



Australian Government

Australian Fisheries Management Authority

Great Australian Bight Trawl Sector

Annual Research Statement

NOVEMBER 2017 FOR 2019-20

GABTS Annual Research Statement for 2019/20

AFMA funding in 2019/20 (AFMA Research Committee - ARC)

Title	Objectives and component tasks	Evaluation		
		Total cost (approx. only)	Priority/rank	Feasibility
RESEARCH UNDERWAY				
Integrated Scientific Monitoring Program (ISMP)	AFMA observer program, analysis and reporting of ISMP data	Low	Essential	High
Fish ageing and length frequency	Undertaking fish ageing and length frequencies	Medium	Essential	High
SESS Fishery Independent Survey (2018-19)	To conduct a winter survey which will provide further points in the times-series of fishery independent survey (FIS) indices of abundance. The resulting FIS data series will be included in stock assessments of target species and time series analysis of major by-product and by-catch species. The FIS also provides time series information on the spatial and temporal distribution of a large number of non-commercial fish species and a	High	Essential	High

	platform from which biological information (length, sex, maturity, age etc) can be collected in a systematic way from these species.			
NEW IDENTIFIED RESEARCH FOR 2019-20				
Assessment of target species	Tier 1 for Deepwater Flathead	\$73k approx.	Essential	High
	Conduct CPUE standardisation for Bight Redfish	Medium	Essential	High
	Conduct CPUE standardisation for Western Gemfish (CTS)	Medium	Essential	High
Integrated Scientific Monitoring Program (ISMP)	AFMA observer program, analysis and reporting of ISMP data	Low	Essential	High
Fish ageing and length frequency	Undertaking fish ageing and length frequencies	Medium	Essential	High
Evaluate the changes in certainty in assessments due to reducing frequency of otolith sampling and aging for Deepwater flathead	Determine the minimum frequency and sample size of age sampling needed to maintain certainty of assessment in current bounds.	Low	Essential	High

*Assuming done every 2 years, last completed in 2017-18.

FRDC funding in 2019/20 (Commonwealth Fisheries Research Advisory Committee- ComRAC)

Title	Objectives and component tasks	Evaluation		
		Total cost (approx. only)	Priority/rank	Feasibility
RESEARCH UNDERWAY				
Quantifying reductions in bycatch and discards in the GABT sector and evaluating the performance of bycatch reduction devices.	<p>Quantify the effectiveness of gear modifications in the GABTF in reducing discards.</p> <p>Document the incremental changes achieved within the fishery in relation to reduction of discards.</p> <p>Evaluate the performance of hydro-acoustic gear monitoring devices / equipment to reduce discard rate whilst enhancing operational profitability by altering fishing practices.</p>	Medium	High	High
NEW IDENTIFIED RESEARCH FOR 2019-20				
An economic review of current quota systems across the Commonwealth Fisheries	<p>Evaluation of the performance of the quota based system of fisheries management</p> <p>Particular reference to the profitability of the sector and utilisation of the resource</p>	Moderate	High	High

Key documents

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

APPENDIX A; Great Australian Bight Trawl Sector – monitoring, research and assessment schedule (updated December 2017)

		09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21
Bight Redfish	TAC (t)	2,000	1,653	1,556	2,334	2,358	2,358	2,358	800	800			
	Assessment	✓		✓				✓					✓
Deepwater Flathead	TAC	1,300	1,100	1,500	1,560	1150	1150	1150	1150	1128		✓	
	Assessment		✓		✓	✓			✓			✓	
Western Gemfish	Assessment				✓	✓			✓				
	Stock structure project					✓	✓	✓	Final report. Outcomes applied to prelim. assessment				
Orange Roughy	Assessment								Review data (consider data, and define what is required to move to assessment/evidence-based stock status)				
FIS			✓					✓		✓			
FIS Review									✓				
Research priorities teleconference					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
MEY Study		Developed				Review sensitivity	Examine breakouts	GABIA/John T. to speak to Shaun Pascoe Re: focusing the BP research.					
GABIA Length Measurements	Industry onboard	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

		09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21
ISMP	(onboard) ¹		✓		✓		✓		✓		✓		✓
	(onshore quota otoliths)	✓		✓		✓		✓		✓		✓	
Slope Species Monitoring	(onshore non quota LF & otoliths)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Byproduct Monitoring						Latchet?	Ocean Jacket?	Ornate Angel?	Stingaree?				
Bycatch	Seabird Management Plans	Developed	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
LOGBOOK (e-logs & paper)	(discards recording)	Monitoring ✓	Audit ✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Focus on industry-recording of discards	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
RAG (meetings)		2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	1	2	1	2
MAC (meetings)		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

¹ Calendar year, not financial year

APPENDIX B: SESSF planned stock assessment schedule. Note GABTF species updated 6 December 2017.

Species	MYTAC in 2017-18 season	Last Assessed	AOS		FIS	2019	2020	AFMA management comment
			FIS		GAB FIS			
			2016	2017	2018			
Alfonsino	3rd year of a 3 year MYTAC	2013			3			Push back because of low catches
Bight Redfish	2nd year of 5 year MYTAC	2015					1	5-year MYTAC, due 2020
Blue Eye Trevalla	Single year TAC	2015	4	4	4		4	
Blue Grenadier	4th year of a 3 year MYTAC	2013			1			Under-caught and above target
Blue Warehou	N/A	2014						
Deepwater Flathead	1st year of a 3 year MYTAC	2016	1			1		
Deepwater shark east	4th year of a 3 year MYTAC	2013		4			4	
Deepwater shark west	4th year of a 3 year MYTAC	2013		4			4	
Elephant Fish	2nd year of a 3 year MYTAC	2013		4			4	Run Tier 4 assessments in 2017
Flathead	Interim single year TAC*	2016	1			1		
Gemfish - East	N/A	2010		1			1	
Gemfish - west	1st year of a 3 year MYTAC	2011	1/4					Reliant on stock structure report from ABARES and ability of data to inform the assessment.
Gummy Shark	1st year of a 3 year MYTAC	2013	1			1		
Jackass Morwong	1st year of a 3 year MYTAC	2015			1			
John Dory	3rd year of a 3 year MYTAC	2013		3			3	
Mirror Dory	Single year TAC	2015	4	4		4		Single year TAC in 2017-18.
Ocean Perch	4th year of a 3 year MYTAC	2013		4 and 5			4	SESSRAG recommended moving 'batch' Tier 4 in 2017.
Orange Roughy - south	N/A	2000						
Orange Roughy - east	3rd year of a 3 year MYTAC	2006		1			1	
Orange Roughy - west	N/A	2002						Limited effort, bycatch TAC
Orange Roughy - Cascade Plateau	N/A	2009						Limited data
Orange Roughy - Albany & Esp	N/A	N/A						Limited effort, bycatch TAC

Oreo Smooth - Cascade	Long term TAC (catch dependent)	2010						Limited data
Oreo Smooth - other	2nd year of a 3 year MYTAC	2010			5			Limited data
Oreo Basket	4th year of a 3 year MYTAC	2013		4			4	Push back to 2017
Pink Ling	2nd year of a 3 year MYTAC	2015			1			
Redfish	N/A, bycatch TAC	2013		1			1	Await data meeting to see if we run one.
Ribaldo	3rd year of a 3 year MYTAC	2013		4			4	Push back to 'batch Tier 4'
Royal Red Prawn	4th year of a 3 year MYTAC	2013		4			4	Move back to 'batch' Tier 4
Saw Shark	2nd year of a 3 year MYTAC	2013		4			4	Run Tier 4 assessments in 2017
School Shark	N/A (Index of Abundance start 14/15)	2012			1			Potential for 2018 depending on close kin
School Whiting		2009		1			1	Data work in 2016 including ageing issues and NSW data catch rate standardisation and ageing data
Silver Trevally	4th year of a 3 year MYTAC	2013		4			4	
Silver Warehou	2nd year of 3 year MYTAC	2015			1			
			2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	