



Australian Government
Australian Fisheries Management Authority

SSJF Annual Research Statement 2022/23

22/07/2021

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SSJF Annual Research Statement 2022/23

This Annual Research Statement was developed by AFMA, in consultation with the SquidRAG and SEMAC. It identifies areas of high priority research for both AFMA and potential FRDC funding in 2022/23 and will be presented to the AFMA Research Committee (ARC) for consideration as part of the 2022/23 funding round.

Evaluation key

Cost	Priority categories	Feasibility categories
High: >\$200,000	Essential	High
Medium: \$100,000 - \$200,000	High	Medium
Low: <\$100,000	Medium	Low
	Low	

AFMA funding in 2022/23 (AFMA Research Committee (ARC))

Title	Objectives and component tasks	Evaluation		
		Total cost (approx. only)	Priority/rank	Feasibility
Currently funded projects				
Newly identified research priorities for 2022/23				

FRDC funding in 2022/23 (Commonwealth Research Advisory Committee (ComRAC))

Title	Objectives and component tasks	Evaluation		
		Total cost (approx. only)	Priority/rank	Feasibility
Currently funded projects				
Newly identified research priorities for 2022/23				
Using new in situ technology to collect real time environmental data and develop a central database to store environmental data in a meaningful way - A case study in the Southern Squid Jig Fishery, improving the understanding of environmental factors in the fishery to improve economic returns and optimise exploitation of the stock.	<p>The Southern Squid Jig Fishery (SSJF) is a data poor fishery and there has been limited research undertaken in recent years. The collection of real time, fine scale environmental data may inform future management for the fishery and provide operators with information that may link squid activity to environmental conditions. The ability to locate squid is an important economic driver in the fishery and is seen to be a limiting factor for operators participating in the fishery, resulting in a large amount of latent effort in the fishery.</p> <p>There has been significant developments in in-situ technology such as environmental sensors, installed on fishing gear, that allows for environmental data to be collected on fishing boats. The collection of real time environmental data on fishing boats would assist with improving the understanding of the link between environmental data, such as temperature at fishing depth, and catch</p>	low	high	high

	<p>composition and rates. If direct linkages were identified through this research, it could result in to improved ability to locate squid, optimised exploitation of the stock and increase net economic returns to the Australian community.</p> <p>In addition to the collection of the data, there is also a need to develop appropriate facilities to store data in a readily accessible format that can be used by multiple stakeholders and allows for the monitoring of fine scale environmental data over time.</p> <p>This work has potential application across a range of fisheries and the SSJF has been proposed as a case study for this project. Other Commonwealth fisheries are considering the use of sensors to collect environmental data and the development of a central database would assist with the uptake of this technology.</p> <p>The proposed project has three primary components:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Investigate a range of sensors to identify options that best meets the data needs of the fishery 2. Test identified sensors on SSJF boats to ensure they are fit for purpose 3. Design a central database that will allow for environmental data to be stored and disseminated in a meaningful way to stakeholders, including industry 			
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	The next step, once sufficient environmental data has been collected, will be to analyse the data to understand the connection between environmental data and catch composition and rate.			
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Research projects identified for inclusion in future research plans

Title	Objectives and component tasks	Evaluation		
		Total cost (approx. only)	Priority/rank	Feasibility

Key Documents

- Framework for delivering cost effective research for AFMA
- RAG gap identification form
- AFMA research cycle and timetable
- FRDC research cycle and timetable