

Fisheries Management Act 1991
(Commonwealth)

Fisheries Act 1994
(Queensland)

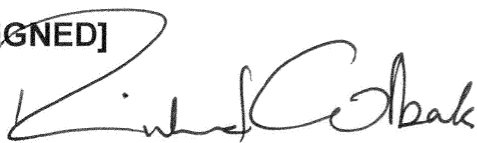
**QUEENSLAND FISHERIES JOINT AUTHORITY
REPORTS FOR THE PERIODS**

1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007
1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008
1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009
1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010
1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011
1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012
1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013

Presented to the Commonwealth Parliament pursuant to section 70 of the *Fisheries Management Act 1991*.

Presented to the Queensland Parliament pursuant to section 127 of the *Fisheries Act 1994*.

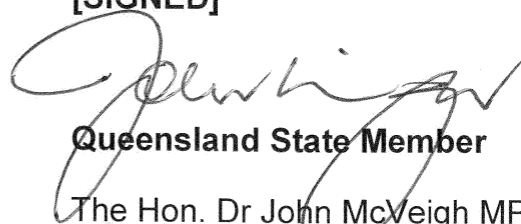
[SIGNED]



Commonwealth Member

Senator the Hon. Richard Colbeck,
Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister
for Agriculture

[SIGNED]



Queensland State Member

The Hon. Dr John McVeigh MP,
Queensland Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry

ISSN 1328-4258

This work is copyright. Apart from any use as permitted under the *Copyright Act 1968*, no part may be reproduced by any process without written permission.

Published by:

Australian Fisheries Management Authority
CANBERRA

Contents

1. Introduction	4
2. Enabling legislation	4
3. Report on the status of fisheries managed by the Joint Authority	4
4. Report on the activities of the Joint Authority during the reporting periods	6
Annex A - Arrangement Between The Commonwealth Of Australia And The State Of Queensland In Relation To The Fishery For Northern Demersal And Pelagic Fin Fish In The Gulf Of Carpentaria, 8 February 1995	9
Annex B - Arrangement between the Commonwealth and the State of Queensland, under section 71 of the Fisheries Management Act 1991 and Section 132 of the Fisheries Act 1994 of Queensland, in relation to the Gulf of Carpentaria grey mackerel fishery, 4 July 2003	14
Annex C – Record of decisions of the Queensland Fisheries Joint Authority 2006	17
Annex D - Record of decisions of the Queensland Fisheries Joint Authority 2007	21
Annex E - Record of decisions of the Queensland Fisheries Joint Authority 2008	24
Annex F - Record of decisions of the Queensland Fisheries Joint Authority 2009	28
Annex G - Record of decisions of the Queensland Fisheries Joint Authority 2010	31
Annex H - Record of decisions of the Queensland Fisheries Joint Authority 2011	34
Annex I - Record of decisions of the Queensland Fisheries Joint Authority 2012	36
Annex J - Glossary of terms	39

1. Introduction

This report of the Queensland Fisheries Joint Authority (QFJA) outlines activities undertaken and decisions made during the period **1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013**, predominantly through the “record of decisions” from the QFJA annual meeting. It also reports on activities undertaken and the status of fisheries for the following reporting periods:

- 1 July 2006 – 30 June 2007
- 1 July 2007 – 30 June 2008
- 1 July 2008 – 30 June 2009
- 1 July 2009 – 30 June 2010
- 1 July 2010 – 30 June 2011
- 1 July 2011 – 30 June 2012.

The QFJA is responsible for the management of commercial fishing in:

- Gulf of Carpentaria Developmental Fin Fish Trawl Fishery
- Offshore net fishing sector of the Gulf of Carpentaria Inshore Fin Fish Fishery
- Gulf of Carpentaria set line, drop line and trolling line Fishery.

The Queensland Government is responsible for managing a number of other fisheries in the Gulf of Carpentaria that take the same species as the QFJA managed fisheries. Table 1 provides a breakdown of the total catch of each species group between all fisheries and QFJA managed fisheries.

2. Enabling legislation

Sections 61-70 of the Commonwealth [*Fisheries Management Act 1991*](#) set out the establishment, functions, administration and reporting requirements for Joint Authorities.

Part 7 of the Queensland [*Fisheries Act 1994*](#) sets out complementary State legislation and other matters relating to the establishment, functions, administration and reporting requirements of the Joint Authority and the management of Joint Authority fisheries in Queensland.

The QFJA is established in the *Arrangement between the Commonwealth of Australia and the State of Queensland in relation to the Fishery for Northern Demersal and Pelagic Fish in the Gulf of Carpentaria (Annex A)*. The 1995 arrangement provides, among other things, that the relevant commercial fisheries be managed under Queensland law.

There is a further arrangement between the Commonwealth and the State of Queensland, in relation to commercial fishing for grey mackerel in the Gulf of Carpentaria (**Annex B**), under section 71 of the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* and section 132 of the *Fisheries Act 1994* of Queensland. The 2003 arrangement provides, among other things, that the commercial fishery for grey mackerel also be managed by the QFJA under Queensland law.

3. Report on the status of fisheries managed by the Joint Authority

Tables 1 and 2 present a summary of the catches and status of the fisheries

managed by the QFJA. Detailed catch and effort statistics for each fishery are compiled annually and presented in the Queensland Fishery Annual Fishery Updates, available for download at:

- GOC Developmental Fin Fishery Annual Fishery Report 2011 (pub 2013)
 - <http://www.daff.qld.gov.au/fisheries/monitoring-our-fisheries/data-reports/sustainability-reporting/fishery-updates/gulf-of-carpentaria-developmental-fin-fish-trawl-fishery>
- GOC Inshore Fin Fish Fishery Annual Fishery Report 2011 (pub 2013)
 - <http://www.daff.qld.gov.au/fisheries/monitoring-our-fisheries/data-reports/sustainability-reporting/fishery-updates/gulf-of-carpentaria-inshore-fin-fish-fishery>
- GOC Line Fishery Annual Fishery Report 2012 (pub 2013)
 - <http://www.daff.qld.gov.au/fisheries/monitoring-our-fisheries/data-reports/sustainability-reporting/fishery-updates/gulf-of-carpentaria-line-fishery>

Table 1 shows an overview of the total commercial catches of fin fish species relevant to fishing under QFJA jurisdiction during the reporting period, with QFJA catches in brackets. These catches were taken using a combination of set mesh net, line and trawl fishing gear. Catch information has been drawn from the Queensland Commercial Fisheries Log Book System (CFISH) for waters adjacent to Queensland west of 142°31'49" east longitude (at Cape York). 'Shark' catch includes all catches of shark and ray species taken by operators in Queensland's Gulf of Carpentaria net and line fisheries, while 'other fin fish' and 'trawled fin fish' catch includes all fish species except barramundi and threadfin (which are not QFJA managed species) and those species otherwise listed separately in the table.

It is important to note that Table 1 presents a summary of the total catches in Gulf fisheries. Detailed information on catches of individual species within a particular fishery is available from the annual fishery updates (refer to previous weblinks) that

Table 1 - Commercial catches¹ of fin fish in the Gulf. Catches in brackets represent those taken under QFJA authorities

Species Group	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012- 13
Shark	665 (440)	333(106)	266 (51)	342 (57)	263 (17)	150 (6)	242 (3)
Grey mackerel	559 (128)	600 (131)	525 (0.1)	622 (71)	866 (41)	747 (3)	791 (0.5)
Spanish mackerel	265 (51)	291 (7)	323 (0.1)	227 (0.8)	213 (2)	275 (0.7)	252 (0)
Other fin fish (Line)	30 (0.4)	53 (8)	12 (9)	12 (2)	3 (0)	5 (0)	4 (0)
Other fin fish (Net)	140 (3)	149 (1)	152 (0.1)	136 (0.3)	127 (0.1)	119 (0.1)	123 (0)
Trawled fin fish	697 (697)	714 (714)	715 (715)	781 (781)	502 (502)	448 (448)	25 (25)
Grand total	2,356 (1,320)	2,139 (967)	1,993 (775)	2,121 (912)	1,976 (562)	1,745 (458)	1,436 (29)

¹ Harvest estimates are rounded to nearest tonne based on reports from compulsory commercial fisheries logbooks. Weights are converted from reported product forms (fillets, gilled and gutted, trunk) to reflect live weight as a standard reporting approach.

Table 2 – Summary of status of assessed stocks in QFJA Fisheries²

Gulf of Carpentaria Stock	Stock Status
Grey mackerel (GOCIFFF)	Uncertain (2012)
Sharks(GOCIFFF)	Undefined (2012)
Spanish mackerel (GOCLF)	Sustainably fished (2012)
Red emperor (GOCLF; GOCDFFTF)	Uncertain (2012)
Crimson snapper (GOCLF; GOCDFFTF)	Uncertain (2012)
Saddletail snapper (GOCLF; GOCDFFTF)	Uncertain (2012)

are available for a range of fisheries through the DAFF Queensland website.

In 2012, the stock status of six QFJA stocks was assessed using Queensland's Stock Status Assessment Framework developed in 2009 (Table 2). Fisheries Queensland has now adopted the Australian Government's framework for assessing stock status. 2013 assessments are currently underway and will be published (online at www.fish.gov.au) in December 2014.

4. Report on the activities of the Joint Authority during the reporting periods

An annual meeting of the QFJA is held in the first or second quarter of each financial year (reporting period). At each meeting key issues within the QFJA fisheries are discussed and decisions regarding these issues may be made. For each meeting, a record of these decisions is drafted. Table 3 lists the date of each annual meeting and the associated Annex of this report within which the meetings record of decisions can be found. Table 4 lists the Commonwealth and State members of the QFJA for each reporting period. The deputies of these members are stated in the Annexes (Record of decisions for each meeting).

Table 3 – Annual meeting dates and Annex containing record of meeting decisions.

Reporting period	Meeting date	Annex containing record of meeting decisions
2006-07	14 September 2006	C
2007-08	26 September 2007	D
2008-09	26 September 2008	E
2009-10	4 November 2009	F
2010-11	18 November 2010	G
2011-12	27 October 2011	H
2012-13	6 December 2012	I

² The status of these stocks is currently being updated using 2013 data and will be published in December 2014 as part of the 'Status of Key Australian Fish Stocks Reports 2014' (to be published online at www.fish.gov.au).

Table 4 - Members of the QFJA for each reporting period during 2006 – 2013.

Reporting Period	Commonwealth Member(s)	Queensland Member(s)
2005-06	<p>Senator the Hon. Ian McDonald, Commonwealth Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation (1 July 2005 – 27 January 2006)</p> <p>Senator the Hon. Eric Abetz Commonwealth Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation (27 January 2006 – 30 June 2006)</p>	The Hon. Tim Mulherin MP Queensland Minister for Primary Industries and Fisheries
2006-07	Senator the Hon. Eric Abetz Commonwealth Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation	The Hon. Tim Mulherin MP Queensland Minister for Primary Industries and Fisheries
2007-08	<p>Senator the Hon. Eric Abetz Commonwealth Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation (1 July 2007 – 3 December 2007)</p> <p>The Hon. Tony Burke MP Commonwealth Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (3 December 2007 – 30 June 2008)</p>	The Hon. Tim Mulherin MP Queensland Minister for Primary Industries and Fisheries
2008-09	The Hon. Tony Burke MP Commonwealth Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	The Hon. Tim Mulherin MP Queensland Minister for Primary Industries and Fisheries
2009-10	The Hon. Tony Burke MP Commonwealth Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	The Hon. Tim Mulherin MP Queensland Minister for Primary Industries and Fisheries
2010-11	The Hon. Tony Burke MP Commonwealth Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (1 July 2010 – 14 September 2010)	The Hon. Tim Mulherin MP Queensland Minister for Primary Industries and Fisheries (1 July 2010 – 21 February 2011)
2010-11 (cont'd)	Senator the Hon. Joe Ludwig Commonwealth Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (14 September 2010 - 30 June 2011)	The Hon. Craig Wallace MP Queensland Minister for Main Roads, Fisheries and Marine Infrastructure (21 February 2011 – 30 June 2011)

Reporting Period	Commonwealth Member(s)	Queensland Member(s)
2011-12	Senator the Hon. Joe Ludwig Commonwealth Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	The Hon. Craig Wallace MP Queensland Minister for Main Roads, Fisheries and Marine Infrastructure (1 July 2011 – 26 March 2012) The Hon. John McVeigh MP Queensland Minister for Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (3 April 2012 – 30 June 2012)
2012-13	Senator the Hon. Joe Ludwig Commonwealth Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	The Hon. John McVeigh MP Queensland Minister for Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Annex A - Arrangement Between The Commonwealth Of Australia And The State Of Queensland In Relation To The Fishery For Northern Demersal And Pelagic Fin Fish In The Gulf Of Carpentaria, 8 February 1995

Commonwealth of Australia Gazette
No. P Fisheries Legislation 1995

Fisheries Legislation 13

ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA AND THE STATE OF QUEENSLAND IN RELATION TO THE FISHERY FOR NORTHERN DEMERSAL AND PELAGIC FIN FISH IN THE GULF OF CARPENTARIA

AN ARRANGEMENT entered into between the Commonwealth of Australia (the Commonwealth) of the one part and the State of Queensland (the State) of the other part.

WHEREAS -

- (a) Part 5 of the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* of the Commonwealth (the Management Act), which provides for co-operation with the States and Northern Territory in the management of fisheries, commenced on 3 February 1995 upon the ceasing to have effect of the *Fisheries Act 1952* of the Commonwealth;
- (b) Paragraph 7(4)(b) of the *Fisheries Legislation (Consequential Provisions) Act 1991* (the Consequential Provisions Act) provides that upon the commencement of Part 5 of the Management Act, any Arrangement made with a State or Territory under subsection 12H(1) or (4) of the *Fisheries Act 1952* that was in force immediately before that commencement continues in force as if it had been made under Part 5 of the Management Act;
- (c) an Arrangement was entered into under section 12H(4) between the Commonwealth and the State of Queensland in relation to the Demersal Gillnet Fishery, published in the Commonwealth of Australia Gazette No. S104 on 1 June 1987;
- (d) subsection 75(1) of the Management Act provides that an Arrangement under Division 3 of Part 5 of the Management Act may be terminated by instrument approved by the Governor-General and the Governor or Governors of the State or States concerned;
- (e) subsection 236(1) of the *Fisheries Act 1994* of Queensland (the State Act) provides that an arrangement in force under Part 6A of the *Fisheries Act 1976* of Queensland has effect as if it had been entered into under Part 7 of the State Act on the commencement of Part 7;
- (f) subsection 133(1) of the State Act provides that the State may terminate, under Part 5 of the Management Act, an arrangement;
- (g) subsection 61(1) of the Management Act provides that the Commonwealth may make an arrangement with a State or States for the establishment of a Joint Authority consisting of the Commonwealth Minister together with the appropriate Minister or Ministers of that State or States
- (h) subsection 61(2) of the Management Act provides that each arrangement under subsection 61(1) is to be made by instrument approved by the Governor-General



and the Governor or Governors of the State or States represented on the Joint Authority

- (i) subsection 71(1) of the Management Act provides that the Commonwealth may make an arrangement with the State or States represented on a Joint Authority that the Joint Authority is to have the management of a particular fishery in waters relevant to that State or any of those States;
- (j) subsection 71(2) of the Management Act provides that an Arrangement with only one State may provide that the fishery is to be managed in accordance with the law of the State;
- (k) subsection 74(1) of the Management Act provides that an arrangement under, inter alia, section 71 is to be made by instrument approved by the Governor-General and the Governor or Governors of the State or States concerned;
- (l) subsection 132(1) of the State Act empowers the State to make an arrangement, under Part 5 of the Management Act, for the management of a particular fishery; and
- (m) both the Commonwealth and the State are desirous of exercising their powers to make a further Arrangement in relation to the fishery referred to in clause 2 of this Arrangement.

NOW THEREFORE, in pursuance of the Management Act and the State Act and of all other powers so enabling, it is mutually arranged as follows:

1. The Arrangement entered into between the Commonwealth and the State as listed in paragraph (c) of the recitals to this Arrangement is, pursuant to subsection 75(1) of the Management Act and subsection 133(1) of the State Act, terminated on the date of publication referred to in clause 6.
2. The Commonwealth and the State hereby arrange for the establishment of the Queensland Fisheries Joint Authority consisting of the Commonwealth Minister and the State Minister to manage the fishery to which this Arrangement applies in accordance with the law of the State.
3. The fishery to which this Arrangement applies is the fishery (which in accordance with Section 9 of the Management Act does not extend to or in relation to the Protected Zone as defined in the *Torres Strait Fisheries Act 1984* or to the area adjacent to the Protected Zone to which area the *Torres Strait Fisheries Act 1984* applies by virtue of a Proclamation under subsections 15(1) or (2) of that Act) in the waters relevant to the State, being coastal waters and waters of the Australian fishing zone that lie within the area described in Schedule 2 to the Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act 1967 under the heading "Area that includes the Adjacent Area in respect of Queensland", west of Longitude 142°31'49" East, for all species of fish of the Class Osteichthyes and Class Chondrichthyes, except for:



(a) the following fish taken in the fishery for tuna and tuna like species

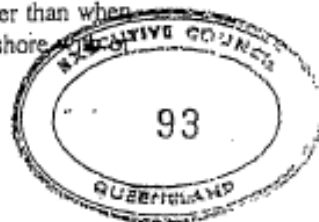
- (i) *Thunnus albacares* (yellowfin tuna)
Thunnus maccoyii (southern bluefin tuna)
Thunnus obesus (bigeye tuna)
Thunnus tonggol (longtail tuna)
Thunnus alalunga (albacore tuna)
Thunnus thynnus (northern bluefin tuna)
Katsuwonus pelamis (skipjack tuna);
- (ii) fish of the family Bramidae (pomfrets);
- (iii) fish of the families Istiophoridae and Xiphiidae (billfish);
- (iv) those fish taken in the exercise of a right conferred by a fishing concession granted by the Australian Fisheries Management Authority under the Management Act allowing the taking of the fish specified in paragraphs (i), (ii) and (iii);
- (v) excluding the fish specified in paragraphs (i), (ii) and (iii) when taken in the exercise of a right conferred by a licence or other authority granted by the State;
- (vi) fish taken as bait (dead or alive) by a person for his or her own use in the exercise of a right conferred by a fishing concession granted by the Australian Fisheries Management Authority under the Management Act to take tuna and tuna like species as listed above.

(b) fish of the following species:

- (i) *Lates calcarifer* (barramundi)
- (ii) *Polydactylus sheridani* (king salmon)
- (iii) *Eleutheronema tetradactylum* (blue salmon)
- (iv) *Scomberomorus semifasciatus* (grey mackerel)
- (v) *Nibea squamosa*, *Protonibea diacanthus* (jewfish)
- (vi) *Pomadasys kaakan* (spotted grunter-bream)
- (vii) *Scomberoides lysan*, *S. commersonianus* (queenfish);

(c) fish taken whilst trawling for prawns in the exercise of a right conferred by a fishing concession granted by the Australian Fisheries Management Authority under the Management Act for the Northern Prawn Fishery, which is described as the fishery for:

- (i) decapod crustacea of the families Penaeidae, Aristeidae, Solenoceridae (prawns), Nephropidae (Scampi), Scyllaridae (bugs) and Infraorder Caridae (shrimps) and Mollusca of the family Pectinidae (Scallops) other than when a bait net or a haul net, set from the shore and drawn to the shore without the use of a boat, is used;

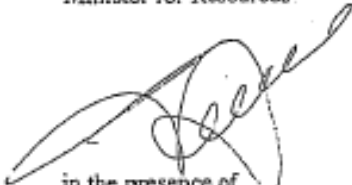
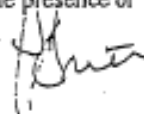


- (ii) Mollusca of the family Loliginidae (squid) when prawn trawl apparatus is used; and
 - (iii) all fish taken in the exercise of a right conferred by a fishing concession granted by the Australian Fisheries Management Authority under the Management Act for the fish to which paragraph (c)(i) applies, but excluding pearl shell (*Pinctada* spp), trochus (*Trochus niloticus*), and fish listed in paragraph (b) of this Arrangement;
 - (d) all fish specified in paragraph (a) taken in the exercise of a right conferred by a licence or other authority granted by the State for the fish to which this Arrangement applies;
 - (e) but excluding those fish to which this Arrangement applies taken in the exercise of a right conferred by a fishing concession granted by the Australian Fisheries Management Authority under the Management Act for the fisheries described in paragraphs (a) and (c).
4. Where for the purposes of this Arrangement it is necessary to determine the position on the surface of the Earth of a point, line or area, that position shall be determined by reference to the Australian Geodetic Datum, that is, by reference to the spheroid having its centre at the centre of the Earth and a major (equatorial) radius of 6,378,160 metres and a flattening of 1/298.25 and by reference to the Johnston Geodetic Station in the State of Queensland of Australia. That station shall be taken to be situated at Latitude 25° 56'54.5515" South and at Longitude 133° 12'30.0771" East and to have a ground level of 571.2 metres above the spheroid referred to above.
5. The Minister responsible for administering the Management Act and the Minister responsible for administering the State Act may agree in writing to the maximum quantity of other fish, the subject of paragraphs 3(d) and 3(e), that may be taken from time to time under a licence or other authority referred to in that paragraph and on matters of mutual interest in relation to the fishery.
6. This arrangement shall, upon being executed on behalf of the Commonwealth and of the State and upon being approved by the Governor-General of the Commonwealth and the Governor of the State, take effect on the date of publication in the Gazette.
7. Without affecting the construction which this Arrangement would have if no provision of this Arrangement or part thereof is invalid, it is the intention of this Arrangement that if any provision of this Arrangement or part thereof is invalid, the remainder of this Arrangement and of that provision shall be construed as if that provision or part thereof was not included in this Arrangement even if the result is to extend the fishery described by this Arrangement.

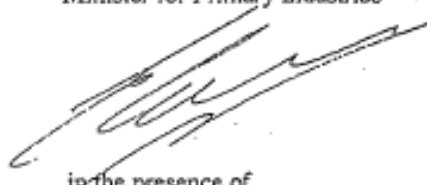
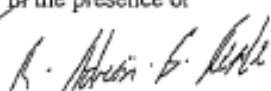


Dated the 3rd day of February 1995

Signed for and on behalf of the
Commonwealth of Australia by the
Honourable DAVID PETER BEDDALL,
Minister for Resources


in the presence of


Signed for and on behalf of the
State of Queensland by the
Honourable EDMUND DENIS CASEY,
Minister for Primary Industries


in the presence of


I, THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, of the Commonwealth of Australia, acting with the
advice of the Federal Executive Council, in pursuance of paragraph subsections 74(1)
and 75(1) of the *Fisheries Management Act 1991*, hereby approve this instrument.

Dated 7-2 1995


Governor-General

By His Excellency's command


Minister for Resources

I, LENEEN FORDE, the Governor of the State of Queensland, acting by and with the
advice of the Executive Council in pursuance of the provisions of the *Fisheries Act*
1994 hereby approve this instrument.

Given under my hand this 2 day of Feb. 1995


Governor

By Her Excellency's command

Minister for Primary Industries.



Annex B - Arrangement between the Commonwealth and the State of Queensland, under section 71 of the Fisheries Management Act 1991 and Section 132 of the Fisheries Act 1994 of Queensland, in relation to the Gulf of Carpentaria grey mackerel fishery, 4 July 2003



Arrangement between the Commonwealth and the State of Queensland, under section 71 of the Fisheries Management Act 1991 and section 132 of the Fisheries Act 1994 of Queensland, in relation to the Gulf of Carpentaria grey mackerel fishery

made under the

Fisheries Management Act 1991 and Fisheries Act 1994 of Queensland

1 Commencement

This arrangement commences on gazettal.

2 Origin of geographical coordinates

For this arrangement, the origin of geographical coordinates is the Australian Geodetic Datum 1966 (AGD66).

3 Arrangement

- (1) This arrangement is made under subsection 71 (1) of the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* and subsection 132 (1) of the *Fisheries Act 1994* of Queensland.
- (2) The fishery specified in section 4 is to be managed by the Queensland Fisheries Joint Authority in accordance with the law of Queensland.



4 The fishery

The fishery:

- (a) is commercial fishing for grey mackerel (*Scomberomorus semifasciatus*); and
- (b) includes the taking of incidental catch of finfish by a person fishing for grey mackerel under an authority granted under Queensland law; in that part of the area described as 'The adjacent area in respect of Queensland' in Schedule 2 to the *Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act 1967* that is west of 142° 31' 49".

Note The fishery does not include Protected Zone, within the meaning given in the *Torres Strait Fisheries Act 1984*, or an area adjacent to the Protected Zone: see section 9 of the *Fisheries Management Act 1991*.

5 Ministers may make agreement

The Commonwealth and State Ministers may agree in writing about:

- (a) the amount of fish that may be taken by a person under an authority of a kind mentioned in paragraph 4 (b); and
- (b) other matters in relation to the fishery.



initialing

GUY STEPHEN MONTAGUE GREEN, Administrator
I, ~~PETER JOHN HOLLINGWORTH, Governor-General~~ of the Commonwealth of
Australia, acting with the advice of the Federal Executive Council, approve this
instrument.

Dated *25 June* 2003

G. S. Montague Green
Administrator
~~Governor-General~~ *ASMA*

By His Excellency's Command

Ian Macdonald

IAN MACDONALD
Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation

I, MAJOR GENERAL PETER ARNISON, Governor of the State of Queensland,
acting by and with the advice of the Executive Council of that State, approve this
instrument.

Dated *8 May* 2003

Peter Arnison

Governor

By His Excellency's Command

Henry Palaszczuk

HENRY PALASZCZUK
Minister for Primary Industries and Rural Communities

Arrangement between the Commonwealth and the State of Queensland, under
section 71 of the Fisheries Management Act 1991 and section 132 of the
Fisheries Act 1994 of Queensland, in relation to the Gulf of Carpenteria
mackerel fishery



Annex C – Record of decisions of the Queensland Fisheries Joint Authority 2006

Meeting Number 16 (14 September 2006) at Darwin

Members

Mr Russell James – General Manager – DAFF – Deputy for Commonwealth Minister
Mr Grant Hall - Deputy Director-General – QDPI&F - Deputy for Queensland Minister
Mr Richard McLoughlin – AFMA and Delegate of the Commonwealth Minister
Mr Mark Doohan – QFJA Secretary

Observers

Mr Jim Gillespie – QDPI&F
Mr Giles Hartwell - DAFF
Mr Wade Whitelaw – AFMA
Ms Olivia Haine – AFMA

1. Procedural Matters

Mr Russell James (Chair) opened the meeting at 4.00 pm.

1.1 Confirmation of Agenda

The agenda for the meeting was confirmed.

1.2 Confirmation of previous minutes

The QFJA confirmed the Record of Meeting No. 15 held on 22 September 2005.

2. Gulfmac Resolutions

The QFJA resolved to note the resolutions arising from the Gulf MAC meeting of 11 & 12 January 2006, observing that particular matters arising in those resolutions with respect to fisheries administered by the QFJA are dealt with in later items in the meeting agenda.

3 Gulf Of Carpentaria Fin Fish Trawl Developmental Fishery

The QFJA determined to:

- 1) note advice received on catches and other matters relating to this fishery;
- 2) note that stock assessments for target species had not yet been finalised;
- 3) require the Management/Scientific Advisory Committee (MSAC) to report back to the next meeting of the QFJA on:
 - progress and consideration of the results of stock and fishery assessments presently being prepared;
 - recommendations on future management arrangements for the fishery resulting from those assessments, including the use of harvest strategies as a means of managing the fishery, and the treatment of cross-jurisdictional differences in management approaches;

- the use of reference points and decision rules for the fishery to enable timely action should unsatisfactory outcomes arise, keeping in mind the need for complementary management of cross-jurisdictional fish species;
- any ecological impacts resulting from fin fish trawling in the fishery; including how these impacts could be minimised; and
- the appropriateness of moving the fishery from its present developmental phase status.

4 Policy Matters

4.1 Future management arrangements for grey mackerel in the Gulf of Carpentaria inshore fishery.

The QFJA determined to:

- 1) note that eighteen submissions in response to the draft policy on the future management of grey mackerel in the Gulf of Carpentaria had been received, including submissions from AFMA, NT Fisheries, Sunfish and the Queensland Fishing Industry Association.
- 2) Endorse the Gulf MAC recommendation that new management arrangements for grey mackerel not be implemented until the results of the FRDC-funded project titled *Determination of management units for grey mackerel fisheries in Queensland and the Northern Territory* were known.

4.2 Consultation with Adjacent Jurisdictions

The QFJA determined to:

- 1) note the conduct of the eleventh Northern Australia Fisheries Management Workshop in Darwin on 13 and 14 September 2006 in accordance with the formal consultative arrangements agreed under OCS arrangements, and that matters discussed at the Workshop are being acted upon by participants at that workshop in accordance with the cooperative management approach envisaged under the OCS arrangements; and
- 2) note that the Workshop addressed in detail matters pertaining to the coordinated management (including research and compliance) of shark and red snapper stocks, both coming under the jurisdiction of the QFJA.

4.3 QFJA line fisheries update

The QFJA determined to:

- 1) Endorse the following Gulf MAC recommendations:
 - i. That the Gulf of Carpentaria L4 and L5 fishery be renamed the Gulf of Carpentaria Spanish Mackerel Line Fishery in recognition of its catch composition.
 - ii. The primary and by-product species of the fishery identified by the Ecological Risk Assessment of Queensland-Managed Fisheries in the Gulf of Carpentaria (p.19 of the ERA Report) be recognised as the “species –specific” target list for the fishery.
 - iii. If required by DEH the list of by-product species namely red snapper, emperors, shark, and trevally be further defined.
 - iv. The outer limit of the L4 fishery (25nm line) be removed as this limit was introduced as a “transitional” arrangement in association with the

1995 OCS agreement. Impacts resulting from this change will need to be monitored.

- 2) note that all L5 fishery symbols were replaced with L4 fishery symbols on 1 July 2006.
- 3) note that operational objectives, performance indicators and review events for target, by-product and protected species for the Gulf of Carpentaria Spanish Mackerel Fishery have been developed.
- 4) note that the proposed removal of the 25 nm line would be subject to Queensland's Regulatory Impact Statement process
- 5) require the QDPI&F to report back to the QFJA on the effects of the removal of the 25 n mile line.

4.4 Report on the Gulf of Carpentaria Inshore Fishery

The QFJA determined to:

- 1) note the advice provided on Gulf of Carpentaria net fisheries;
- 2) support continuing negotiations with permit holders to develop management options for QFJA net fisheries in the Gulf of Carpentaria beyond 25 n miles; and
- 3) request that proposed net attendance rules and in-possession net limits for fisheries in the Gulf of Carpentaria be progressed as soon as possible.

4.5 Management arrangements for shark in the Gulf of Carpentaria inshore fishery

The QFJA determined to:

- 1) reiterate its support for the adoption of a possession limit of 250kg for shark,
- 2) note that the proposal had not yet been subject to public comment through the Regulatory Impact Statement process;
- 3) require the DPI&F to explore the use of a total by-product limit for the inshore (N3) fishery as an alternative to an individual possession limit.

4.6 EPBC Assessment and Accreditation of QFJA Fisheries

The QFJA determined to:

- 1) note the progress of the 2006 Annual Status Reports for QFJA fisheries; and
- 2) require the QDPI&F to forward copies of these reports to members once published.

5. Licensing

5.1. Report on Use of Delegated Powers

The QFJA noted the exercise of delegated responsibilities in the past financial year, using powers delegated under Section 130 of the *Fisheries Act 1994* including the renewal of licences and the issue of permits for pre-existing operations.

5.2 Appeals Lodged

The QFJA noted that no appeals had been lodged with the Fisheries Tribunal against decisions of the QFJA in the 2005/6 financial year.

5.3 Licences / Authorities Granted

The QFJA determined to:

- 1) note that the number of licences and permits issued as at 1 July 2006 for fishing activities under the QFJA jurisdiction were as follows:
 - Commercial Fishing Boat Licences with L4 fishery symbol 47
 - Permits/other authorities 11
- 2) note that the type and number of authorities had changed as a result of amendments to Queensland's fisheries licensing system

6. Administration And Financial Matters

6.1 Annual Reports

The QFJA noted the draft of the QFJA 2004/5 Annual Report and arrangements for the preparation of the 2005/06 Annual Report.

6.2 Fees and Charges

The QFJA noted the fees and charges for licences and permits for the 2006/07 financial year.

6.3 Budget 2005/2006

The QFJA resolved to adopt the budget for the financial year 2006/2007.

6.4 Next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of the QFJA should be convened subsequent to MSAC and Gulf MAC consideration of future management arrangements for the developmental fin fish trawl fishery.

The Chair closed the meeting at 5.15 pm.

Annex D - Record of decisions of the Queensland Fisheries Joint Authority 2007

Meeting Number 17 (26 September 2007) at Darwin

Members:

Mr Robert Murphy – General Manager DAFF – Deputy for Commonwealth Minister
Mr Grant Hall – Deputy Director-General QDPI&F – Deputy for Queensland Minister
Mr Shane Hansford – QFJA Secretary

Observers

Mr Jim Gillespie – QDPI&F
Mr Mark Doohan – QDPI&F
Mr Nick Rayns – AFMA
Ms Nancy Pedersen – DAFF
Andrew Townley – DAFF

1. Procedural matters

Mr Murphy (Chair) opened the meeting at 4.00 pm.

1.1 Confirmation of Agenda

The agenda for the meeting was confirmed.

1.2 Confirmation of previous minutes

The QFJA confirmed the Record of Meeting No. 16 held on 14 September 2006.

1.3 Business arising

The QFJA noted the status of actions arising from the previous meeting, and that many of the issues were to be covered in the agenda.

The following points were discussed:

Item 4.1 Grey mackerel management – will remain on the action list until the grey mackerel research project is finalised and management arrangements are proposed.

Item 4.4 Proposed in-possession net limits for fisheries in the Gulf of Carpentaria – due to delays in the legislative timetable the review of the *Fisheries (Gulf of Carpentaria inshore Fin Fish) Management Plan 1999* is likely to represent the earliest opportunity to progress this matter.

Item 4.6 EPBC Assessment and Accreditation of QFJA Fisheries – will be forwarded to members out of session.

1.4 Appointment of Secretary to the QFJA

The QFJA appointed Mr Shane Hansford (DPI&F) as QFJA Secretary replacing Mr Mark Doohan (DPI&F).

2. GULFMAC Resolutions

The QFJA noted the resolutions arising from the Gulf MAC meeting of 26 June

2007 and that the minutes of that meeting are yet to be formally adopted by the MAC as a true record.

3. Policy matters

3.1 Gulf of Carpentaria fin fish trawl developmental fishing

The QFJA

- (i) Noted the update on the Gulf of Carpentaria fin fish trawl developmental fishing program;
- (ii) Agreed in principle that the fishery will move to a licensed fishery based on Gulf MAC recommendations on the future management of the fishery, noting that a number of these issues will require significant further negotiation;
- (iii) Requested that the intended expansion of the fishery area be negotiated with other stakeholders including NORMAC, and that the outcomes of these negotiations be reported back to QFJA out of session;
- (iv) Noted the DPI&F position that this fishery should involve only those current permit holders with a history of taking fish in the fishery, and requested that QFJA be kept informed on the progress of this issue out of session; and
- (v) Noted that DPI&F proposes to take a co-management approach to this fishery, with details of how this is to be achieved to be determined over the next 12 months, and reported to QFJA out of session if required. QFJA further noted that ensuring appropriate governance arrangements are in place is critical before a co-management arrangement can be pursued.

3.2 Review of QFJA developmental net and line fisheries

The QFJA noted that negotiations will commence in early 2008 with current permit holders with the intention of reducing the overall impact of these permit operations, and that negotiations will be based on the following matters:

- (i) Current permits to use troll lines will be superseded once the L4 fishery is extended beyond the 25 n-mile limit;
- (ii) The intention to remove the capacity to target shark by line due to concerns over shark sustainability; and
- (iii) The intention to gauge support for amalgamating the net fishery for sharks beyond the 25 n-mile limit into a licensed fishery with the N9 fishery as part of reviewing the *Fisheries (Gulf of Carpentaria inshore Fin Fish) Management Plan 1999*.

3.3 Shark in-possession limits

The QFJA noted that the proposed introduction of in-possession limits for shark in the Gulf of Carpentaria will be dealt with concurrently with measures to ensure the sustainability of shark on the east coast.

3.4 QFJA L4 line fishery

The QFJA noted the intention of DPI&F to issue permits to extend the L4 area as an interim arrangement pending amendment to the legislation as previously agreed.

3.5 Annual Status Reports for QFJA Fisheries

The QFJA noted the 2007 Annual Status Reports covering QFJA Fisheries and the ecological risk assessment for Gulf of Carpentaria fisheries completed in 2006.

4. Licensing

4.1 Licenses / Authorities Granted

The QFJA noted that as at 1 July 2007 the following authorities had been issued:

- Commercial fishing boat licences with L4 fishery symbol 47
- Permits/other authorities 11

4.2 Appeals Lodged

The QFJA noted that no appeals had been lodged with the Fisheries Tribunal against decisions of the QFJA in the 2006/07 financial year.

4.3 Report on Use of Delegated Powers

The QFJA noted the exercise of delegated responsibilities in the past financial year, using powers delegated under Section 130 of the *Fisheries Act 1994* including the renewal of licences and the issue of permits for pre-existing operations.

5. ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCIAL MATTERS

5.1 Annual Reports

The QFJA

- Noted the draft of the QFJA 2005/06 Annual Report was currently being prepared and would be forwarded to DAFF before the end of the calendar year.
- Requested that the draft of the 2006/07 report be forwarded to DAFF before the middle of 2008.

5.2 Fees and Charges

The QFJA noted the fees and charges for licenses and permits for the 2007/08 financial year

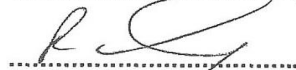
5.3 Budget 2007/08

The QFJA resolved to adopt the budget for the year 2007/08

5.4 Next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of the QFJA would be aligned with the next NAFM meeting but that a number of issues would be resolved out of session

The Chair closed the meeting at 4.30 pm.



Robert Murphy

GENERAL MANAGER - DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

DEPUTY FOR THE COMMONWEALTH MINISTER



Grant Hall

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL - QUEENSLAND DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND FISHERIES

DEPUTY FOR THE QUEENSLAND MINISTER

Annex E - Record of decisions of the Queensland Fisheries Joint Authority 2008

Meeting Number 18 (26 September 2008) at Darwin

Members:

Mr Roland Pittar – General Manager DAFF – Deputy for Commonwealth Minister
Mr Ian Yarroll – Acting Deputy Director-General QDPI&F – Deputy for Queensland Minister
Mr Shane Hansford – QFJA Secretary

Observers

Mr David Wilson – DAFF
Ms Nancy Pedersen – DAFF

1. Procedural matters

Mr Pittar (Chair) opened the meeting at 5.20 pm.

1.1 Confirmation of Agenda

The agenda for the meeting was confirmed.

1.2 Confirmation of previous minutes

The QFJA confirmed the Record of Meeting No. 17, held on 26 September 2007.

1.3 Business arising

The QFJA noted the status of actions arising from the previous meeting, and that many of the issues were to be covered in the agenda.

Under item “5.1 Annual Reports” the QFJA agreed that in the future these reports should be based on other available reports to reduce the administrative burden. It was noted that the Annual Status Reports required by the Department of Environment, Heritage and the Arts would be particularly useful in this regard, and that this approach was being taken by other joint authorities.

2. GULFMAC Resolutions

The QFJA noted the resolutions arising from the Gulf MAC meeting of 3 December 2007 and that the minutes of that meeting are yet to be confirmed by the MAC.

3. Policy matters

3.1 Gulf of Carpentaria fin fish trawl developmental fishing

The QFJA approved the limited release of the draft Policy for the management of the Gulf of Carpentaria Fin Fish Trawl Fishery attached to the agenda for consultation with current permit holders.

The QFJA noted the connection between the draft Policy and the harvest strategy framework for red snappers being developed by NAFC.

The QFJA noted a draft licensing model for the fishery that was attached to the agenda.

The QFJA agreed that the quota shares for the fishery should be determined through negotiation between the current permit holders as part of moving to a licensed fishery.

The QFJA noted that the level of any fee for privilege associated with the proposed new licence symbol is yet to be negotiated with fishers.

The QFJA noted that an extension of the fishery area had been negotiated with NORMAC, but that only a part of the new area has been included at this time as set out in the draft policy.

3.2 Amendments to QFJA developmental net fishery

The QFJA noted that the conditions of the developmental net fisheries in the Gulf have been amended to introduce a mesh size of 160 – 165 mm and to limit the type of net used to set mesh nets only, which is intended to both limit the potential to target larger breeding sharks and to more closely reflect the way set nets are used in the N9 fishery.

3.3 Amendments to QFJA line fishery (L4)

The QFJA noted that the extension of the L4 area to also cover all Queensland waters outside 25 nautical miles had been the subject of targeted consultation with affected commercial fishers, and noted comments received through those consultations.

The QFJA agreed that the fishery be renamed the “Gulf of Carpentaria Spanish mackerel line fishery” and that the outer limit of the fishery (i.e. 25 nautical mile line) be removed from the legislation.

The QFJA noted that the extension of the L4 fishery area will make current QFJA permits for hand line fishing in this area redundant, but that the removal of these permits would not be to the detriment of permit holders as those with a history of using the permits also hold a Queensland commercial fishing boat licence and L4 fishery symbol.

The QFJA resolved that the fishing history associated with QFJA hand line fishing permits where permit holders also hold a Queensland commercial fishing boat licence and L4 fishery symbol be transferred to the commercial fishing licence.

The QFJA noted that required changes to relevant permit activities and conditions will be made only when the current permits expire if holders apply for them to be reissued.

The QFJA noted that these changes were implemented to implement previous decisions that the Gulf line fishery be simplified by moving to a single fishery once latent effort had been removed.

3.4 EPBC Act approvals for QFJA fisheries

The QFJA noted:

- (i) An update on EPBC Act assessments of previously assessed QFJA fisheries, including the recommendations and conditions of the Wildlife Trade Orders that had been granted as set out in the agenda paper;
- (ii) Annual status reports that were tabled for the Gulf of Carpentaria Developmental Fin Fish Trawl Fishery, Inshore Fin Fish Fishery and Line Fishery;
- (iii) That a number of QFJA developmental fishing activities do not currently have an approval under the EPBC Act and that permit holders have been advised of this fact;
- (iv) That discussions are underway with the Australian Government Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (SEWPaC) on the most efficient way to ensure all QFJA fisheries have the appropriate approvals.

3.5 Proposed changes to Gulf fisheries as a result of the review of the east coast inshore fin fish fishery

The QFJA agreed that the following proposals arising from the review of the east coast Inshore Fin Fish Fishery should also be applied to Gulf fisheries:

- (a) Limited take and no take elasmobranch species;

- (b) 1.5m maximum size limit for line-caught shark;
- (c) 160 – 165mm mesh size for offshore nets;

The QFJA agreed that the conduct of the multiple hook demersal line fishery under QFJA permits is inconsistent with proposals to introduce commercial possession or no-take limits on vulnerable species of elasmobranchs and a maximum size limit for the species group.

The QFJA noted that these permits would be amended upon reapplication to remove access to this apparatus; and

The QFJA noted that negotiations will later be undertaken with holders of QFJA drop line permits to ensure measures are in place to limit the take of shark using this apparatus.

4. Licensing

4.1 Licences / Authorities Granted

The QFJA noted that the exercise of delegated responsibilities involves powers delegated under Section 130 of the Fisheries Act 1994 including the renewal of licences and the issue of permits for pre-existing operations.

The QFJA noted information in the agenda paper regarding the background to decisions taken by the QFJA delegate, particularly in relation to applications for the use of demersal multiple hook apparatus and mesh nets.

The QFJA noted that an additional Developmental Fishing Permit was issued to R B Lowden Pty Ltd to independently cover the use of demersal multiple hook apparatus previously covered under a permit that also covers the use of mesh nets. In recognition of the fact the permit was effectively being compulsorily split the fee for the new permit was waived.

The QFJA noted that licences and permits issued as at 1 August 2008 for fishing activities under QFJA jurisdiction were as follows:

- (a) 47 commercial fishing boat licences with L4 fishery symbol; and
- (b) 15 permits

4.2 Appeals lodged

The QFJA noted that an application had been received from D Wren Pty Ltd and F Wren Pty Ltd for a developmental fishing permit to use set mesh nets to take pelagic species of finfish and sharks.

The QFJA affirmed that the delegates decision to refuse this application was consistent with QFJA policy not to issue any additional authorities to take fisheries resources for which it has management responsibility.

The QFJA noted that the applicant had lodged an appeal with the Fisheries Tribunal in relation to this matter.

5. Administration and financial matters

5.1 Annual Reports

The QFJA noted the draft of the QFJA 2006/07 Annual Report was currently being prepared and had recently been forwarded to DAFF to be finalised and printed

5.2 Fees and Charges

The QFJA noted the fees and charges for licenses and permits for the 2008/09 financial year as presented in the agenda paper

5.3 Budget 2008/09

The QFJA resolved to adopt the budget for the financial year 2008/09 as presented in the agenda paper

5.4 Next meeting

It was agreed that the next full meeting of the QFJA should be convened to align with the 2009 NAFM meeting

The Chair closed the meeting at 5.45pm


.....
Roland Pittar

· GENERAL MANAGER - DEPT OF AGRICULTURE FISHERIES AND FORESTRY
DEPUTY FOR THE COMMONWEALTH MINISTER


.....
Ian Yarroll

ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL - QUEENSLAND DEPT OF PRIMARY
INDUSTRIES AND FISHERIES
DEPUTY FOR THE QUEENSLAND MINISTER

Annex F - Record of decisions of the Queensland Fisheries Joint Authority 2009

Meeting Number 19 (4 November 2009) at Darwin

Members:

Mr Roland Pittar – General Manager Fisheries, DAFF – Deputy for Commonwealth Minister
Mr Jim Groves – Deputy Director-General Fisheries, QDPI&F – Deputy for Queensland Minister
Mr Shane Hansford – QFJA Secretary

1. Procedural matters

Mr Pittar (Chair) opened the meeting at 4.15 pm.

1.1 Confirmation of Agenda

The QFJA decided that advice on licence fee levels and the annual budget at each meeting was no longer necessary, and that items “5.1 Fees and Charges” and “5.2 Budget 2009/10” should therefore be removed from the agenda. With this change the agenda for the meeting was confirmed.

1.2 Confirmation of previous minutes

The QFJA confirmed the record of meeting No. 18, held on 26 September 2008.

1.3 Business arising

The QFJA noted the status of actions arising from the previous meeting as set out in the agenda paper.

In reference to item “5.1 Annual Reports” from meeting No. 18 the QFJA noted that the timely completion of these reports continues to present difficulties. It was agreed in principle that a single report should be developed to cover a number of years to streamline this process, with this to be confirmed by DAFF.

2. Consultation processes

The QFJA noted:

- (i) The previous Gulf Fisheries Management Advisory Committee (Gulf MAC) has been disbanded as a result of a review of all Queensland government boards and committees;
- (ii) A Gulf Fisheries Technical Advisory Group (Gulf TAG) has been formed to provide advice on the management of Gulf fisheries. The membership of the TAG will be varied to ensure access to appropriate expertise depending on the issue under discussion;
- (iii) The primary role of the Gulf TAG in the first instance will be to provide advice to QDPI&F on the ongoing review of the inshore fin fish fishery. Issues of relevance to the QFJA will also be brought to the attention of the QFJA.

3. Policy matters

3.1 Review of Gulf of Carpentaria Inshore Fin Fish Fishery

The QFJA noted:

- (i) A review of the Gulf of Carpentaria inshore fin fish fishery has commenced with the release of an issues paper and associated questionnaire in September 2009;
- (ii) The review will deal with a number of issues of relevance to the QFJA, particularly in relation to the management of shark and grey mackerel;
- (iii) It is proposed that a Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) will be released in 2010 setting out proposed management arrangements covering some issues that are (and other issues that are not) under the jurisdiction of the QFJA;
- (iv) The Commonwealth deputy will be advised of these relevant proposals out of session, in parallel with seeking approval from the Queensland Minister for Primary Industries and Fisheries to prepare a submission to have Queensland Cabinet note the release of the RIS;
- (v) Final management proposals that relate to issues under the jurisdiction of the QFJA will be presented to the QFJA for endorsement following consultation on the RIS.

3.2 EPBC Act approvals for QFJA fisheries

The QFJA noted:

- (i) The update on EPBC Act assessments of previously assessed QFJA fisheries, including the recommendations and conditions of the Wildlife Trade Orders that have been granted as set out in the agenda paper;
- (ii) An annual status report for the Gulf of Carpentaria Line Fishery has been finalised, with reports for the Developmental Fin Fish Trawl Fishery and Inshore Fin Fish Fishery currently being drafted.

4. Licensing

4.1 Licences / Authorities Granted

The QFJA noted:

- (i) The number of licences and permits issued as at 22 October 2009 for fishing activities under its jurisdiction is as follows:
 - 47 commercial fishing boat licences with L4 fishery symbol
 - 5 commercial fishing boat licences with N9 fishery symbol endorsed to take shark and grey mackerel
 - 10 developmental fishing permits
- (ii) Three applications for developmental fishing permits to use bottom set multiple hook line apparatus to take sharks that were received in the first half of 2009 have been refused.

4.2 Appeals Lodged

The QFJA noted that an appeal against the delegate's decision not to issue a developmental fishing permit to use bottom set multiple hook line apparatus to take sharks has been lodged by Mr Fred Drew on behalf of Taverna Pty Ltd.

The QFJA noted that decisions to refuse two other applications for the same type of permit have not been appealed.

The QFJA noted that the delegate's intent to take this action, and the reasons for this had previously been noted at QFJA meeting number 18.

The QFJA affirmed that the delegate's decision to refuse this application was consistent with the overall precautionary management of the species group, and important to the application of a maximum size limit to line caught shark as well as prohibitions on the take of more vulnerable species of sharks and rays that were introduced from 1 March 2009.

The QFJA noted that an appeal lodged in 2008 against the delegate's decision not to issue a new permit to Wren Pty Ltd to operate in the set net fishery outside 25 n-miles is still outstanding.

The QFJA noted that the Fisheries Tribunal is to be dissolved at the end of 2009 and its functions will in future be performed by the Queensland Civil and Administrative Appeals Tribunal (QCAT).

5. Next meeting

It was agreed that the next full meeting of the QFJA should be convened to align with the 2010 NAFM meeting. An alternative venue to Darwin is to be considered out of session.

The Chair closed the meeting at 4:45 pm.

Annex G - Record of decisions of the Queensland Fisheries Joint Authority 2010

Meeting Number 20 (18 November 2010) at Canberra

Deputies

Mr Simon Veitch – General Manager Fisheries, DAFF – Deputy for Commonwealth Minister
Mr Jim Groves – Deputy Director-General Fisheries, Fisheries Queensland – Deputy for Queensland Minister
Mr Ben Westlake – QFJA Secretary

1. Procedural Matters

Mr Veitch (Chair) opened the meeting at 4.10 pm.

1.1 Confirmation of agenda

The Agenda was accepted with Agenda Item 1.4 Appointment of a QFJA Secretary brought forward for consideration as the first item of business.

1.2 Appointment of a QFJA Secretary

It was proposed that Mr Ben Westlake be endorsed as the new QFJA Secretary following Mr Shane Hansford's departure from Fisheries Queensland. Mr Westlake was subsequently endorsed as the new QFJA Secretary.

1.3 Confirmation of minutes from previous meeting

The minutes from several past meetings were provided for endorsement as true and accurate records. In principle support was provided by attendees on the basis that the current participants of the QFJA were not present at these previous meetings.

It was noted that the minutes from the current meeting would be provided to DAFF along with those from the previous meetings to be formally endorsed prior to the next meeting of the QFJA.

1.4 Actions arising from previous QFJA meetings

The progress against the actions arising from previous meetings of the QFJA were noted by participants. It was agreed that those outstanding actions that will have been considered/addressed through the review of the Gulf Inshore Fin Fish Fishery should be removed from future lists.

2 Policy Matters

2.1 Update on review of the Gulf of Carpentaria Inshore Fin Fish Fishery

The QFJA was informed that the review of the Gulf of Carpentaria Inshore Fin Fish Fishery was continuing and that a regulatory impact statement had been released which proposed a revised management system for the Fishery. The proposals outlined in the RIS included:

- restructuring the net fishery outside 7 nautical miles (includes permits issued by the QFJA and operations under the commercial offshore net (N9) fishery symbol) to improve economic efficiency and reduce complexity in the management framework;

- the need to limit commercial fishing of shark and grey mackerel to ensure sustainability of these species;
- changing some of the incidental catch limits that apply to the commercial net fishery for shark, grey mackerel, longtail tuna and guitarfish;
- amending the size and/or in-possession limits for barramundi, black jewfish, giant queenfish and golden snapper to ensure sustainability and greater consistency throughout Queensland;
- amending the current fish form restrictions applying to barred javelin to address concerns over the illegal take of undersized barred javelin;
- amending the timing of the seasonal closure for barramundi in the fishery to simplify it and make it more equitable; and
- changing the way that some regulated waters are described to provide greater clarity.

Fisheries Queensland held meetings with commercial fishers in Karumba and Cairns on the 2nd and 3rd of October respectively. Both meetings were well attended. The period for public comments on the RIS concluded on 1 November 2010. In this time approximately 265 responses were received.

Fisheries Queensland will be reconvening the Gulf Technical Working Group to consider submissions received in response to the RIS and to continue to progress the review of the Fishery. At this stage it is proposed that this group will meet in early December 2010 however no date has been formally set at this stage.

At the stakeholder meetings held in Karumba and Cairns following the release of the RIS, industry members generally expressed an opinion that the proposed total allowable catch limits for grey mackerel (141t for the inshore sector and 329t for the offshore sector) were insufficient to allow the Fishery to be viable.

In considering these views and in attempting to address this issue, Fisheries Queensland will be balancing the views of industry with the preliminary results of a stock assessment undertaken on grey mackerel to determine appropriate future management arrangements for this species. Any arrangements developed for the management of this species by the Gulf Technical Working Group will be presented to the QFJA out of session for endorsement.

2.2 EPBC approvals for QFJA fisheries

Due to the review of the Gulf of Carpentaria Inshore Fin Fish Fishery currently being undertaken by Fisheries Queensland, the Australian Government Department of Sustainability, Employment, Water, Population and Communities (SEWPaC) has provided a short term extension to the Fishery's current wildlife trade operation accreditation until 12 May 2011.

At the time of the meeting, SEWPaC had recently provided Fisheries Queensland with draft conditions following an assessment of the Gulf of Carpentaria Developmental Fin Fish Trawl Fishery. At this time Fisheries Queensland was yet to provide comment to SEWPaC in response to these draft recommendations.

3 Licensing

3.1 Update on appeals

Previously the QFJA was notified that Mr Fred Drew had appealed the 16 February 2009 decision made by Mr Shane Hansford to remove the bottom set line apparatus from the QFJA developmental permit issued to Taverna Pty Ltd.

After several delays, the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal (QCAT) heard Mr

Drew's appeal on 26 October 2010. Based upon the material and information presented at this hearing the QCAT was unable to make a decision and subsequently requested that additional information be provided.

At the time of the meeting QCAT had not provided a decision in relation to this matter however it was noted that if the outcome of this appeal was in Mr Drew's favour it was likely that such a decision would have implications for the review of the Gulf of Carpentaria Inshore Fin Fish Fishery.

4 Administration Matters

4.1 Annual Reports

At the 2009 QFJA it was agreed in principle that a single report would be developed to cover several years of QFJA meetings. To this end, a consolidated report was provided to the QFJA for consideration. Fisheries Queensland informed the QFJA that a final version of this meeting would be provided out of session once the minutes from the current meeting had been included.

Annex H - Record of decisions of the Queensland Fisheries Joint Authority 2011

Meeting Number 21 (27 October 2011) at Gold Coast

Attendance

Mr Nick Rayns – Executive Manager AFMA – Deputy for Commonwealth Minister
 Ms Maria Mohr – Managing Director Fisheries Queensland – Deputy for Queensland Minister
 Ms Tara Smith – QFJA Secretary

1. Procedural Matters

Mr Rayns (Chair) opened the meeting at 12:00pm

1.1 Confirmation of agenda

The Agenda was accepted.

1.2 Appointment of a QFJA Secretary

Former QFJA Secretary Mr Ben Westlake's duties in relation to the management of the Gulf of Carpentaria Inshore Fin Fish Fishery and the Queensland Fisheries Joint Authority have now been passed to Ms Tara Smith. As such it was proposed that Ms Smith be appointed to the position of Secretary of the Queensland Fisheries Joint Authority and that subsequent Fisheries Queensland personnel responsible for management of the Gulf of Carpentaria fisheries also adopt the role of Secretary. Members endorsed Tara Smith as the new QFJA Secretary and agreed in principle to the role relationship but did not formally extend the endorsement to future personnel.

1.3 Confirmation of minutes from previous meeting

The minutes from QFJA meeting 20 in Canberra on 18 November 2010 were provided for endorsement. In principle support was provided by attendees on the basis that the current participants of the QFJA were not present at the previous meeting.

1.4 Actions arising from previous QFJA meetings

Participants noted the progress against the actions arising from previous meetings of the QFJA.

Meeting	Agenda item #	Action	Progress
2007	3.1	Gulf Fin Fish Trawl 1. QFJA agreed in principle that the fishery will move to a licensed fishery; 2. Take a co-management approach with this fishery;	Fisheries Queensland intends to commence assessment of the fishery to progress to a formalised, legislated fishery, in the near future. Harvest Strategy project has resulted in a recommended monitoring program, with results feeding into model to inform management strategy. Fisheries Queensland is working with fishers to implement and commence the monitoring program in 2012.

2007	3.2	Remove the capacity to target shark by line due to concerns over shark sustainability.	Final draft legislation for the Gulf of Carpentaria fishery (expected to be considered by Cabinet before next season) includes a limit of 100kg of shark fillet taken by line and a prohibition on the issue of further authorities for the use of bottom set line apparatus.
------	-----	--	---

2. Policy Matters

2.1 Update on review of the Gulf of Carpentaria Inshore Fin Fish Fishery

Members noted the status of the review of the Gulf of Carpentaria Inshore Fin Fish Fishery and the endorsement by the Honourable Joe Ludwig, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, of the proposed regulatory amendments.

The QFJA was informed that the review of the Gulf of Carpentaria Inshore Fin Fish Fishery is expected to be finalised and changes enacted into the *Fisheries Regulation 2008* prior to the commencement of the next fishing season (1 February 2012). Members noted that the Queensland Cabinet will meet before then to consider the proposed amendments that have been endorsed by the Commonwealth QFJA Member.

Members were advised that a successful appeal against Queensland's decision to remove authorization for the use of bottom set line gear resulted in the reissuing of one such authorization. It was noted however that the draft regulatory amendments for the Gulf of Carpentaria fishery include a provision that prohibits the issue of any further authorities allowing the use of bottom set line apparatus, including any further applications made by the current permit holder.

Members also noted that a commercial fishing rules guideline for the fishery is being drafted and is hoped to be ready for distribution in advance of the next fishing season and that the QFJA Secretary will forward the guideline to QFJA members once it is published.

2.2 Gulf fin fish trawl fishery monitoring and licensing proposals

Members noted an update on the progress towards a harvest strategy for northern snapper fisheries through FRDC project No. 2009/037, Sustaining productivity of tropical snappers using new monitoring and reference points, which has now been finalised.

Members also noted that Fisheries Queensland intends to commence assessing the Gulf fin fish trawl fishery for progressing to a formalised, licensed fishery.

3. Administration Matters

3.1 Annual Reports

At the 2009 QFJA it was agreed in principle that a single report would be developed to cover several years of QFJA meetings. To this end, a consolidated report was provided to the QFJA for consideration in 2010 to cover the 2007-2010 period. Fisheries Queensland provided participants with an interim catch summary including 2010-11 catches. Participants requested that the 2007-2010 report be updated with this data, as it has not yet been formalized. Fisheries Queensland agreed to update the report accordingly.

The Chair closed the meeting at 12:15pm

Annex I - Record of decisions of the Queensland Fisheries Joint Authority 2012

Meeting Number 22 (7 December 2012) at Canberra

Attendance

Members Nick Rayns, Executive Manager (Australian Fisheries Management Authority) Deputy for the Commonwealth Minister for Fisheries (Chair).

Maria Mohr, Managing Director (Fisheries Queensland, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry)
Deputy for the Queensland Minister for Fisheries

Secretary Katie Scutt – Australian Fisheries Management Authority

Observers Ian Curnow (NT), Dave McKey (NT), Fiona Hill (AFMA), Shalan Bray (DAFF), Heather Brayford (WA), Lindsay Joll (WA)

Nick Rayns identified himself as the Deputy for the Commonwealth Minister for Fisheries and therefore the Chair of the meeting (ongoing Instrument of Appointment in place).

1. Procedural Matters

1.1 Draft Agenda

The draft agenda for the meeting was adopted.

1.2 Appointment of a QFJA Secretary

The members appointed Katie Scutt (Australian Fisheries Management Authority) as the Secretary for the meeting. It was agreed that once staffing arrangements have been confirmed in QLD, a QLD staff member will fulfil the role of Secretary for the QFJA.

1.3 Confirmation of minutes from the previous meeting

Members confirmed the minutes from the previous meeting and noted that requested changes had been included.

1.4 Actions arising from previous QFJA meetings

Members noted the progress made against the following action items:

Meeting	Agenda #	Action	Progress
2007	3.1	Gulf Finfish Trawl 1. QFJA agreed in principle that the fishery will move to a licensed fishery; 2. Take a co-management approach with this fishery;	Fisheries Queensland intends to commence assessment of the fishery to progress to a formalised, legislated fishery, in the near future. At its meeting on 7 December 2012, NAFC supported the NT proposal to introduce a single management framework for red snapper in the Gulf of Carpentaria. NT will progress this over 2013, working with QLD and the Commonwealth as required. Harvest Strategy project has resulted in a

			recommended monitoring program, with results feeding into model to inform management strategy. Fisheries Queensland is working with fishers to implement and commence the monitoring program in 2012. Harvest strategy to be developed for Red Snapper under above proposal from NT. NT to manage monitoring program with operators endorsed to fish cross jurisdiction.
2007	3.2	Remove the capacity to target shark by line due to concerns over shark sustainability.	Final draft legislation for the Gulf of Carpentaria fishery (expected to be considered by Cabinet before next season) includes a limit of 100kg of shark fillet taken by line and a prohibition on the issue of further authorities for the use of bottom set line apparatus. Complete and continuing to work with NT.

2. Policy Matters

2.1 Update on review of the Gulf of Carpentaria Inshore Fin Fish Fishery

Members noted that new arrangements for the Gulf of Carpentaria Inshore Fin Fish Fishery were introduced in November 2011 under the Fisheries Regulation 2008 [QLD]. The legislative proposals were endorsed by Queensland Cabinet in November 2011, and the changes to the Fisheries Regulation 2008 were enacted in advance of the 2012 fishing season, which commenced on 1 February 2012.

A commercial fishing rules guideline for the Gulf was developed and sent out to all commercial fishers. Some of the main changes related to:

- Size and bag limit changes for some popular species including barramundi
- Barramundi season closures
- Changes to net fishing arrangements
- Use of bottom set line fishing apparatus (long lines) prohibited.
- Transition N9 symbols & a number of QFJA permits to N12 & N13 fishery symbols

3. Administration Matters

3.1 Annual Reports

Compilation of the outstanding reports from 2006-2012 inclusive have now been completed and will be tabled in Federal Parliament with other Joint Authority reports for NT and WA.

Members noted the annual report catch statistics for Gulf fisheries operating in 2011-12 have been decreasing over the past several years. This is not a reflection of the sustainability of the stocks, rather a reflection on a decreased effort due to the remoteness of the fisheries and associated high costs of operating in the Gulf, which make it difficult for fishing operations to be economically viable.

4. Other Matters

Members noted that both AFMA and QLD have been contacted about the Gulf of Carpentaria Developmental Fin Fish Trawl Fishery, with requests to formalise management arrangements similar to those recently introduced in the Northern Territory.

The next meeting will be held at a date to be determined and, if possible, in conjunction with NAFC (or similar) to reduce costs.

The Chair closed the meeting at 12:45pm

Annex J - Glossary of terms

AFMA	Australian Fisheries Management Authority
CFISH	Queensland Fisheries Commercial Log Book System
DAFF	Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Queensland DAFF	Queensland Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
DEEDI	Queensland Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation
DEWHA	Australian Government Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts
EPBC Act	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>
FRDC	Fisheries Research and Development Corporation
GulfMAC	Gulf of Carpentaria Fisheries Management Advisory Committee
NORMAC	Northern Prawn Fishery Management Advisory Committee
QDPI&F	(former) Queensland Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries
QFJA	Queensland Fisheries Joint Authority
SEWPaC	Australian Government Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (SEWPaC)