



Australian Government

Australian Fisheries Management Authority

Annual Operational Plan 2020-2021

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AFMA Values

In all our relationships, AFMA staff are:

- **Impartial** – we are apolitical and provide advice that is frank, honest, timely and based on the best available evidence
- **Committed to service** – we are professional, objective, innovative and efficient
- **Accountable** – we are open and accountable to our stakeholders across the Australian community
- **Respectful** – we respect all people, including their rights and their heritage
- **Ethical** – we demonstrate leadership, are trustworthy, and act with integrity.

These values support our collaborative efforts with commercial, recreational and Indigenous fishers and other stakeholders across the Australian community to ensure ecologically sustainable and economically efficient Commonwealth fisheries.

2020-2021 in focus

We are pleased to present the Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) 2020-21 Annual Operational Plan (AOP). The plan sets out the actions AFMA will take to deliver AFMA's goals in line with our Corporate Plan 2020-2021.

This year's AOP acknowledges significant challenges to our operating environment in delivering on our intended actions, due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The disruptive nature of this pandemic crisis and its impact on our staff, delivery of our business services to the Commonwealth commercial fishing industry, and the fishing industry itself is yet to be fully realised and is likely to remain throughout 2020-21 and possibly beyond.

AFMA manages Commonwealth fisheries to ensure sustainable commercial harvesting whilst minimising the impacts of fishing activities on the marine ecosystem leading to better outcomes from those fisheries for commercial, recreational and Indigenous fishing sectors. AFMA will draw on sound science and close engagement with stakeholders in accordance with AFMA's Strategic Research Plan 2017-2022 as well as through our Management Advisory Committees (MACs), Resource Assessment Groups (RAGs), stakeholder forums, and specialist working groups, workshops and other advisory bodies and forums.

In the coming year AFMA will continue to take decisions based on relevant government policies including the Commonwealth Fisheries Harvest Strategy Policy and the Commonwealth Fisheries Bycatch Policy, including developing and implementing fishery-specific harvest strategies that ensure sustainable fishing and rebuild stocks that are overfished.

AFMA will develop a strategic research plan and apply science standards to procure the high quality research and scientific advice needed to support fisheries management decisions. Working with scientific organisations and other stakeholders AFMA will investigate the effects of climate change on Commonwealth fisheries and develop responses, as required, to improve fisher adaptability and support sustainably managed fisheries.

AFMA will continue to enhance and improve our economic understanding of our fisheries to support setting harvest level targets for key commercial stocks that contribute to meeting maximum economic yield (MEY) for the fishery. In particular, in seeking to increase returns from established and potential Commonwealth fisheries, we will review relevant AFMA policies and fishery harvest strategies. We will particularly focus on avoiding management that imposes unnecessary regulatory burden, or inefficiency on the commercial sector, and collect and use economic information to pursue maximising net economic returns.

AFMA will continue to work with the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment to manage resource sharing outcomes. We will also continue to engage with the states and territories to review and negotiate agreed commercial catch shares under Offshore Constitutional Settlement arrangements. In the Torres Strait, AFMA and the other agencies of the Protected Zone Joint Authority, will continue implementation of the Tropical Rock Lobster Management Plan and a range of other policies to promote sustainability and improve economic returns for Indigenous and other Commonwealth commercial fishers.

Compliance remains important for AFMA to ensure that the rights of licensed fishers are not eroded or diminished and that the Australian community fully realises the benefits from a management regime that delivers sustainability and profitability. AFMA will continue to encourage voluntary¹ compliance but will take enforcement action against conscious non-compliance. In northern Australia, AFMA will seek to improve these efforts through engagement with Indigenous ranger groups to build monitoring, surveillance and reporting capabilities.

To counter pressures from illegal foreign fishing, AFMA will coordinate action with Australian and counterpart international agencies to address threats to the Australian Fishing Zone. AFMA will also continue to engage with international bodies to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing. Our participation in fisheries capacity building programs and information sharing with neighbouring countries in the South East Asian region and the Pacific, and support of Australia's participation in key regional and international fishing bodies, will also enhance the level and quality of action against IUU fishing.

AFMA's costs impact on the level of industry profitability. Accordingly, a key focus for AFMA in 2020-21 will be to identify and implement initiatives that deliver efficient and cost effective management. The next twelve months will see continuing implementation of AFMA's Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Strategy with a focus on cost effective data programs to support business outcomes and stakeholder expectations. Improving our ability to capture fisheries data seamlessly and increasing systems integration will enable greater sharing of information and coordination with industry and across other relevant government agencies. This will support improved catch-cost-risk outcomes for Commonwealth fishers and the broader community.

One of the key focuses for AFMA in 2020-21 will be managing its relationships with commercial, recreational and Indigenous stakeholders and the general public through the development and implementation of a Stakeholder Engagement Framework and associated Communication Plan. Together with enhancement of our current communication channels and exploring and implementing new relevant channels to gain stakeholder feedback, will ensure that all of AFMA's relationships are managed effectively and with transparency.

These and other actions identified elsewhere in the AFMA AOP for 2020-21 underscore our commitment to cost-effectiveness, stakeholder engagement and accountability, reflecting the importance of applying AFMA's resources to best effect.



Helen Kroger
Chairman, AFMA Commission



Wez Norris
Chief Executive Officer
Accountable Authority of AFMA

¹ Voluntary compliance is the idea that compliance is achieved as a result of the community (or individuals) choosing to willingly or voluntarily comply with rules, regulations or even general philosophies. Voluntary compliance is not compliance due to an understanding and/or fear of the consequences of not complying; that is deterrence. In essence voluntary compliance is the act of complying regardless of (or without) any possible repercussions.

AFMA's Performance Framework

Each year AFMA is required to prepare three planning documents and a performance reporting document. In addition, AFMA undertakes an annual self-assessment of its regulatory operations and performance. This Annual Operational Plan (AOP) links with AFMA's Corporate Plan 2020-21 (the Corporate Plan) and the Portfolio Budget Statement 2020-21 (PBS) for the Agriculture, Water and the Environment portfolio. The AOP details the actions that AFMA will undertake during 2020-21 to address the areas of focus in pursuing the corporate goals identified in the PBS and Corporate Plan.

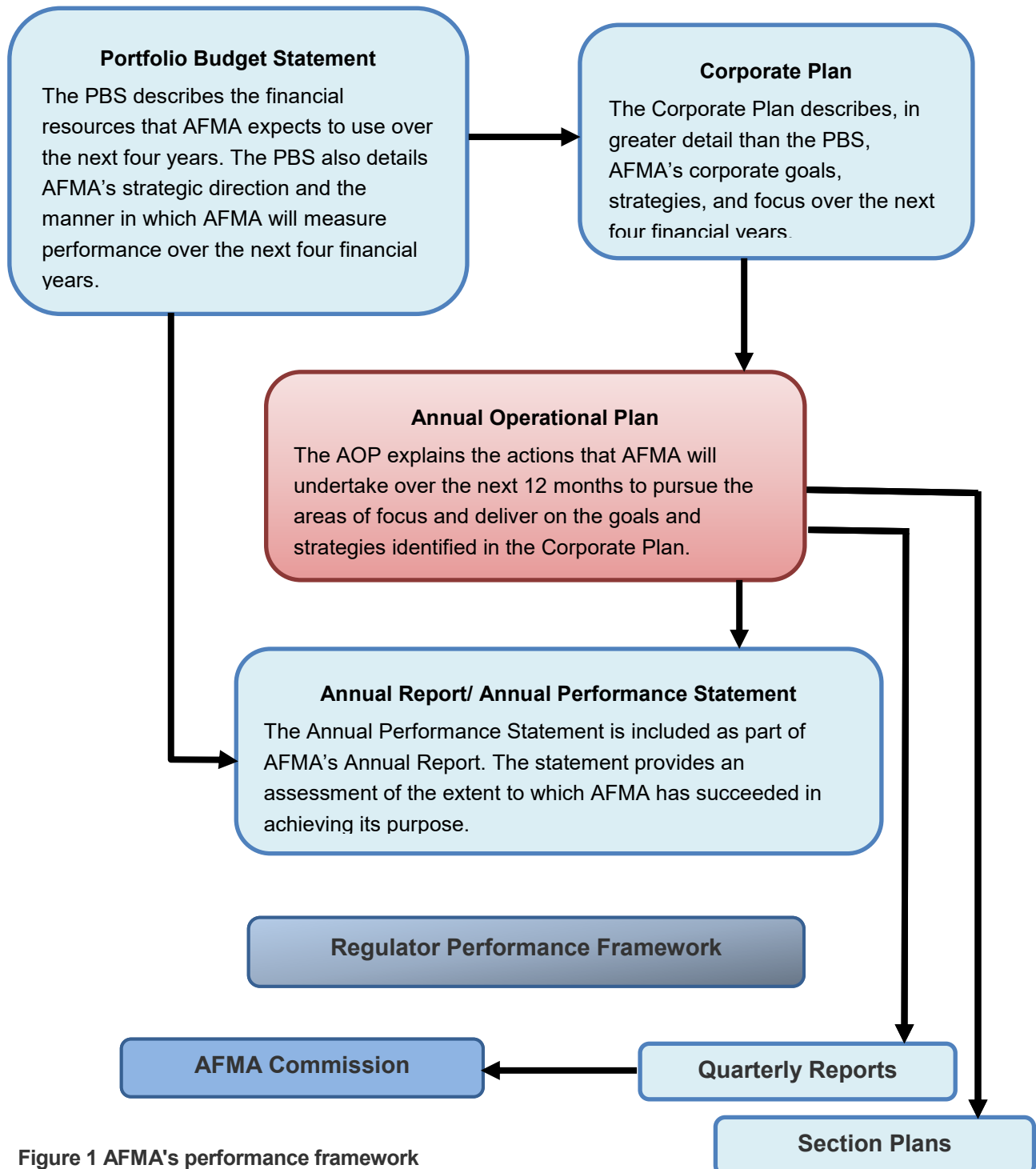


Figure 1 AFMA's performance framework

Resources and Performance Monitoring

Budget

AFMA completed all budget processes in anticipation of the Commonwealth budget being published in May 2020. However, the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in the Commonwealth budget being delayed until October 2020. This has impacted AFMA's ability to formulate and articulate budget and expenditure forecasts for 2020-21. AFMA will be able to provide further advice on budgets, including annual cost recovered budgets for AFMA's fisheries management, after further budget estimates processes occur prior to October 2020.

Staff Resources

During 2020-21, AFMA will focus attention on developing a new integrated workforce plan to address the challenges of an ageing workforce and changing demands in the delivery of services as a result of more automated service delivery and advances in ICT applications. We will continue to operate within the Government's maximum average staffing level (ASL) of 177. This ASL, together with external service providers, will support our operations and strategic activities as outlined in this AOP. Of those 177 ASL, 121 are located in AFMA's central office in Canberra. ASL located outside Canberra includes our Thursday Island office (7 ASL), the Darwin office (24 ASL), and Lakes Entrance office (7 ASL), as well as a number of at-sea observers located around the country to perform data collection on commercial fishing vessels.

Performance Monitoring

Monitoring of progress and accountability for delivering these outputs is a key responsibility for AFMA staff. Individual performance agreements and reviews of periodic reports by managers, committees, Senior Executives, the Commission and stakeholders all help ensure that AFMA remains on target.

Each quarter the AFMA Commission receives a report on progress against the strategic actions contained in this AOP. AFMA has commenced work to improve transparency and relevance of the measures and performance indicators detailed in our Corporate Plan. Enhanced internal business metrics will also inform decisions by the Senior Executive and drive AFMA's operating performance.

In undertaking the actions listed in this AOP, AFMA will continue to liaise with peak industry bodies such as the Commonwealth Fisheries Association and use MACs and RAGs, along with other sector-specific bodies, including those for recreational and Indigenous fishers, as key ways to consult with stakeholders and obtain and disperse scientific, economic and other expert advice to address Commonwealth fisheries issues.

1. Management of Commonwealth fisheries consistent with principles of ecologically sustainable development

Strategy	Area of Focus	Actions 2020-21
<p>1.0 Assessing and managing the implications of COVID-19 on the management and assessment of Commonwealth fisheries</p>	<p>1.0.1 This will be a recurring area of focus throughout much of AFMA's work during 2020-21, particularly under Goals 1 and 2. There are a range of implications to our normal management arrangements that will need to be considered moving forward. The most notable of these are significant disruptions that have been and will continue to be experienced in the production of fishery data sets that are typically used in management decision making. This includes changes to industry catch and effort data as a result of fishing practices that have been altered by the pandemic, various government response measures and temporary suspension of the AFMA observer program. Economic pressures on industry may also change fisher behaviour, potentially changing compliance and/or sustainability risks in some instances.</p>	<p>Collation of data and information disruptions by fishery</p> <p>Consideration of each case by RAGs and MACs to determine whether absent/changed data will impact on management advice and decision making particularly in relation to harvest strategies</p> <p>Consultation with other jurisdictions (note – these will be built into many of the Actions described below and under Goal 2)</p>

Strategy	Area of Focus	Actions 2020-21
1.1 Development of management arrangements that enable fishers to harvest fisheries resources sustainably	1.1.1 implementing relevant government policies including the Commonwealth Fisheries Harvest Strategy Policy (CFHSP) and the Commonwealth Fisheries Bycatch Policy	Updated fishery harvest strategies consistent with the revised CFHSP Set Total Allowable Commercial Catches and effort in relevant commonwealth fisheries
	1.1.2 implementing AFMA's revised Environmental Resource Management (ERM) Framework	Relevant ERA updated for fisheries/sub fisheries and responses in place for high risk species (Torres BDM, Gillnet Hook and Trap line sectors)
	1.1.3 developing and implementing fishery-specific harvest strategies that ensure sustainable fishing and rebuild stocks that are overfished	Updated Fishery Specific Harvest Strategies developed for orange roughy and blue warehou. Set Total Allowable Catch, taking into account recreational fishing, in the Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery
1.2 Investing in and applying science to inform decision making on fish stocks and the impact of fishing on the broader marine environment	1.2.1 utilising the strategic research plan to procure the high quality research needed to support decision making	AFMA Research Committee (ARC) meets at least three times during 2020-21, supporting delivery of research consistent with strategic research plan
	1.2.2 applying science standards to support the provision of high quality scientific advice on which to base fishery management decisions	ARC consideration of science standards when assessing research project applications during 2020-21

Strategy	Area of Focus	Actions 2020-21
	1.2.3 working with scientific organisations and other relevant groups to investigate the effects of climate change on Commonwealth fisheries and implementing responses as required	Ecological Risk Assessment Working group to assess potential to integrate climate change into ecological risk assessment methodology Complete FRDC-funded Climate Change Project 2016-059: <i>Adaptation of Commonwealth fisheries management to climate change</i>

In addition to the actions and areas of focus identified in the table above, the table below highlights regular activities that AFMA undertakes which also pursue the corporate goal of ensuring ecologically sustainable development of Commonwealth fisheries:

Regular activities for 2020-21	Associated actions
Management of domestic commercial fisheries	Implementing bycatch programs, strategies and monitoring activities
	Educating fishing operators on fisheries management requirements
	Collaborating with science organisations in better understanding fish stock dynamics, bycatch and the marine environment
	Administering MACs, RAGs and other sector specific bodies and taking their advice into account when making decisions
	Assessing fisheries under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 including export approvals, developing Threatened, Endangered and Protected (TEP) species management strategies and Environmental Risk Management (ERM)

Regular activities for 2020-21	Associated actions
	Working with key stakeholders to deliver effective fisheries management regimes that include harvest strategies, setting total allowable catch and effort, efficient fishery plan administration, regular fishery performance reporting and reviewing statutory compliance
	Administering Economic Working Group and ERM Steering Group
Research management	Administering AFMA's research program and contracts including the AFMA Research Committee, developing/reviewing specific fishery research plans through MACs and RAGs and participating in the FRDC's COMRAC process by providing advice and priorities for potential funding
	Managing AFMA's research funds to achieve cost effective results
Communication	Produce a range of communication and media material associated with AFMA's programs, strategies, consultations, research and activities, to promote understanding and recognition by industry, stakeholders and the general public of AFMA's continuing effectiveness in pursuing the sustainability of Commonwealth fish stocks. Refresh and expand AFMA's Strategic Communication Plan

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

Strategy	Areas of Focus	Actions 2020-21
2.1 Reviewing management arrangements through broad consultative processes to maximise net economic returns from the commercial sector	2.1.1 reviewing relevant AFMA policies and fishery harvest strategies, with a particular focus on implementing sustainable fisheries management that ensures maximum efficiency and minimum burden on the commercial sector	Reviewing AFMA's Information Disclosure Policy Updating AFMA Exploratory Fishing Policy Number 5 Updating Harvest Strategies in line with updated Commonwealth Harvest Strategy Policy, with a focus on the scallop and squid fisheries
	2.1.2 collecting and utilising economic information to pursue maximising net economic returns	Developing a common understanding about maximisation of net economic returns to inform the development of appropriate performance indicators. AFMA's Economic Working Group to advise on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candidate economic performance indicators and collection methods by fishery; and • Opportunities for greater incorporation of economic indicators in harvest strategies and management decision making

Strategy	Areas of Focus	Actions 2020-21
		<p>Continue to collect, review and use economic information when making and reviewing fisheries management decisions</p> <p>Finalise and utilise economic key performance indicators</p> <p>Consult closely with commercial industry on benefits of AFMA collection of economic data</p>
	<p>2.1.3 developing effective resource sharing arrangements where appropriate</p>	<p>Support the activities of the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment to improve understanding and management of resource access between sectors</p> <p>Continue to engage with states and territories on progressing catch-sharing arrangements for shared commercial stocks. Progress arrangements with New South Wales relating to eastern school whiting and transition of the Southern Fish Trawl Fishery as a priority</p>

In addition to the actions and areas of focus identified in the table above, the table below highlights regular activities that AFMA undertakes which also pursue the corporate goal of maximising economic returns:

Regular activities for 2020-21	Associated actions
Data collection and management	Data collection and monitoring of fishing industry operations with the use of e-logs, log books and Catch Disposal Records (CDR) and e-CDRs
	Managing data and analysis, providing data and reports to the public, the fishing industry, MACs or RAGs
	Implementing and administering e-monitoring across the Commonwealth commercial fishing fleet
	Administering the observer program
	Administering the vessel monitoring program across the Commonwealth commercial fishing industry and some State managed commercial fishing vessels
	Reviewing data collection methods and, as necessary, arranging independent fishery surveys as inputs to setting recommended biological catches and TACs
	Reviewing the electronic monitoring program, including comprehensive internal and external consultation, with the aim of ensuring the program remains fit for purpose as a fisheries monitoring tool
Take into account traditional, Indigenous and non-commercial fisheries activities	Consulting with Indigenous and recreational fishers and other stakeholders in the management of Commonwealth commercial fisheries to ensure their interests are taken into account

Regular activities for 2020-21	Associated actions
Input into defining international treaty standards and developing regulation activities	Engaging with international fisheries bodies and implementing Australia's obligations to international agreements
Communication	<p>Publishing data to data.gov.au with links via the afma.gov.au website, and communicating its public availability via AFMA news stories and social media channels</p> <p>Promoting AFMA operational activities to raise public awareness of sustainability of Australian wild-caught seafood</p>

3. Compliance with Commonwealth fisheries laws and policies and relevant international fishing obligations and standards

Strategy	Area of Focus	Actions 2020-21
3.1 Operating an effective domestic compliance regime using measures that are proportionate to the risks involved	3.1.1 reviewing the risk assessment for the domestic compliance program and implementing measures to address key threat areas	<p>Undertaking the biennial risk assessment for the 2021-23 period in consultation with industry and key stakeholders</p> <p>Developing and implementing the 2021-22 National Compliance and Enforcement Program focusing on identified priority risks</p> <p>Undertaking an assessment to determine what changes in compliance behaviour may have occurred during the COVID 19 affected period</p>
	3.1.2 updating the compliance and penalty provisions in the legislation that AFMA administers	<p>Introducing Commonwealth Fisheries Infringement Notices (on the spot fines) under the <i>Torres Strait Fisheries Act 1984</i> and updating the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1991</i> to provide consistency with the <i>Regulatory Powers (Standard Provisions) Act 2014</i></p> <p>Progressing legislative amendments to expand the suite of compliance intervention measures</p>

Strategy	Area of Focus	Actions 2020-21
		available under the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1991</i> , subject to government priorities
3.2 Operating effective foreign fisheries enforcement and regional engagement	3.2.1 implementing strategies to deter and eliminate IUU foreign fishing in Australian waters and on the high seas where Australia has an interest	<p>Implementing the International Compliance and Engagement Program 2020-2022</p> <p>Delivering fisheries specific input into the National Civil Maritime Security Strategy</p> <p>Updating the Fisheries Management (International Agreements) Regulations</p> <p>Reviewing foreign fishing vessel caretaking and disposal arrangements under contract</p>
	3.2.2 participating in and delivering capacity building programs with neighbouring countries and supporting key regional and international fishing bodies	<p>Delivering the fourth year component of the DFAT funded Pacific capacity building program (ROU73616) and developing potential follow-on activities</p> <p>Developing the fisheries capacity building components under Australia's strategy to enhance engagement within the ASEAN region, subject to future funding arrangements and staffing levels</p>

In addition to the actions and areas of focus identified in the table above, the table below highlights regular activities that AFMA undertakes which also pursue the corporate goal of compliance:

Regular activities for 2020-21	Associated actions
Domestic fisheries compliance enforcement activities	Undertaking compliance activities in accordance with AFMA's risk based approach, including boat and fish receiver premises inspections in port and at sea. These activities also include monitoring and surveillance, investigations, data analysis, pre-season briefings, education sessions and related prosecutions
Foreign fisheries compliance enforcement and capacity building	<p>Combating illegal fishing in the Australian Fishing Zone and Torres Strait Protected Zone. Activities include the planning of monitoring and surveillance activities, deployment of officers on patrol, investigation of suspected breaches of Australian law and where appropriate, the prosecution of offenders. Activities also include the sharing of information with foreign entities and the caretaking and disposal of confiscated fishing vessels</p> <p>Delivering capacity building programs with neighbouring countries and supporting Australia's engagement in key regional and international fishing fora</p>
Communication	Monthly planned communications via website, SMS and social media targeting specific compliance messages and including any court outcomes and/or penalties and the results of any major/joint operations.

4. Deliver effective, cost efficient and accountable management of Commonwealth fisheries resources

Strategy	Area of Focus	Actions 2020-21
4.1 Review business processes and systems, information flows and financial management arrangements to improve business efficiency	4.1.1 implementing further business system and process improvements	<p>Continue to deliver the Digital 2020 initiatives with a focus on integration of information through AFMA systems</p> <p>Further strengthen the cyber security posture of the agency by leveraging the processes and tools implemented through the Cyber Security Remediation Project</p> <p>Enhance the agency Electronic Document Management technology to allow for more seamless user interaction in strengthening the agency records keeping practices</p>
	4.1.2 utilising key reporting metrics, as outlined in the Corporate Plan, to ensure AFMA's cost recovery framework is underpinned by the principles of: efficiency and effectiveness; transparency and accountability; and stakeholder engagement	<p>Conduct an annual internal review of the CRIS prior to providing the Commonwealth fishing industry with a draft CRIS for their review and feedback</p> <p>Provide financial reports to the Commonwealth fishing industry of actual and budget cost recovery</p>

Strategy	Area of Focus	Actions 2020-21
		<p>expenditure by AFMA CRIS activity groups and by individual fishery</p> <p>Provide information sessions with the fishing industry (as required) to step them through the CRIS document and the formulation of activity costs</p> <p>Make details of industry feedback on the draft budget and CRIS available to industry in the form of a change request register</p> <p>Review the structure and content of AFMA Corporate and Annual Operating Plan, including performance metrics</p>
	<p>4.1.3 continuing implementation of AFMA’s ICT Strategy with a focus on cost effective data programs to support business and stakeholder outcomes</p>	<p>Enhance the remote office technical capability with a focus on internal and external collaboration through Microsoft Teams</p> <p>Review ICT capability to automate or facilitate reporting against revised AFMA performance metrics</p>

Strategy	Area of Focus	Actions 2020-21
4.2 Increase AFMA technical performance, accountability and stakeholder engagement	4.2.1 improving surveys/feedback mechanisms	<p>Develop and implement a Stakeholder Engagement Framework and Strategic Communication plan</p> <p>Develop cost effective feedback mechanisms for stakeholders to provide timely feedback on AFMA's regulatory service performance</p>
	4.2.2 increasing the understanding of recreational and Indigenous fisheries interests and ability to take these into consideration in decision making processes	Advisory Committees include representation of Indigenous and recreational members and take into account these stakeholders considerations when providing advice to AFMA Commission
	4.2.3 enhancing co-management arrangements, including through a guiding policy framework to assist industry engagement and leverage potential efficiencies	<p>Co-management arrangements entered into or expanded for the following fisheries: Northern Prawn; Trawl, Gillnet, Hook and Trap; Great Australian Bight Trawl; and, Eastern Tuna and Billfish.</p> <p>Extending the co-management data collection trial in the Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery.</p> <p>Running and facilitating effective MAC, RAG and other stakeholder forums</p>

Strategy	Area of Focus	Actions 2020-21
		Commence development of a Fishery Management Paper on co-management
	4.2.4 developing a workforce strategy to maintain and enhance AFMA staff capacity	<p>Reviewing all human resources related policies and guidance</p> <p>Developing and implementing AFMA's Workforce Strategy and People Plan incorporating flexible strategies to be adopted as part of corporate planning and ensure AFMA continues to have a capable workforce to deliver business outcomes</p>
4.3 Implement strategies and systems that improve the availability and transparency of data and information to AFMA, the scientific/research community, industry and the broader Australian community	4.3.1 continuing implementation of AFMA's ICT Strategy with a focus on the data programs	<p>Developing an AFMA Data Strategy and Roadmap to inform AFMA business decision making</p> <p>Expanding the services utilised through the Agency Data Capture platform, with a focus on expanding the e-Logbook, e-CDR and Observer capability</p>
	4.3.2 delivering ICT technical architecture solutions that supports the core business needs of the agency in delivering its corporate goals	Deliver the architecture design in line with the outcomes from the Data Strategy and e-Fish projects
	4.3.3 continuing to improve access to AFMA fisheries information through	Continue to expand and update the AFMA datasets published on data.gov.au

Strategy	Area of Focus	Actions 2020-21
	data.gov.au, the AFMA website and other media	
	4.3.4 utilising solutions to deliver effective and cost efficient systems for agency data capture and administration	Expand on the suite of AFMA developed Application Programs Interfaces (APIs) to allow easier consumption and sharing of data across a broader range of AFMA services

In addition to the actions and areas of focus identified in the table above, the table below highlights regular activities that AFMA undertakes which also pursue the corporate goal of effective, efficient and accountable management and regulatory arrangements:

Regular activities for 2020-21	Associated actions
Policy support	Providing and developing advice and policy in accordance with the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1991</i> , the <i>Fisheries Administration Act 1991</i> , and other relevant legislation Review and update existing internal Policies and Guidelines to ensure that they are consistent with Commonwealth legislation

Regular activities for 2020-21	Associated actions
Licensing / registration and revenue collection	<p>Advising Parliament and Ministers, providing and developing policy including technical and governance policies including publishing corporate governance reports, public data, performance indicators such as the Regulatory Performance Framework (RPF) and compliance performance. It also includes liaison with State/Territory agencies and other organisations on broader marine resource policies and management</p> <p>Processing and administering licenses, licence administration, licensing system maintenance, issuing and reconciling levies and recovering levies</p> <p>Developing and maintaining of the licensing system with a focus on fee for service arrangements where it is cost-effective to do so</p>

Regular activities for 2020-21	Associated actions
<p>Other contributors to effective, cost efficient and transparent management and regulatory arrangements</p>	<p>Supporting operational activities by delivering effective and cost efficient services including financial management, human resource management, legal services, corporate governance support (including risk management services), property and security</p> <p>Identifying and implementing opportunities to reduce regulatory burden and to improve internal operations</p> <p>Implementing the Regulator Performance Framework to ensure that we are meeting government expectations</p> <p>Driving increased usage of the Electronic Document and Record Management System (EDRMS), including an increased usage of Digital Forms aligning to the Digital 2020 strategy to streamline and improve our information management and internal business processes</p> <p>Develop and enhance AFMA's performance metrics in line with guidelines established by the Department of Finance for the Enhanced Commonwealth Performance Framework</p>
<p>Communications</p>	<p>Communicate AFMA's projects and innovations, latest updates to fisher applications and services and opportunities for stakeholder engagement through AFMA's digital communication channels</p>

Plans of Management

AFMA managed fisheries

Management plans for fisheries are established under the *Fisheries Management Act 1991*. They provide the rules which often include how quotas are determined, what fishing gear can be used and where you can fish. The rules aim to maintain the sustainability of fish species and the marine ecosystem as a whole while maximising the economic benefits to the commercial sector.

During 2020-21, AFMA does not intend to determine or otherwise institute additional plans of management for fisheries solely managed by AFMA, although some actions may result in amendments to existing plans.

Jointly managed fisheries

AFMA develops management plans for fisheries on behalf of the Protected Zone Joint Authority under the [Torres Strait Fisheries Act 1984](#).

Outside the Torres Strait, in 2020-21 AFMA will continue to work to transition remaining jointly managed fisheries to single jurisdiction under the relevant state or territory.

Contact Us

For further information about our activities, functions and services, please:

Visit the [AFMA website](#)

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