note 23: Administered - Financial Assets Reconciliation

		2013	2012
		\$'000	\$'000
Financial assets	Notes		
Total financial assets as per schedule of administered assets and liabilities		222	524
Less: non-financial instrument components			
GST Receivable from the Australian Taxation Office	17B	33	90
Net receivables levies and charges	17B	187	430
Total non-financial instrument components		220	520
Total financial assets as per financial instruments note		2	4

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the period ended 30 June 2013

Note 24: Appropriations

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

	Appropriation Act Annual Appropriation \$'000	Appropriations reduced ¹ \$'000	2013 Appropriations				Total appropriation \$'000	Appropriation applied in 2013 (current and prior years) \$'000	Variance \$'000
			FMA Act						
			Section 30 \$'000	Section 31 \$'000	Section 32 \$'000	Section 33 \$'000			
DEPARTMENTAL									
Ordinary annual services	22,150	(79)	-	-	-	22,071	22,071	-	
Total departmental	22,150	(79)	-	-	-	22,071	22,071	-	
ADMINISTERED									
Ordinary annual services Administered items	4,070	(1,064)	-	-	-	3,006	3,108	(102)	
Total administered	4,070	(1,064)	-	-	-	3,006	3,108	(102)	

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.

During 2012-13 additional legal advice was received that indicated there could be breaches of Section 83 under certain circumstances with payments for long service leave, goods and services tax and payments under determination of the Remuneration Tribunal. AFMA will review its processes and controls over payments for these items to minimise the possibility for future breaches as a result of these payments. AFMA has determined that there is a low risk of the certain circumstances mentioned in the legal advice applying to the AFMA. AFMA is not aware of any specific breaches of Section 83 in respect of these items.

**AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the period ended 30 June 2013**

Note 24: Appropriations (Continued)

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

	2012 Appropriations					Appropriation applied in 2012 (current and prior years) \$'000	Variance \$'000
	<i>FMA Act</i>				Total appropriation \$'000		
	<i>Appropriation Act</i>	Section 30 \$'000	Section 31 \$'000	Section 32 \$'000			
Annual Appropriation \$'000	Appropriations reduced ¹ \$'000	Section 30 \$'000	Section 31 \$'000	Section 32 \$'000	Total appropriation \$'000	Appropriation applied in 2012 (current and prior years) \$'000	Variance \$'000
DEPARTMENTAL							
Ordinary annual services	22,985	-	-	-	-	22,985	(200)
Total departmental	22,985	-	-	-	-	22,985	(200)
ADMINISTERED							
Ordinary annual services Administered items	5,693	(2,864)	-	-	-	2,829	(423)
Total administered	5,693	(2,864)	-	-	-	2,829	(423)

Notes:

1. Appropriations reduced under Appropriation Acts (Nos. 1,3&5) 2011-12; sections 10, 11, and 12 and under Appropriation Acts (Nos. 2,4&6) 2011-12; 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) 2011-12 and section 12 of Appropriation Acts (Nos. 2,4&6) 2011-12, 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**
for the period ended 30 June 2013

Note 24: Appropriations (Continued)

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

	2013 Capital Budget Appropriations				Capital Budget Appropriations applied in 2012				
	<i>Appropriation Act</i>		<i>FMA Act</i>		Total Capital Budget Appropriations \$'000	Payments for non-financial assets ³ \$'000	Payments for other purposes \$'000	Total payments \$'000	Variance \$'000
	Annual Capital Budget \$'000	Appropriations reduced ² \$'000	Section 32 \$'000	Section 32 \$'000					
DEPARTMENTAL Ordinary annual services - Departmental Capital Budget ¹	155	(1)	-	154	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) 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, exp enditure 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.

	2012 Capital Budget Appropriations				Capital Budget Appropriations applied in 2011				
	<i>Appropriation Act</i>		<i>FMA Act</i>		Total Capital Budget Appropriations \$'000	Payments for non-financial assets ³ \$'000	Payments for other purposes \$'000	Total payments \$'000	Variance \$'000
	Annual Capital Budget \$'000	Appropriations reduced ² \$'000	Section 32 \$'000	Section 32 \$'000					
DEPARTMENTAL Ordinary annual services - Departmental Capital Budget ¹	458	-	-	458	658	-	658	658	(200)

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) 2011-12: 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, exp enditure 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
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the period ended 30 June 2013**

Note 24: Appropriations (Continued)

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

No unspent appropriations as at 30 June 2013.

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

Authority	Type	Purpose	Appropriation applied	
			2013 S'000	2012 S'000
<i>Fisheries Administration Act 1991; Section 94C, Departmental</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>	14,687	13,370
<i>Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997 s28(2), Administered</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	22
Total			14,695	13,392

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the period ended 30 June 2013

Note 24: Appropriations (Continued)

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

2013	Amount required ¹ - by Appropriation Act	Spent	Retention	Total amount required ¹	Total amount appropriated ²	Total reduction ³
Ordinary Annual Services	Act (No.1)	Act (No.3)	Retention	required ¹	appropriated ²	
Outcome 1	\$3,005,762.47	0.00	\$2,950,167.92	\$3,005,762.47	\$4,070,000.00	\$1,064,237.53

Administered items for 2012-13 were reduced to these amounts when these financial statements were tabled in Parliament as part of the entity's 2012-2013 annual report. This reduction was effective in 2013-14, but the amounts were reflected in Table A in the 2012-13 financial statements in the column 'Appropriations reduced' as they were adjustments to 2012-13 appropriations.

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.

2012	Amount required ¹ - by Appropriation Act	Spent	Retention	Total amount required ¹	Total amount appropriated ²	Total reduction ³
Ordinary Annual Services	Act (No.1)	Act (No.3)	Retention	required ¹	appropriated ²	
Outcome 1	\$2,829,017.98	0.00	\$2,671,411.85	\$2,829,017.98	\$5,693,000.00	\$2,863,982.02

Administered items for 2011-12 were reduced to these amounts when these financial statements were tabled in Parliament as part of the entity's 2011-12 annual report. This reduction was effective in 2012-13, but the amounts were reflected in Table A in the 2011-12 financial statements in the column 'Appropriations reduced' as they were adjustments to 2011-12 appropriations.

1. Amount required as per Appropriation Act (Act 1 s. 11; Act 2 s. 12).
2. Total amount appropriated in 2012.
3. Total reduction effective in 2013.

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the period ended 30 June 2013

Note 25: Special Accounts

	AFMA Special Account (Departmental) ¹		Trust Moneys Special Account (Special Public Money) ²	
	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000
Balance brought forward from previous period	13,615	10,755	231	114
Increases:				
Appropriation for reporting period	22,071	23,185	-	-
Special appropriation (<i>Fisheries Administration Act 1991</i> - Section 94C)	14,687	13,370	-	-
Other receipts	1,834	2,939	170	117
Total increases	52,207	50,249	401	231
Decreases:				
Administered				
Employee payments	(20,440)	(20,172)	-	-
Supplier payments	(15,083)	(15,633)	-	-
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(385)	(829)	-	-
Repayments debited from the special account	-	-	(183)	-
Total administered decreases	(35,908)	(36,634)	(183)	-
Total decrease	(35,908)	(36,634)	(183)	-
Total balance carried to the next period:	16,299	13,615	218	231

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 2013

Note 26: Compensation and Debt Relief

Departmental

No 'Act of Grace' expenses were made during the reporting period (2012: 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 (2012: No waiver made).

No payments were provided under the Compensation for Detriment caused by Defective Administration (CDDA) Scheme during the reporting period (2012: No payments made).

No ex-gratia payments were provided for during the reporting period (2012: 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 (2012: No payments made).

Administered

No 'Act of Grace' expenses were made during the reporting period (2012: 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 (2012: No waiver made).

No payments were provided under the Compensation for Detriment caused by Defective Administration (CDDA) Scheme during the reporting period (2012: No payments made).

No ex-gratia payments were provided for during the reporting period (2012: 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 (2012: No payments made).

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the period ended 30 June 2013

Note 27: Assets Held in Trust

Monetary assets

Financial assets held in trust were also disclosed in Note 25: Special Accounts in the table title AFMA Service for Other Entities and Trust Monies.

	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000
Cash at bank - monetary asset		
Total amount held at the beginning of the reporting period	231	114
Receipts	170	117
Payments	(183)	-
Total amount held at the end of the reporting period	<u>218</u>	<u>231</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 2013

Note 28: 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 28A: Net Cost of Outcome Delivery

	Outcome 1		Total	
	2013	2012	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Departmental				
Expenses	38,023	38,378	38,023	38,378
Own-source income	(1,821)	(3,111)	(1,821)	(3,111)
Administered				
Expenses	3,097	3,214	3,097	3,214
Own-source income	(15,162)	14,925	(15,162)	14,925
Net cost/contribution of outcome delivery	24,137	53,406	24,137	53,406

Note 28B & 28C: 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.

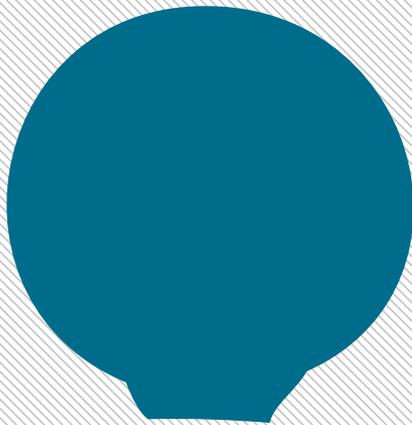
AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the period ended 30 June 2013

Note 29: Net Cash Appropriation Arrangements

	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000
Total comprehensive income (loss) less depreciation/amortisation expenses previously funded through revenue appropriations¹	1,608	1,664
Plus: depreciation/amortisation expenses previously funded through revenue appropriation	<u>1,206</u>	<u>1,034</u>
Total comprehensive income - as per the Statement of Comprehensive Income	<u>402</u>	<u>630</u>

¹ 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.

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



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COMMERICAL SCALLOPS
PECTEN FUMATUS

OTHER COMMON NAMES: SCALLOPS
SIZE: 8-9CM IN LENGTH AND 13G IN WEIGHT
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 pappadam.



PART 6
APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: CIVIL LITIGATION OUTCOMES

APPENDIX 2: COMMISSION AND EXECUTIVE

APPENDIX 3: MAC MEETINGS

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
Federal Court		
Sahring & Ors v Commonwealth of Australia & Australian Fisheries Management Authority NTD9/2011	Not applicable	Hearing concluded on 30 August 2012 judgment reserved

Significant matters

This is a claim in the Federal Court at Darwin by six Indonesian citizens for compensation for trespass, conversion and false imprisonment for alleged wrongful seizure and destruction of eight fishing vessels in 2008 by Naval fisheries officers. Only one such claim is proceeding as a test case. Proceedings commenced on 19 April 2011 and it is alleged that the officers actions were beyond their powers in the *Fisheries Management Act 1991*. The applicants all claim they were in the area lawfully and the officers deliberately, wrongfully and without authority, intervened destroying their vessels and depriving the applicants on board of their liberty.

The case was heard in the Federal Court in Darwin in April 2012. The hearing concluded on 30 August 2012, with his Honour Justice Mansfield reserving the decision. In reserving judgment, his Honour suggested that, given the number and complexity of the issues, a decision should not be expected for some time.



APPENDIX 2: COMMISSION AND EXECUTIVE

Current Commissioners were appointed by our Minister on 1 March 2009, for five-year terms.

AFMA COMMISSIONERS

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 public service he also worked in the commercial and recreational/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/member of a number of state and territory fisheries committees. Mr Stevens's 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 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 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 Streetwise 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, 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.

Attendance at Commission Meetings

COMMISSIONER	COMMISSION	RESEARCH COMMITTEE	AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE
The Hon Michael Egan FAICD (Chairman)	5 (5)		
Dr James Findlay (CEO)	5 (5)		
Mr Ian Cartwright	5 (5)	3 (3)	
Dr John Glaister	5 (5)	1 (3)	
Ms Jennifer Goddard	5 (5)		
Ms Elizabeth Montano	5 (5)		3 (4)
Ms Denise North	5 (5)		4 (4)
Prof Keith Sainsbury	5 (5)	2 (3)	
Mr Richard Stevens, OAM (Deputy Chair)	5 (5)		

(#) = number of meetings held

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
- Ms Tanya Howitt – A/g General Manager, Corporate Services Branch
- Mr Ryan Murphy – Executive Secretary
- Mr Tony Lawless – A/g 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 and met four times during the financial year. The main items considered by the Committee during the year were:

- 2011–12 financial statements and certificate of compliance review
- internal audit program and internal audit reports risk management arrangements review
- fraud control plan review
- financial reporting arrangements under the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*
- governance arrangements review
- financial management information system improvements
- the risk management framework and business continuity management plan
- external accountability.

Membership

The Committee comprises of 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 – A/g General Manager, Corporate Services Branch
- Mr Brian Macdonald - independent
- Ms Jenny Morison - independent.

A number of observers and advisers also attended meetings during the year, including the CEO, the Chief Finance Officer and audit representatives from Oakton (internal audit providers), PriceWaterhouse Coopers (contracted external auditors), KPMG (contracted external auditors) and the Australian National Audit Office.

RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Role and function

The role of the AFMA Research Committee is to advise the AFMA Commission 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 on allocation of research funds
- Assess research, monitoring and assessment investments for the Commonwealth fisheries for consistency with management needs.

The Committee held three meetings in the 2012–13 financial year in the AFMA offices in Canberra.

Membership

- Dr John Glaister - Chair and Commissioner
- Mr Ian Cartwright - Commissioner
- Dr Keith Sainsbury - Commissioner
- Dr James Findlay - Chief Executive Officer
- Dr Nick Rayns - Executive Manager, Fisheries Management Branch.

The Committee also invites regular observers to attend to provide expert advice.

- Mr Crispian Ashby - Programs manager, Fisheries Research and Development Corporation
- Dr David Smith - Theme Leader, Sustainable Australian Fisheries and Ecosystems, CSIRO Marine and Atmospheric Research
- Ms Trixi Madon - Commonwealth Fisheries Association, CEO
- Mr Gordon Neil - General Manager, Fisheries Branch, Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry.



INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY (ICT) AND PROJECTS GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

The purpose of the committee is to provide guidance on:

- Strategic alignment
 - alignment of ICT with business objectives and directions
- ICT expenditure
 - monitoring ICT capital expenditure, paying attention to projects and programs affecting strategic change
- Prioritisation of ICT service delivery
 - maximising ICT investment value and keeping with the agreed strategic direction for ICT
- Review of project status
 - Oversight of major projects undertaken by all AFMA branches

The committee advises on strategic direction for ICT activities within AFMA. The combined business knowledge and strategic understanding of committee members contributes fundamentally to an ICT environment that effectively supports business processes and promotes agreed business outcomes.

The committee is chaired by the CEO and comprises of general managers. Individual senior managers attend meetings as required.

APPENDIX 3: MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

TROPICAL TUNA MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE – TTMAC

The committee met on 20–21 November 2012 and 5 June 2013, primarily to provide advice on the total allowable commercial catches for both the eastern and western tuna fisheries.

The committee also considered management arrangements aimed at reducing the catch of non-target species in the fishery. These included the compulsory implementation of circle hooks and a review of the threat abatement plan for seabirds.

GREAT AUSTRALIAN BIGHT TRAWL MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE – GABMAC

The committee met once during 2012–13 and considered some matters out of session. They 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 met on 28 November 2012 to consider information that would support the decision making process for future management arrangements in the fishery.

The committee also met out of session between 12 November and 14 December 2012. This was to consider the review of the Commonwealth Policy on Fisheries Bycatch and the discussion paper for Commonwealth Fisheries Harvest Strategy Policy and Guidelines review.

SOUTHERN BLUEFIN TUNA MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE – SBTMAC

The committee met once during 2012–13 and a number of key items were considered.

They discussed the implementation of stereo video based monitoring services in the fishery from 1 December 2013, noting that AFMA was in negotiations with the preferred supplier.

They also considered the draft amendments to the *Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery Management Plan 1995* and discussed the positive outcomes from the 2012 Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna Scientific Committee, the Southern Bluefin Tuna Management Advisory Committee research sub-committee and Compliance sub-committee meetings.

BASS STRAIT CENTRAL ZONE SCALLOP FISHERY MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE – SCALLOPMAC

The committee met once during 2012–13 to consider a review of the Harvest Strategy for the fishery and provide advice on total allowable catch for the 2013 season.

SOUTH EAST MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE – SEMAC

The committee held two face-to-face meetings and one teleconference meeting during 2012–13.

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 impact on sea lions, dolphins and upper-slope dogfish in the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery.

The committee also considered the accreditation of the Small Pelagic Fishery under Part 13 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

SUB-ANTARCTIC FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE – SOUTHMAC

The committee met once in 2012–13 and discussed the outcomes from the 31st meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources. This included recommendations on the total allowable catches for Patagonian toothfish and mackerel icefish in the Heard Island and McDonald Islands Fishery.

They also considered the proposed amendment to the *Macquarie Island Toothfish Fishery Management Plan 2006* to move the season start date from the Management Plan to a Determination. They also discussed the bycatch and discard work plan for sub-Antarctic fisheries.

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 a plan on its website showing what information it publishes in accordance with the Information Publication Scheme requirements.

Information on our *Freedom of Information Act 1982* reporting can be found at www.afma.gov.au.



APPENDIX 5: WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY

Work health and safety

The Work Health and Safety Committee met four times during 2012–13. The committee's role is to help AFMA develop, implement, review and update policies and procedures. These relate to incident reporting and consequent prevention measures, improving the cooperation between all staff, and helping to distribute work health and safety information.

During 2012–13, a work health and safety consultant was engaged to analyse the gaps in the work health and safety policies in accordance with the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011*. Our human resources staff assisted in updating and implementing these policies.

Health and safety initiatives

AFMA staff were provided free on site influenza vaccinations and workstation assessments. A total of four assessments were conducted in 2012–13 by an external assessor. This was for staff experiencing any sort of discomfort at their workstation. As a result of these assessments, a number of solutions were provided including purchasing of specialised chairs, desks and computer equipment.

Human resources staff received formal training in undertaking basic workstation assessments. Now, as part of the new starter induction, new AFMA staff can have an assessment of their workstation on their first day. In addition, the human resources section undertook 17 basic workstation assessments for existing staff in 2012–13.

The unplanned absence rate for 2012–13 was of 9.2 days per person.

Health and safety outcomes achieved

No injuries or incidents were required to be notified to Comcare as they fell within the definition of a *Dangerous Occurrence* under the work health and safety legislation.

A number of staff whose injuries would have had the potential to become more serious were successfully rehabilitated.

Accident or dangerous occurrence statistics

In 2012–13, we recorded 23 incidents, accidents or near-misses (see figure 5). These were mainly minor incidents, with one personal injury involving two or more week's absence. This rise was anticipated due to the increased staff awareness of the importance of reporting incidents, accidents and near-misses.

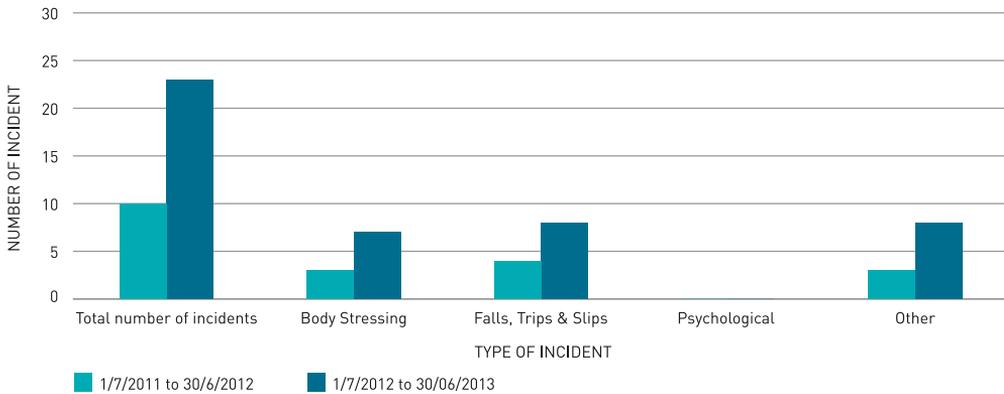
Investigations conducted during the year

No investigations were conducted by Comcare under the *Workplace Health and Safety Act 2011*. In addition, there were no notices issued by health and safety representatives and no prohibition notices issued.

As part of Comcare’s national campaign to reduce psychological injury, a workplace behaviour risk management inspection was undertaken by Comcare of our Darwin office. The objective of the inspection was to review the implementation of the workplace policies relating to workplace behaviour and conflict. The inspection found that we have adequate documents, procedures and systems in place for promoting and consulting with staff on positive workplace behaviour. It was also found that we have an effective system in place for reporting incidents.

Accident or dangerous occurrence statistics

FIGURE 5: AFMA WH&S INCIDENT REPORTS COMPARISON



APPENDIX 6: ECOLOGICALLY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

Legislation according with ecologically sustainable development principles

The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* details a number of reporting requirements for Commonwealth fisheries. AFMA's implementation of the ecological component is based on ecosystem elements. These relate to target and by-product species, bycatch, threatened, endangered and protected species, and 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 and focuses on higher potential risks within Commonwealth fisheries.

The results of the 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, to clearly identify 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
- a bycatch and discard program
- the Chondrichthyan Guide for Fisheries Managers.

All Commonwealth fisheries have completed and published their ecological risk management reports. There are 69 species remaining at high potential risk across all Commonwealth fisheries – 0.6 per cent of all species assessed. This is expected to reduce as the mitigation measures outlined in ecological risk management reports are implemented.

Outcome contributing to ecologically sustainable development

Our outcomes are directed at Commonwealth fisheries being both ecologically sustainable and economically efficient.

This approach reflects our commitment to pursuing management of Commonwealth fisheries in accordance with our legislative objectives and in partnership with others who also have an interest in sustainable management.

Effect of actions on the environment

All AFMA-managed fisheries are currently accredited under three parts of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

Part 10 of the Act requires all Commonwealth and Torres Strait fisheries to 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 operation is in force.

Actions to minimise impact on environment

Fisheries

The development of the various elements of ecological risk management is designed to minimise the impact of fisheries on the environment.

Species identified as high risk are combined with any identified protected species to form the priority list on which AFMA focuses its ecological risk management efforts. Risk management strategies addressing species identified as at medium or low risk will be implemented at a later date.

We have commissioned research 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

We purchase a proportion (currently 25 per cent) of green electricity as part of the Commonwealth energy contract and we have five vehicles which are part of the Greenfleet program.

We have undertaken energy audits for the Canberra and Thursday Island offices. A staged implementation of the recommendations was implemented in 2012–13.

We currently use 100 per cent recycled paper in printers, copiers and fax machines at all AFMA sites.

Our premises at 73 Northbourne Avenue 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.

We have continued to make small changes around the office which helps in reducing our environmental footprint. The Greenfish committee were instrumental in establishing a composting system for the Canberra office. This has reduced general office waste and is still proving successful.

Mechanisms for reviewing

A number of mechanisms exist for reviewing the effect of fishing on the environment. We regularly reassess each ecological risk assessment for Commonwealth fisheries as part of AFMA's ecological risk management framework. We also regularly review the 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 its fisheries under part 13A of the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. Fisheries granted exemptions are reassessed every five years. Fisheries 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 Australian Public Service Statistical Bulletin. These reports are available at www.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.

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.

APPENDIX 8: CONSULTANCY SERVICES

During the 2012-13 financial year, 40 new consultancy contracts were entered into and this resulted in \$2.782 million worth of commitments for the period. In addition, 17 ongoing consultancy contracts were active during 2012-13 resulting in \$6.356 million in total consultant commitments.

All consultancy contracts entered into by AFMA above the value of \$10,000 are available via the Austender website, www.tenders.gov.au.

TABLE 9: TABLE SHOWING CONSULTANCY SPEND IN 2010-11, 2011-12 AND 2012-13.

	2010-11 \$'000	2011-12 \$'000	2012-13 \$'000
Total Consultancy Expenditure	1,123	1,141	1,225

Selection and engagement of consultants

The majority of consultancy services engaged during the 2012-13 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 STATEMENTS AND RESOURCES FOR OUTCOMES

TABLE 10: AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY RESOURCE STATEMENT

BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR 2013-14 AS AT BUDGET MAY 2013		ACTUAL AVAILABLE APPROPRIATION 2012-13 \$'000	PAYMENTS MADE 2012-13 \$'000	BALANCE REMAINING 2012-13 \$'000
ORDINARY ANNUAL SERVICES¹				
Departmental appropriation ²		22,071	22,071	0
Total		22,071	22,071	0
ADMINISTERED EXPENSES				
Outcome ³		4,070	3,108	
Total		4,070	3,108	
Total ordinary annual services	A	26,141	25,179	
SPECIAL ACCOUNTS⁴				
Opening balance		13,615		
Appropriation receipts ⁵		22,071		
Appropriation receipts - crediting right ⁶		14,687		
Appropriation receipts - s.31 Relevant Agency Receipts ⁷		1,834		
Payments made			35,908	
Total special accounts	B	52,207	35,908	16,299
Total resourcing and payments				
A+B		78,348	61,087	
Less appropriations drawn from annual or special appropriations above and credited to special accounts and/or CAC Act bodies through annual appropriations		-22,071	-22,071	
Total net resourcing for AFMA		56,277	39,016	

1. Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2012-13 and Appropriation Bill (No.3) 2012-13 [and Appropriation Bill (No. 5) 2012-13 if necessary]. This may also include Prior Year departmental appropriation and S.31 relevant agency receipts.

2. Includes an amount of \$0.2m in 2012-13 for the Departmental Capital Budget. For accounting purposes this amount has been designated as 'contributions by owners'.

3. Appropriation Bill (No.2) 2012-13 and Appropriation Bill (No.4) 2012-13 [and Appropriation Bill (No. 6) 2012-13 if necessary]

4. Does not include 'Special Public Money' held in accounts like Other Trust Monies accounts (OTM), Services for other Government and Non-agency Bodies accounts (SOG), or Services for Other Entities and Trust Monies Special accounts (SOETM).

5. Annual Appropriations for 2012-13 included above

6. Crediting right for applicable levy and licence fee receipts banked to the CRF in accordance with s94C of the Fisheries Administration Act 1991.

7. Estimated opening balance for special accounts [less 'Special Public Money' held in Services for Other Entities and Trust Monies Special accounts (SOETM)]. For further information on special accounts see Table 3.1.2.

*# Combined total should reconcile to the relevant agency total line the appropriation notes, after adjusting for GST payments/receipts and payments into special accounts.

Reader note: All figures are GST exclusive.

7

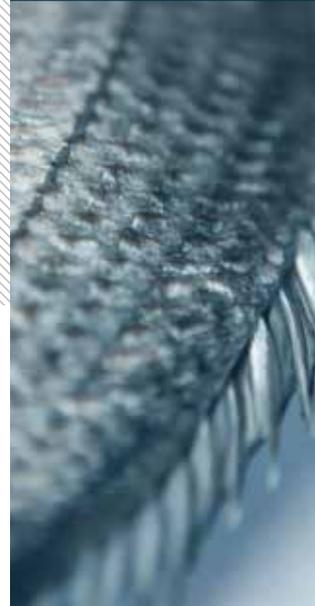


TIGER FLATHEAD
NEOPLATYCEPHALUS
RICHARDSONI

OTHER COMMON NAMES: FLATHEAD
SIZE: MAXIMUM OF 3KG AND 65CM IN LENGTH.
STOCK STATUS: SUSTAINABLE

Flatheads are superb table fishes, with finely textured flesh. The use of a sauce or marinade will overcome the slightly dry texture sometimes evident in these fishes after cooking.

They are a popular choice for traditional preparation of a light battering, and served with chips and tartare or mayonnaise. Experiment with baking, barbecuing and poaching or add flathead to a bouillabaisse. Add zest with lemon or dill, tomato relish, balsamic vinegar and garlic.



PART 7
REFERENCES

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GLOSSARY

COMPLIANCE INDEX

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GLOSSARY

Annual appropriation

The amount of public monies authorised by parliament for expenditure from the Consolidated Revenue Fund for a particular year.

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.

Bilateral agreement

A government to government agreement between Australia and another nation allowing vessels of that nation to fish in the Australian Fishing Zone.

Bycatch

All living and non-living material (except for the target species) that is caught while fishing and subsequently discarded, including by-product, discards and the part of the catch which does not reach the deck but is affected by interactions with the fishing gear.

By-product

Any part of the catch that is kept or sold by the fisher but is not the target species.

Demersal trawl

Trawl gear designed to work on or near the sea bed, used to take demersal species of fish and prawns.

Discard

Any part of the catch returned to the sea, whether dead or alive.

Fishing capacity

The amount of fishing effort that a fishing boat, or a fleet of fishing boats, could exert if used to its full potential.

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.

Fully fished

A term used to describe a fish stock for which current catches are close to sustainable levels. Increases in catch may lead to overfishing.

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.

Input controls

Restrictions placed on the amount of effort put into a fishery, for example by restricting types and size of fishing gear and boats and the amount of fishing time.

Limited entry

Management arrangements restricting the number of operators allowed to fish in a particular fishery. New operators may only gain access to the fishery by purchasing an existing right.

Longline fishing

A method of fishing that can be either surface-set (pelagic) or bottom-set (demersal) line fishing. Both methods use a mainline attached to branch lines, with each branch line fitted with one or more baited hooks or artificial lures.

Maximum Sustainable yield

The maximum catch that can be taken from a fishery over an indefinite period without causing the stocks to be depleted.

Memorandum of understanding (MOU) box

The area of the Australian Fishing Zone where traditional fishing by Indonesian nationals is permitted.

Mid-water trawling

A form of trawling in which the net is off the sea bottom at all times. Such nets have large mouths and are used for targeting pelagic and semi-pelagic fish schools.

Non-target species

See incidental catch.

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 term used to describe a fish stock for which levels of fishing or catches are excessive, or that still reflects the effects of earlier excessive fishing. In the former case, yields may be higher in the long term if the fishing level is reduced in the short term. A classification of 'overfished' may continue after fishing levels are reduced while the stock rebuilds to a desired level or until it is acceptable to resume fishing.

Pelagic fish

Fish that are normally caught at or near the sea surface or in the water column.

Pelagic longlining

A fishing method that targets pelagic fish species. A pelagic longline involves a mainline attached to branch lines, with each branch line fitted with one or more baited hooks or artificial lures. A pelagic longline is set so that the mainline, branch lines and hooks are suspended above the seabed by floats at the sea surface.

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 harm.

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.

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.

Strategic assessment reports

Reports that consider the impacts of a fishery on target, by-product and bycatch species and the broader marine environment. They are required by the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

Target species

The species most actively being sought by fishers.

Torres Strait Protected Zone Joint Authority

An authority comprising the Commonwealth Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (Chairperson), the Queensland Minister for Primary Industries and Fisheries and the Chair of the Torres Strait Regional Authority. The authority is responsible for monitoring the condition of the jointly managed fisheries and for 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

A term used to describe a fish stock whose status is uncertain because there is inadequate or inappropriate information to form a reliable assessment. The species may be underfished, fully fished or overfished.

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