



Northern Prawn Fishery Data Summary 2015

Author: Adrienne Laird
NPF Industry Pty Ltd



Northern Prawn Fishery Data Summary 2015

NPF Industry Pty Ltd on behalf of the Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA)

Adrianne Laird

Northern Prawn Fishery Data Summary 2015

June 2016

AFMA

Level 6

73 Northbourne Ave

Civic ACT 2600

© Commonwealth of Australia 2016

ISSN 2202-3321

This report should be cited as: Laird, A. (2016). Northern Prawn Fishery Data Summary 2015. NPF Industry Pty Ltd, Australia.

This work is copyright. Apart from any use as permitted under the Copyright Act 1968, no part may be reproduced by any process without prior written permission from the Commonwealth available from AusInfo. Requests and inquiries concerning reproduction and rights should be addressed to the Manager, Legislative Service, AusInfo, GPO Box 1920, Canberra ACT 2601

Published by the Australian Fisheries Management Authority

STREET ADDRESS

Level 6

73 Northbourne Ave

Civic ACT 2600

Telephone: (02) 6225 5555

Facsimile: (02) 6225 5439

POSTAL ADDRESS ENQUIRIES

Box 7051

Canberra BC

ACT 2610

Cover photos: NPF Industry Pty Ltd, A. Raptis & Sons Pty Ltd and Austfish Pty Ltd.

Northern Prawn Fishery Data Summary 2015

Preface

Scope of the Report

This document summarises catch and effort information for the Northern Prawn Fishery (NPF) in 2015, including data relating to interactions with threatened, endangered and protected (TEP) species. The data summary provides an important mechanism for providing feedback to stakeholders on logbook data received by AFMA. In addition, the process of data extraction and analysis assists in identifying data quality issues where they exist and also assists in ensuring that data needs for fisheries management continue to be met.

AFMA has produced data summary reports for the NPF on an annual basis since 1999. As part of the AFMA/NPF co-management arrangements in the NPF, this is the eighth year NPF Industry Pty Ltd has been responsible for development of the data summary.

Acknowledgements

Production of this report was made possible through the efforts of the skippers, vessel owners and Crew Member Observers of the NPF. Skippers supplied daily logbook information and vessel owners completed Season Landing Returns. Crew Member Observers supplied information on a voluntary basis whilst undertaking their daily duties, on interactions with TEP species and species identified as 'At-Risk' through the Ecological Risk Assessment process. Thanks to staff from Datafix Canberra for processing of log sheets and Season Landing Returns. Thanks also to staff from AFMA's Data Management section for their assistance with data management activities.

If you have any comments or queries on this, or any other data summaries, please do not hesitate to contact:

Adrianne Laird
Project Officer
NPF Industry Pty Ltd
Phone: 0409 237 024
Email: adrianne@npfindustry.com.au

Or

Shane Fava
Manager, Northern Prawn, Torres Strait Prawn & Western Trawl Fisheries
AFMA
Phone: (02) 6225 5409
Email: shane.fava@afma.gov.au

Also note that this Data Summary is available on AFMA's website at
<http://www.afma.gov.au/fisheries/northern-prawn-fishery/data-summaries/>.

Table of Contents

PREFACE.....	3
Scope of the Report	3
Acknowledgements.....	3
TABLE OF CONTENTS	4
INTRODUCTION	6
DESCRIPTION OF THE NORTHERN PRAWN FISHERY	6
Area of Fishery	6
Fishing Methods.....	7
Management Information.....	7
Species	8
Data Collection Program	8
METHODS USED FOR PREPARING DATA SUMMARY	8
Banana and Tiger Prawn Fishery Components	9
CATCH AND EFFORT DATA FOR THE NORTHERN PRAWN FISHERY	9
Catch.....	9
Catch by week.....	11
EFFORT.....	12
Nominal and effective effort	12
Catch Rate.....	13
Catch, effort and catch rate by month.....	13
VESSEL AND GEAR INFORMATION	14
Vessel length.....	14
Distribution of catch by vessel	15
Average catch per vessel	15
Fishing Gear	17
CATCH AND EFFORT BY STATISTICAL AREA IN THE NORTHERN PRAWN FISHERY.....	18
All areas	18
Weipa	19

Keerweer	21
Edward.....	23
Mitchell.....	25
Bold	27
Sweers	29
Mornington.....	31
Limmen Bight.....	33
Groote	35
Gove	37
Arnhem.....	39
Port Essington	41
Melville	43
Fog Bay	45
Bonaparte	47
 INTERACTIONS WITH TEP SPECIES IN THE NORTHERN PRAWN FISHERY	 49
Turtles.....	49
Sea snakes	52
Sawfishes	53
Syngnathids	54
 SCIENTIFIC OBSERVER AND CREW MEMBER OBSERVER COVERAGE.....	 54
 STATE/TERRITORY SPECIFIC DATA	 55
 RETAINED BYPRODUCT IN THE NORTHERN PRAWN FISHERY BY STATE/TERRITORY WATERS	 57
 REFERENCES.....	 58
 APPENDIX 1 HISTORICAL CATCH IN NPF STATISTICAL AREAS	 58

Introduction

The Northern Prawn Fishery Data Summary 2015 contains catch and effort statistics by prawn species, area, time and fishery. Comprehensive byproduct information is also included for the information of stakeholders and to meet AFMA's obligations under Offshore Constitutional Settlement agreements with Queensland, the Northern Territory and Western Australia. Interactions with threatened, endangered and protected (TEP) species, including turtles and sea snakes are also reported.

Description of the Northern Prawn Fishery

Area of Fishery

The Northern Prawn Fishery (NPF) is located off Australia's northern coast, and extends from the low water mark to the outer edge of the Australian Fishing Zone (AFZ) in the area between Cape York in Queensland and Cape Londonderry in Western Australia (Figure 1).

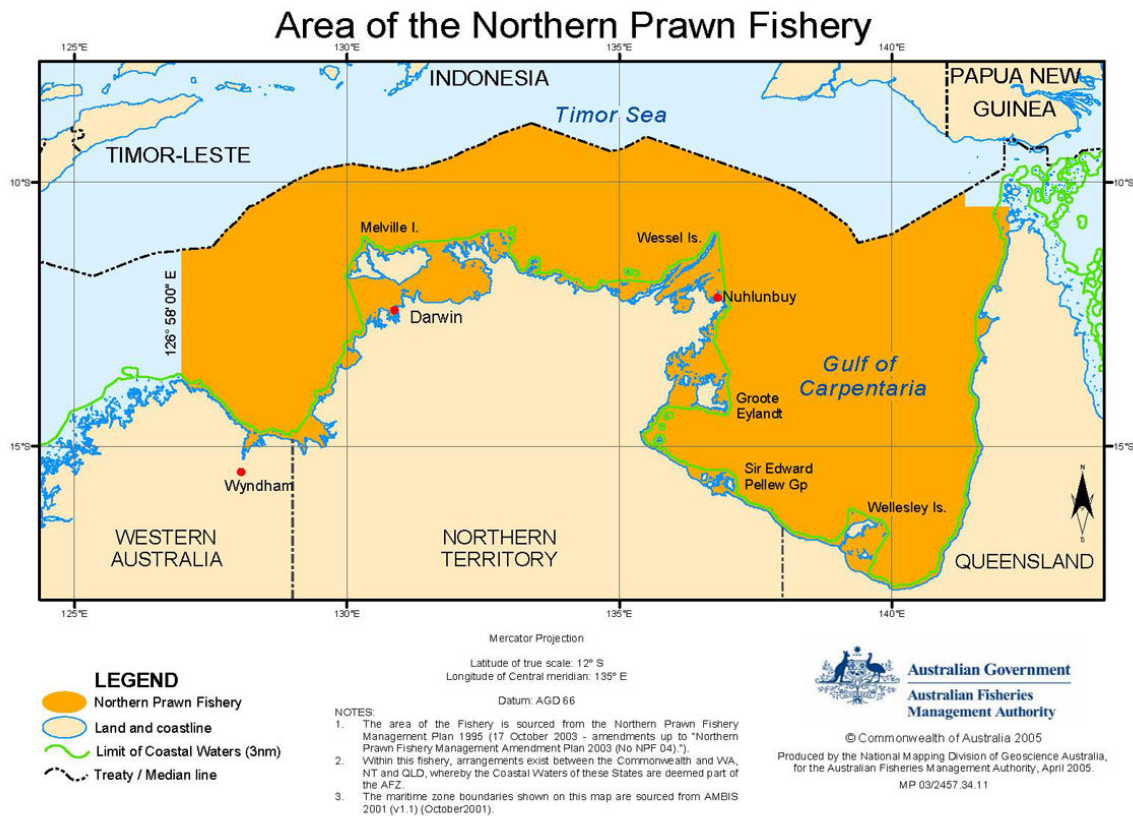


Figure 1: Northern Prawn Fishery Management Area.

Fishing Methods

Prawn trawling is an active fishing method which involves towing a conical-shaped net spread open by two or four steel or timber otter boards over the seabed, commonly called otter trawling. Ground chains are also used on the nets to stimulate prawns into the trawl mouth. Vessels in the NPF may tow a range of nets in a variety of configurations. These are regulated by the *Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995* (the Management Plan) and relevant Determinations and Directions. In addition to the main nets, a small “try-net” is also used to test the potential catches for a given area. All trawl nets (other than try-nets) in the NPF are required to be fitted with approved Turtle Excluder Devices (TEDs) and Bycatch Reduction Devices (BRDs) however TEDs are not required if operators are fishing in waters deeper than 200m.

Most of the vessels in the NPF are purpose built from steel and range in length from 17 m to 28 m. All NPF boats have modern and sophisticated catch handling, packing and freezing capabilities as well as wet (brine) holding facilities. All vessels use electronic aids such as colour echo sounders, Global Positioning Systems (GPS) and plotters. Satellite phones and fax equipment are used by most vessels and most have introduced on-board computing facilities, electronic log books and Wi-Fi. All vessels are required to have a Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) installed.

Management Information

The NPF is managed through a combination of input controls (limited entry, seasonal closures, permanent area closures, gear restrictions and operational controls) that are implemented under the *NPF Management Plan 1995*.

The Management Plan provides for the granting of fully transferable Statutory Fishing Rights (SFRs) that determine the number of trawlers that may operate (Class B SFRs) and the amount of gear (gear SFRs) used in the Fishery. In 2001, the Management Plan was amended to allow the total gear pool to be set by a Determination. The gear SFR is set as an amount of headrope length, which can be varied depending on the stock status and economic indicators.

In 2002, measures were introduced to reduce effort by 40% on tiger prawn stocks. This was achieved by shortening the fishing seasons and a 15% reduction in the value (in centimetres) of a gear SFR. An additional 25% reduction in gear SFR value occurred in 2005, reducing the total number of Class B SFRs to 94.

In 2006/07, 43 Class B SFRs and 18,365 Gear SFRs (approximately 34% of the effective effort) were removed from the NPF through the Commonwealth Government’s Structural Adjustment Package. The fishery is now comprised of 52 vessels - the optimal number estimated by the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Science (ABARES) to achieve Maximum Economic Yield (MEY) in the NPF.

In 2007, the industry formed 'NPF Industry Pty Ltd' (NPFIL), an industry representative body that incorporates approximately 95% of NPF SFR holders.

An 8% increase in effort was implemented in the 2008 tiger prawn season as recommended by the Northern Prawn Fishery Management Advisory Committee (NORMAC) in response to the smaller fleet size. This was effected by increasing the value of NPF gear SFRs from 5.625 cm to 7.481 cm and permitting concession holders to use quad gear (with a 10% penalty applied).

In 2009, the tiger prawn season was increased by four weeks based on the outputs of the 2008 tiger prawn stock assessment, resulting in the season commencing on 25 July and closing on 19 December. This was the

first time since the introduction of the mid-year closure in 1987 that the tiger prawn season commenced prior to 1 August.

In 2011, the banana prawn season was extended by two weeks to enable industry to make optimal use of an expected large available biomass of banana prawns resulting from favorable environmental conditions. Due to improvements in the tiger prawn stock assessment, it was also agreed that tiger prawns could be targeted in the banana prawn season from 1 May. An on-going rule was put in place to close banana fishing west of 138° and to prevent daylight trawling east of this location to protect banana prawns if average daily catches did not meet a trigger of 500 kg per boat/day during the two week reporting period. The tiger prawn season commenced on 1 August and concluded one week early on 20 November due to tiger prawn catch trigger limits not being met. The early tiger prawn season closure was implemented to protect stocks and prevent economic losses in the tiger prawn fishery.

In 2012, 2013 and 2014, the banana prawn season was open from 1st April to 15th June, and the tiger prawn season was open from 1st August to 30th November.

A Maximum Economic Yield (MEY) banana prawn catch trigger was implemented in 2014 as part of the future management regime for the banana prawn fishery. The MEY catch trigger fishery closes the fishery west of 138°, and prohibits daylight trawling east of 138° if catches fall below the restricted MEY trigger of 425 kgs (per boat per day) in any two week catch reporting period. The trigger is calculated in-season based on catch, cost and price information provided by industry.

In 2015, the banana prawn season operated from 1 April to 15 June and the tiger prawn season operated from 01 August to 1 December (though targeting of tiger prawns was permitted from 1 May until 15 June during the banana prawn season). There were 76 days fishing days available during the first season and 122 during the second season (a total of 198).

Species

The NPF targets seven commercial species of prawns including white banana (*Penaeus merguensis*), red-legged banana (*P. indicus*), brown tiger (*P. esculentus*), grooved tiger (*P. semisulcatus*) (Ma *et al.* 2011), blue endeavour (*Metapenaeus endeavouri*), red endeavour (*M. ensis*) and king prawns (*Melicertus* sp.). Leader Prawns or Black Tigers (*P. Monodon*), scampi, squid, scallops and bugs are also taken.

Data Collection Program

NPF operators are required to complete the 'Northern and Torres Strait Prawn Fisheries Daily Fishing Log' (NP16) paper log books or electronic logs (e-logs) on a daily basis. In 2015, 87% (45 operators) used e-logs in both fishing seasons. Both paper logbook and e-log data is included in this data summary.

Methods Used For Preparing Data Summary

The data used to prepare the Northern Prawn Fishery Data Summary is comprised of logbook information (NP16 and e-log) submitted by NPF skippers and the Seasonal Landing Returns (SLR-T01) completed by SFR holders. This information is stored by AFMA on the Northern Prawn, Kimberley Prawn and Torres Strait Prawn database.

The data used in this summary was extracted during April 2016 after making every effort to reconcile the data provided by skippers with that obtained from vessel owners. This was to ensure that the logbook data and the landings figures approximated each other as closely as possible.

On average logbook catches of banana prawns were underestimated by 1.1% when compared to Seasonal Landing Returns (SLR) for the banana prawn season, with the greatest discrepancy being 16% (one vessel) for the banana prawn season. On average the tiger prawn catches were within 0.9% of catches recorded in the SLR for the tiger prawn season, with the greatest discrepancy being a 15% underestimate (one vessel) for the tiger prawn season.

The catch and effort estimates in Table 1, Figure 2 and Figure 6 were derived from a combination of logbook and SLR figures. The remainder of the tables and figures in the Summary represent logbook data only. This may cause discrepancies between totals. Minor discrepancies may also occur due to rounding of values.

Banana and Tiger Prawn Fishery Components

Fishery statistics have been split into banana and tiger prawn fishery components according to the composition of the catch in logbook records. If half or more of a vessel's daily catch was banana prawns or there was no prawn catch and the vessel was fishing, the vessel was defined as operating in the banana prawn fishery on that day; otherwise it was defined as operating in the tiger prawn fishery.

Banana prawn fishery catch is the catch of all species (bananas + tigers + endeavours + kings) when a vessel is defined as fishing in the banana prawn fishery. Likewise, tiger prawn fishery catch is the catch of all species when a vessel is defined as operating in the tiger prawn fishery.

Catch and Effort Data for the Northern Prawn Fishery

Catch

The total NPF prawn catch for 2015 was 7,789 t compared to 8,725 t in 2014 (Table 1). The total catch of banana prawns in 2015 decreased 39% from 6,330 t to 3,852 t (Figure 2, Table 1). The catch of tiger prawns far exceeded the 2014 catch of 1,708 t, increasing 48% to 3,295 t (Figure 2, Table 1). Catches of endeavour prawns decreased by 18% from 675 t in 2014 to 554 t in 2015 (Figure 2, Table 1). Catches of king prawns increased from 12 t in 2014 to 38 t in 2015.

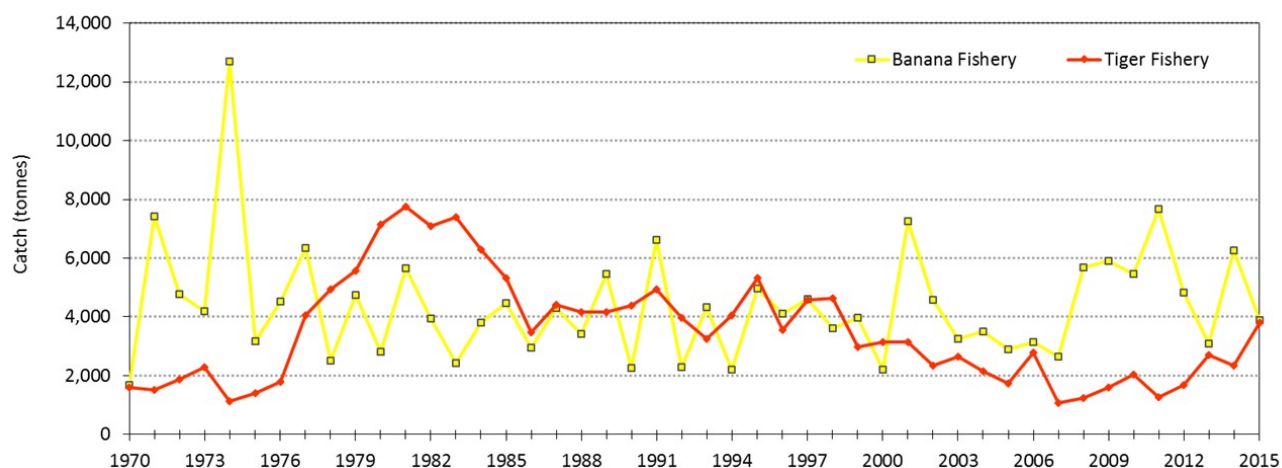


Figure 2: Catch in the banana and tiger prawn fisheries between 1970 and 2015.

Table 1: Annual reconciled landings, effort and vessel number in the NPF from 1970 to 2015.

Year	Banana (t)	Tiger (t)	Endeavour (t)	King (t)	Total Catch (t)	No. of Vessels	Banana Fishery Effort (days)	Tiger Fishery Effort (days)
1970	1,702	1,138	417	0	3,257	191	2,041	5,818
1971	7,364	1,183	400	0	8,948	169	5,571	6,057
1972	4,801	1,380	472	0	6,654	180	4,327	7,380
1973	4,226	1,672	594	0	6,492	217	4,917	7,362
1974	12,711	666	434	4	13,815	196	7,537	3,439
1975	3,160	973	444	6	4,583	107	5,361	6,010
1976	4,519	1,118	675	5	6,319	145	7,238	6,660
1977	6,345	2,900	1,125	28	10,398	193	7,257	11,673
1978	2,535	3,599	1,240	82	7,456	237	5,569	18,749
1979	4,775	4,218	1,213	94	10,300	240	7,328	17,791
1970-'79average	5,214	1,885	701	22	7,822	188	5,715	9,094
1980	2,835	5,124	1,891	111	9,964	269	8,391	30,594
1981	5,672	5,559	2,073	95	13,400	286	11,524	31,895
1982	3,875	4,891	2,124	144	11,036	271	8,751	32,956
1983	2,382	5,751	1,488	207	9,831	254	6,856	34,551
1984	3,770	4,525	1,714	83	10,095	252	5,932	32,447
1985	4,469	3,592	1,671	77	9,811	231	6,946	26,516
1986	2,935	2,682	748	85	6,451	238	7,132	26,669
1987	4,257	3,617	772	65	8,713	234	7,954	22,478
1988	3,381	3,458	669	81	7,591	222	6,655	26,264
1989	5,466	3,173	909	85	9,636	223	7,439	27,036
1980-'89average	3,904	4,237	1,406	103	9,653	248	7,758	29,141
1990	2,221	3,550	735	128	6,636	200	5,044	25,525
1991	6,605	3,987	879	81	11,554	172	6,515	20,744
1992	2,254	3,084	880	47	6,267	170	5,132	21,789
1993	4,292	2,515	733	35	7,572	127	6,299	16,019
1994	2,157	3,162	872	72	6,263	128	4,955	18,592
1995	4,961	4,125	1,150	58	10,294	125	4,880	16,834
1996	4,078	2,311	1,235	41	7,665	127	5,525	16,635
1997	4,587	2,694	1,870	51	9,202	129	5,476	15,385
1998	3,569	3,218	1,322	20	8,123	130	5,301	18,003
1999	3,904	2,136	885	21	6,947	129	5,639	12,675
1990-'99average	3,863	3,078	1,056	55	8,052	144	5,477	18,220
2000	2,195	2,190	958	13	5,335	121	3,697	12,736
2001	7,245	1,983	1,157	4	10,389	118	6,247	10,440
2002	4,577	1,943	411	5	6,936	114	4,148	8,718
2003	3,238	2,222	435	4	5,898	97	4,114	8,503
2004	3,520	1,767	396	3	5,686	96	3,985	7,793
2005	2,901	1,744	281	20	4,946	89	3,364	7,967
2006	3,117	1,802	363	28	5,310	77	3,283	6,983
2007	2,902	1,192	196	20	4,310	51	2,696	4,829
2008	5,816	1,021	213	7	7,058	53	3,347	4,556
2009	5,881	1,250	346	7	7,483	55	3,095	4,889
2000-'09average	4,139	1,711	476	11	6,335	87	3,798	7,741
2010	5,642	1,628	429	12	7,711	52	3,146	4,898
2011	7,141	749	437	8	8,335	55	3,440	4,143
2012	4,901	1,203	487	11	6,601	52	2,526	5,521
2013	3,050	2,215	508	29	5,802	52	2,005	5,908
2014	6,330	1,708	675	12	8,725	52	3,100	5,045
2015	3,852	3,295	554	38	7,739	52	2,197	6,036

* Note: Catch data is extracted from SLRs.

Catch by week

Figures 3 (a), (b) and (c) show the catch of banana and tiger prawns by week during 2015, 2014 and 2013. Highest banana prawn catches were recorded in the first week of 2015 with 1,247 t. Banana prawn catches in 2015 experienced a steady decline over the 11 weeks of the season, with the exception of increases in weeks 5 and 9. Catches of tiger prawns in 2015 remained steady throughout the season, gradually declining from week 15. Tiger prawn catches peaked at 218 t in weeks 8 and 11.

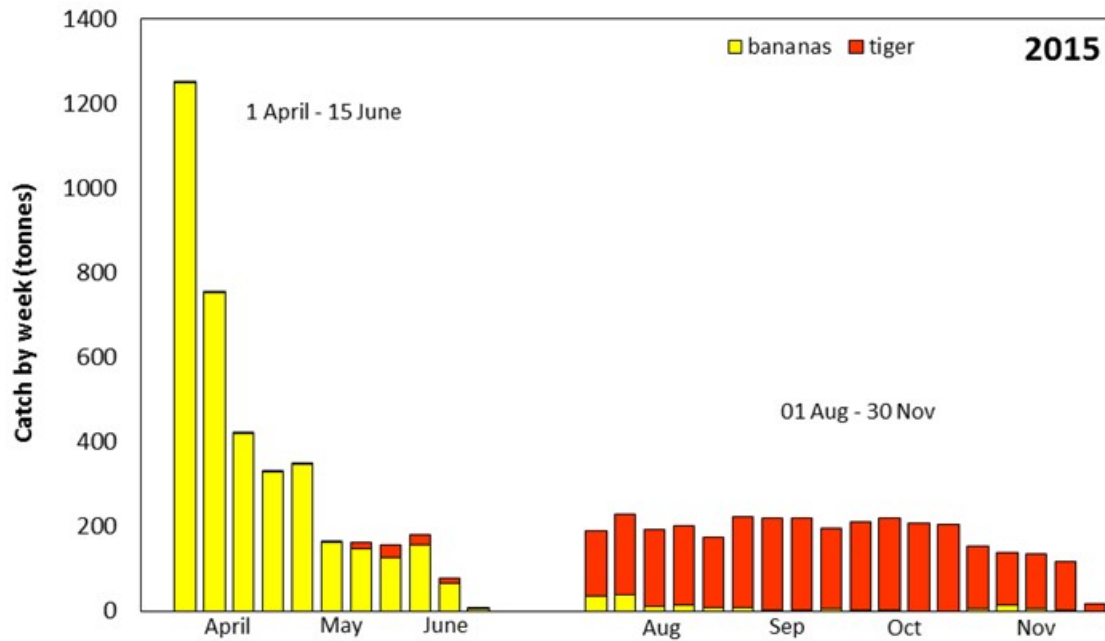


Figure 3a: Weekly catches of banana and tiger prawns (t) in the NPF in 2015.

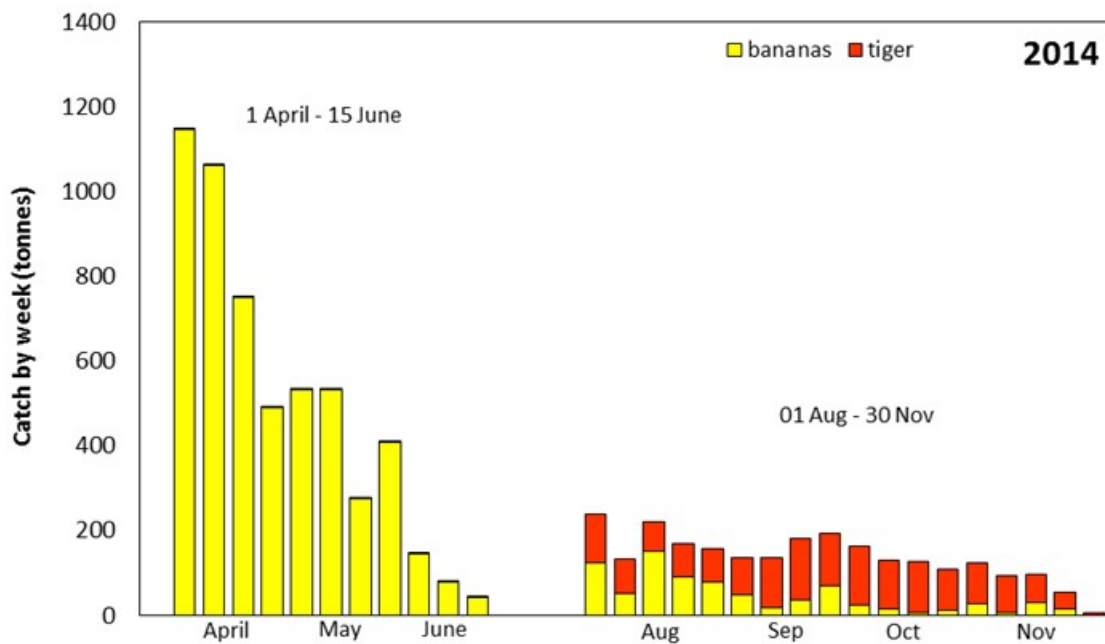


Figure 3b: Weekly catches of banana and tiger prawns (t) in the NPF in 2014.

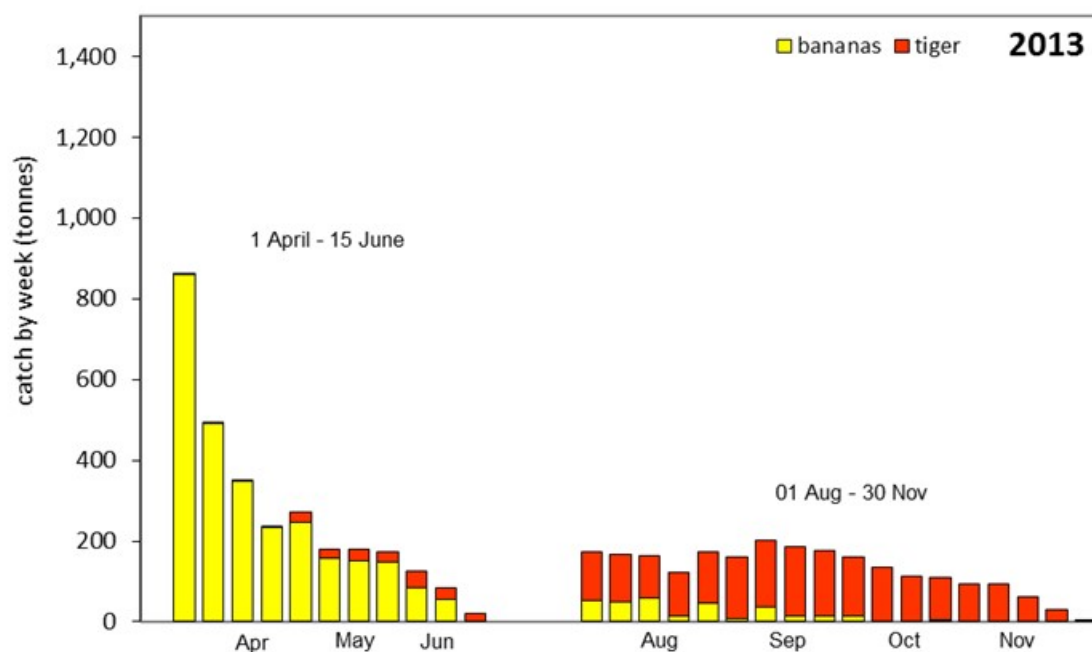


Figure 3c: Weekly catches of banana and tiger prawns (t) in the NPF in 2013.

Effort

Nominal and effective effort

Nominal effort is the number of days recorded by skippers in their logbooks. Effective effort applies only to the tiger prawn fishery and is based on the assumption that there has been an 'effort creep' (an increase in effectiveness of the gear utilised and fishing operations). A number of different approaches are being used by the Northern Prawn Fishery Resource Assessment Group (NPRAG) to account for effort creep, including using an average 5% per year as well as variable effort creep. As in previous years, for the purpose of preparing this report we have used 5%. Nominal effort in the banana prawn fishery decreased by 899 days (41%) in 2015 compared to 2014. In the tiger prawn fishery, nominal effort increased by 991 days (16%) in 2015 compared to 2014. Effective effort in the tiger prawn fishery increased by 3,613 days (20%) compared to 2014.

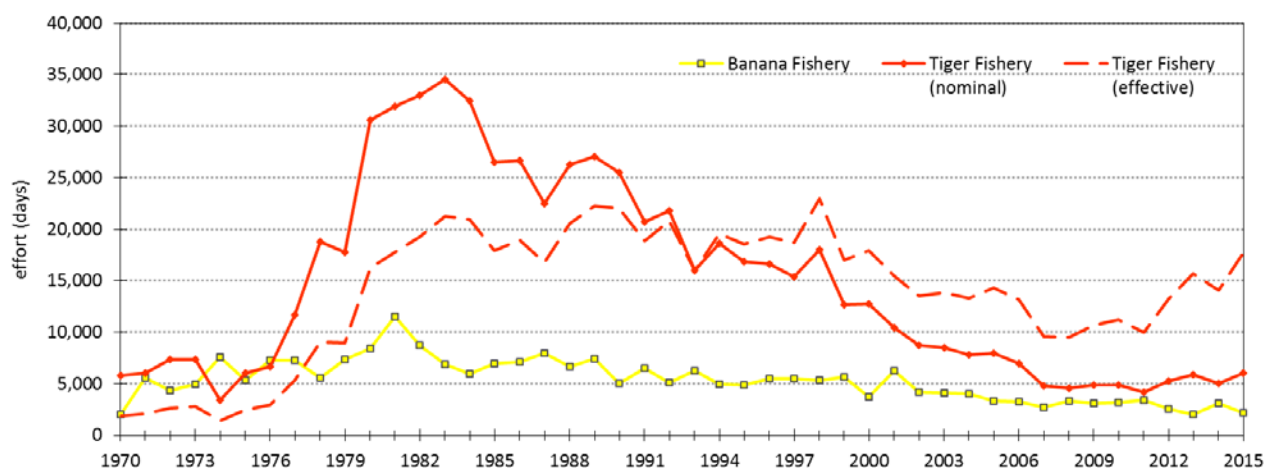


Figure 4: Effort in the banana and tiger prawn fisheries in the NPF between 1970 and 2015.

Catch Rate

It is worth noting that there have been a number of changes to headrope length implemented in the NPF over time. A reduction in headrope length of 25% came into effect at the start of the first season in 2005. In 2008, an 8% increase in headrope length was implemented in the tiger prawn season. As a result “catch rate”, measured in terms of Catch per Unit Effort (CPUE) (tonnes per day), may be affected. It is also important to note that trends in CPUE don’t necessarily reflect trends in stock abundance.

The banana prawn fishery CPUE decreased from a daily rate of 2.018 t per day in 2014 to 1.769 t per day in 2015. The nominal CPUE for the tiger prawn fishery increased from 0.466 t per day in 2014 to 0.630 t per day in 2015 and the effective CPUE also increased from 0.167 t per day in 2014 to 0.215 t per day (Figure 5).

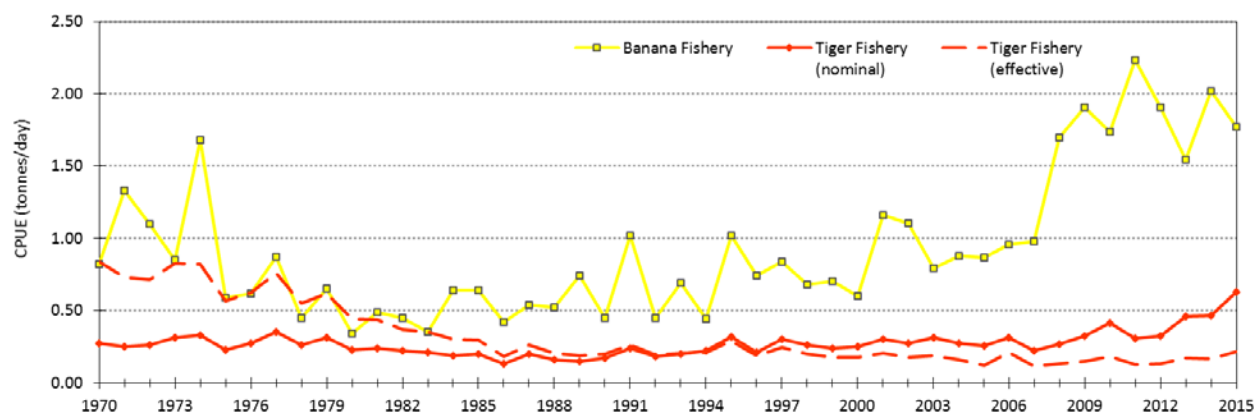


Figure 5: Catch rate in the banana and tiger prawn fisheries between 1970 and 2015.

Catch, effort and catch rate by month

The highest total prawn catches during the 2015 banana prawn season were obtained during April, whilst the highest total prawn catches during the 2015 tiger prawn season were obtained during October (Table 2).

Table 3 shows effort by month in the banana and tiger prawn seasons for 2015. Effort in the banana prawn season (1 April to 15 June) was highest in April and lowest in June. Tiger prawn season (1 August to 1 December) effort was highest in October and lowest in November (Table 3).

Monthly CPUE for banana prawns was highest in April during the banana prawn season (Table 4). Monthly CPUE for both nominal and effective effort for tiger prawns was highest in August.

Table 2: Monthly catch by species in 2015.

Catch (t)	April	May	June	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Total
Banana	2848.31	810.13	103.42	106.17	19.41	8.37	28.13	3923.95
Tiger	2.10	69.45	20.96	781.82	887.92	909.78	510.19	3182.21
Endeavour		1.26	0.35	24.49	6.07	0.37	0.47	33.00
King	6.91	16.67	3.63	189.17	112.16	109.49	121.31	559.34
Total	2850.41	880.84	124.73	912.48	913.40	918.52	538.79	7698.50

Table 3: Monthly effort in the banana and tiger prawn seasons in 2015.

Effort (days)	April	May	June	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Total
Banana Prawn Fishery	1188	784	79	71	4	4	21	2151
Tiger Prawn Fishery (nominal)	5	153	56	1481	1493	1539	1312	6039
Tiger Fishery Prawn (effective)	15	448	164	4332	4367	4502	3838	17666
Total	1208	1385	299	5884	5864	6045	5171	25856

Table 4: Monthly catch rate for all species in the banana and tiger prawn seasons in 2015.

CPUE (t/day)	April	May	June	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Banana Prawn Fishery	2.403	1.051	1.324	1.156	1.265	0.305	1.023
Tiger Prawn Fishery (nominal)	0.554	0.483	0.425	0.688	0.684	0.668	0.487
Tiger Prawn Fishery (effective)	0.189	0.165	0.145	0.235	0.234	0.228	0.166

Vessel and gear information

Vessel length

A maximum of 52 vessels can fish at any one time in the NPF. A total of 53 different vessels fished in 2015, however only 52 fished in each season. As in 2014, the most common NPF vessel length in 2015 was between 22.0-22.9 m (Figure 6).

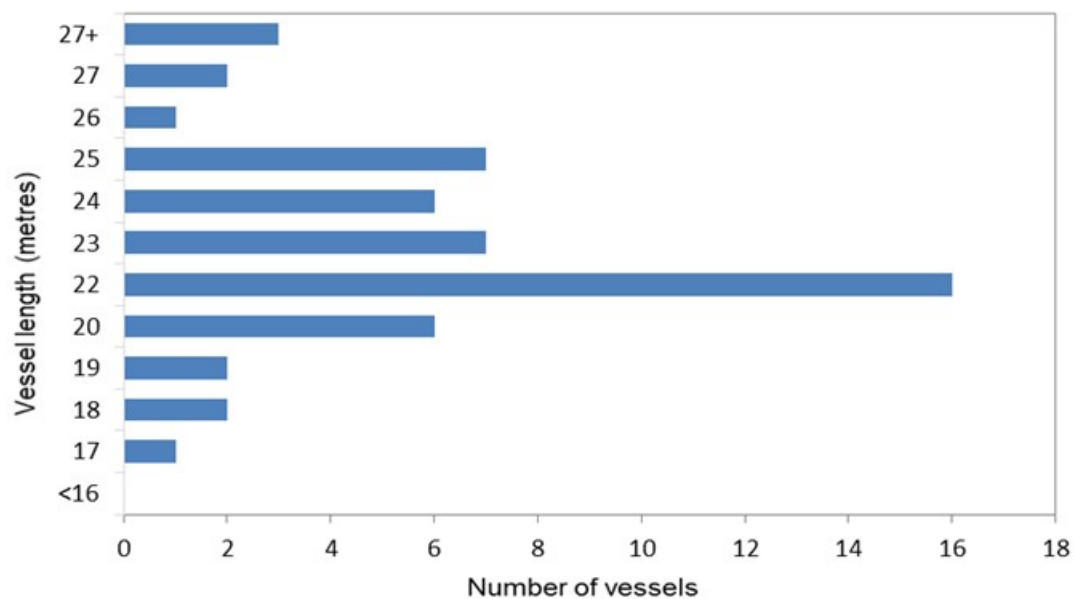


Figure 6: Frequency of vessel lengths in the NPF fleet in 2015.

Distribution of catch by vessel

In the 2015 banana prawn season, 33 vessels (63%) caught over 60 t (down from 43 vessels in 2014). Ten vessels (19%) caught 50-59t, 6 (12%) caught between 30 and 49 t and 3 (6%) caught less than 29 t (Figure 7a).

In the 2015 tiger prawn season the number of vessels with a total catch over 60 t increased substantially from 25 vessels (48%) in 2014 to 42 (81%) in 2015. Of the remaining 10 vessels, 4 (8%) reported catches of 50-59 t and 6 vessels (11%) reported catches of 40-49t (Figure 7b).

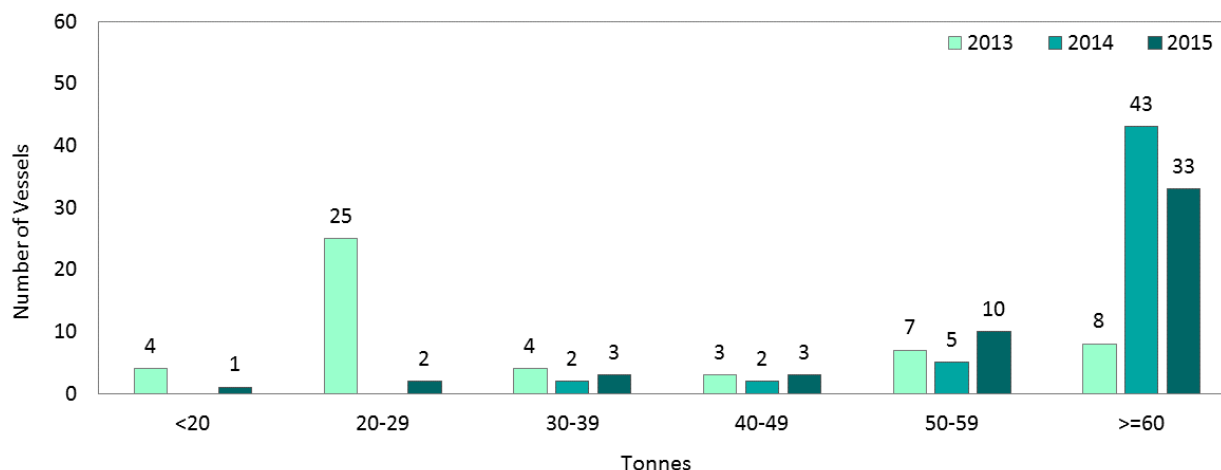


Figure 7a: Distribution of total catch in the banana prawn season, 2013-2015.

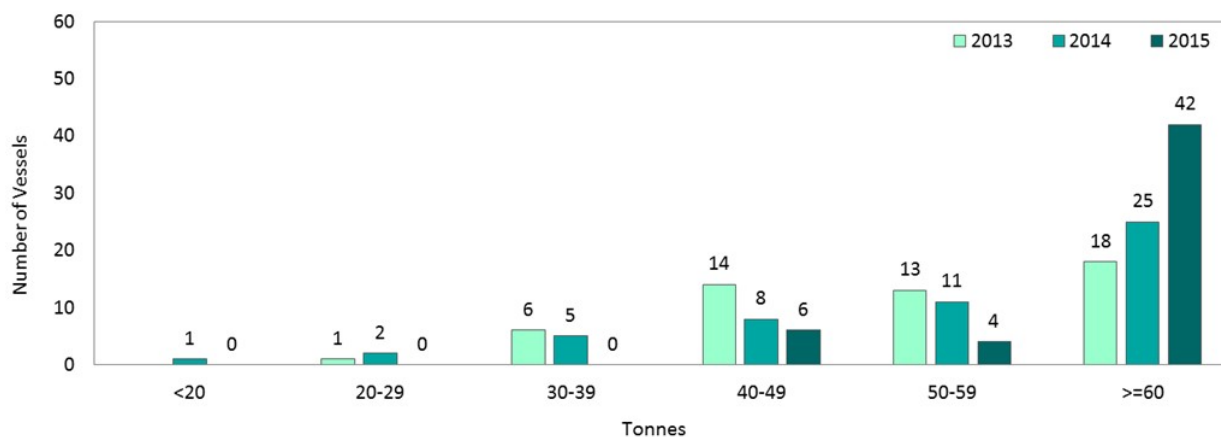


Figure 7b: Distribution of total catch in the tiger prawn season, 2013-2015.

Average catch per vessel

Average total prawn catch per vessel decreased from 166 t per vessel in 2014 to 148 t per vessel in 2015 (Figure 8a). The average catch per vessel for banana prawns decreased substantially from 120 t per vessel in 2014 to 75 t per vessels in 2015 (Figure 8b). Conversely, average catch of tiger prawns per vessel increased significantly from 32 t per vessel in 2014 to 61 t per vessel in 2015. This is the highest average total tiger prawn catch per vessel since records began in 1970 (Figure 8c).

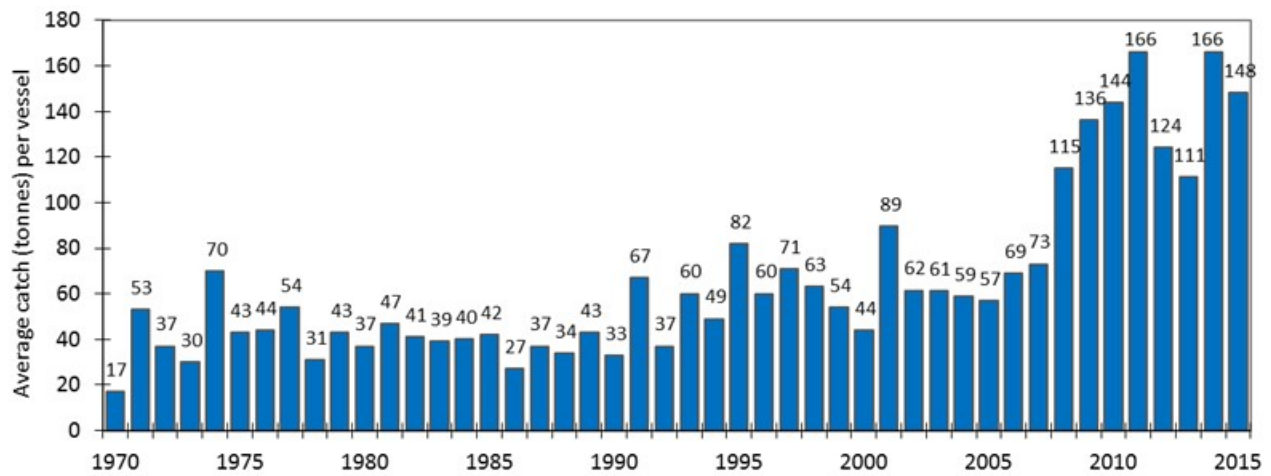


Figure 8a: Average total catch of all prawns per vessel in the NPF from 1970 to 2015.

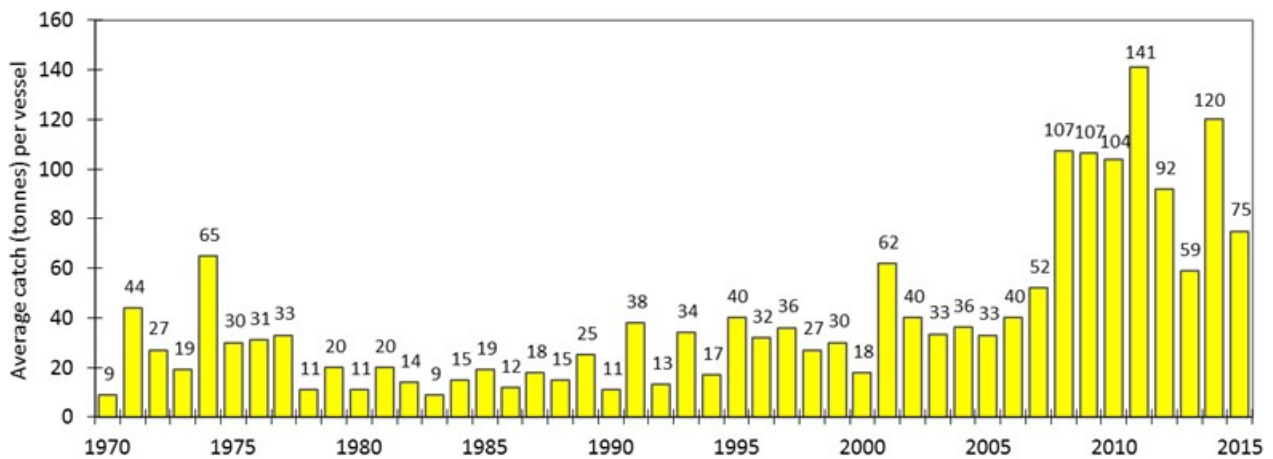


Figure 8b: Average total catch of banana prawns per vessel in the NPF from 1970 to 2015.

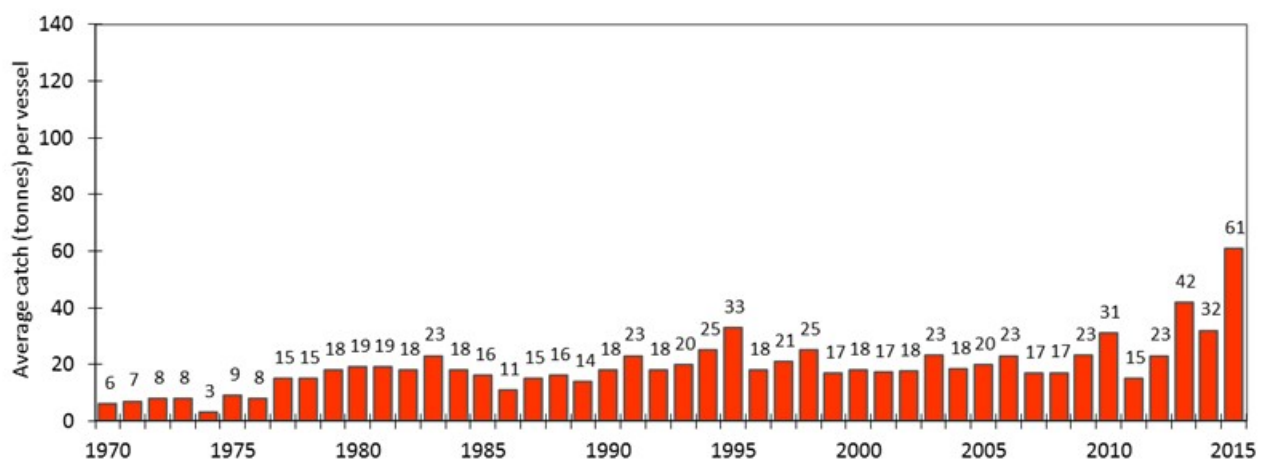


Figure 8c: Average total catch of tiger prawns per vessel in the NPF from 1970 to 2015.

Fishing Gear

Total tiger prawn headrope increased slightly from 1,488 fathoms (2.72 km) in 2014 to 1,500.17 fathoms (2.74km) (Figure 9). The mean headrope length in 2015 was 28.85 fathoms (52.71 m) compared with 28.61 fathoms (52.32 m) in 2014 (Figure 10).

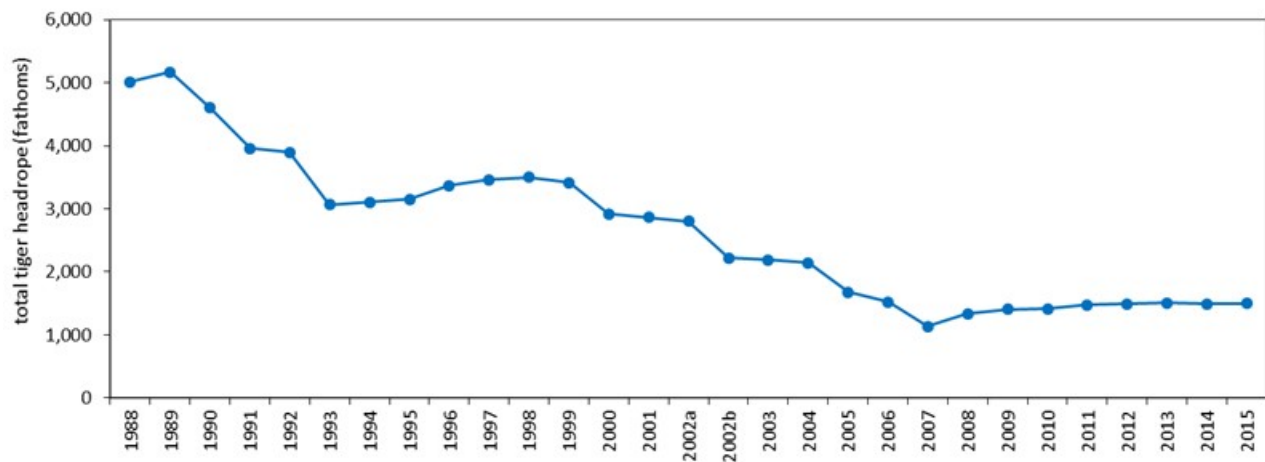


Figure 9: Total tiger prawn season headrope length in the NPF from 1988 to 2015.

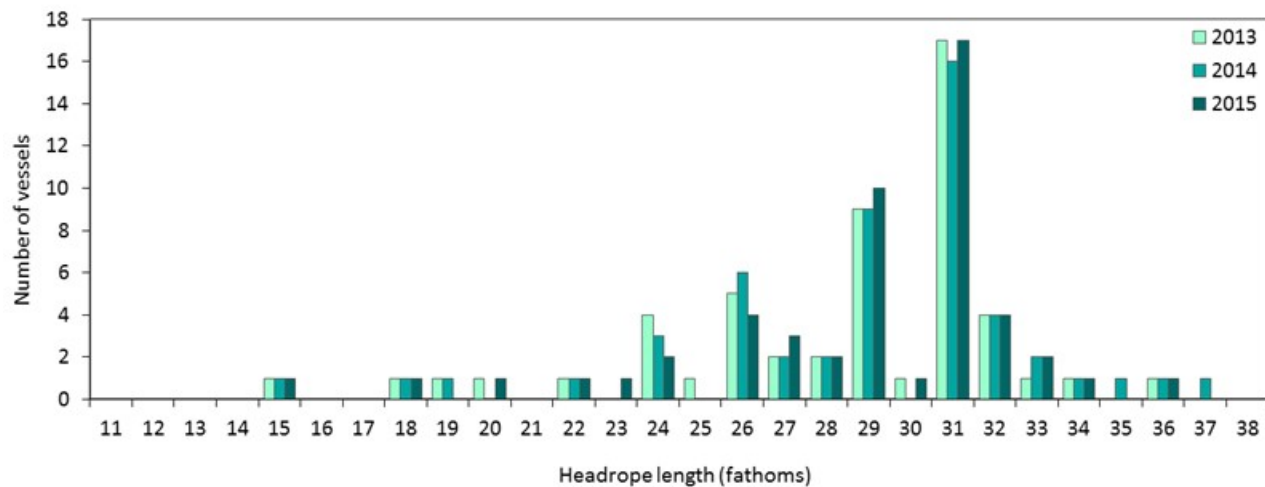


Figure 10: Frequency of headrope length for the tiger prawn season in the NPF from 2013 to 2015.

Catch and effort by statistical area in the Northern Prawn Fishery

All areas

Catch and effort has been partitioned into the 15 statistical areas illustrated below (Figure 11) and is detailed on the following pages. The highest banana prawn catches were recorded in the Bold area with 742 t (Figure 12), which was also the highest area for banana prawn catches in 2014 (1,445 t). As in 2014, the highest catches of tiger prawns were recorded in the Groote area with 1,386 t (Figure 13), an increase from 491 t in 2014.

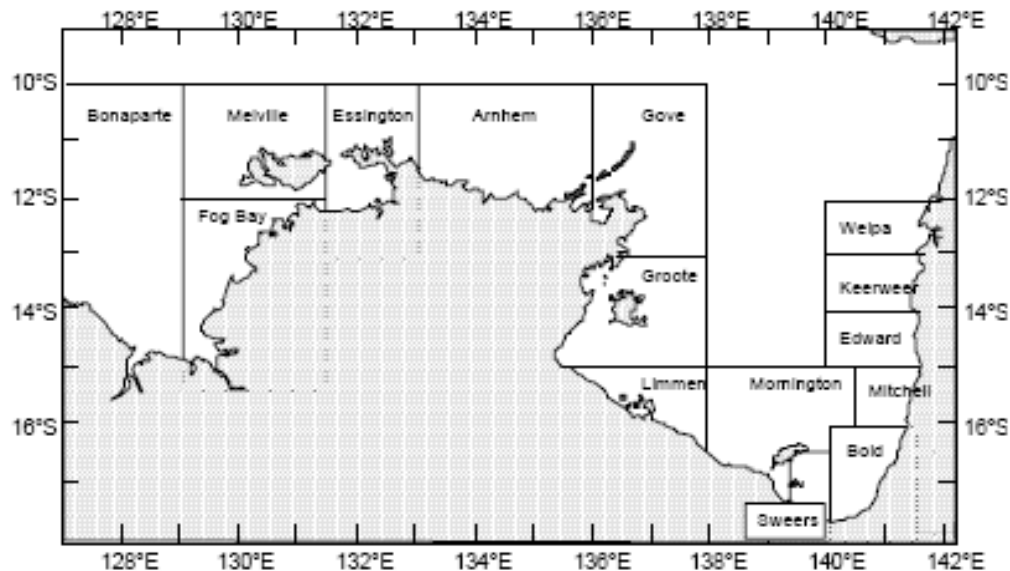


Figure 11: Statistical areas of the NPF.

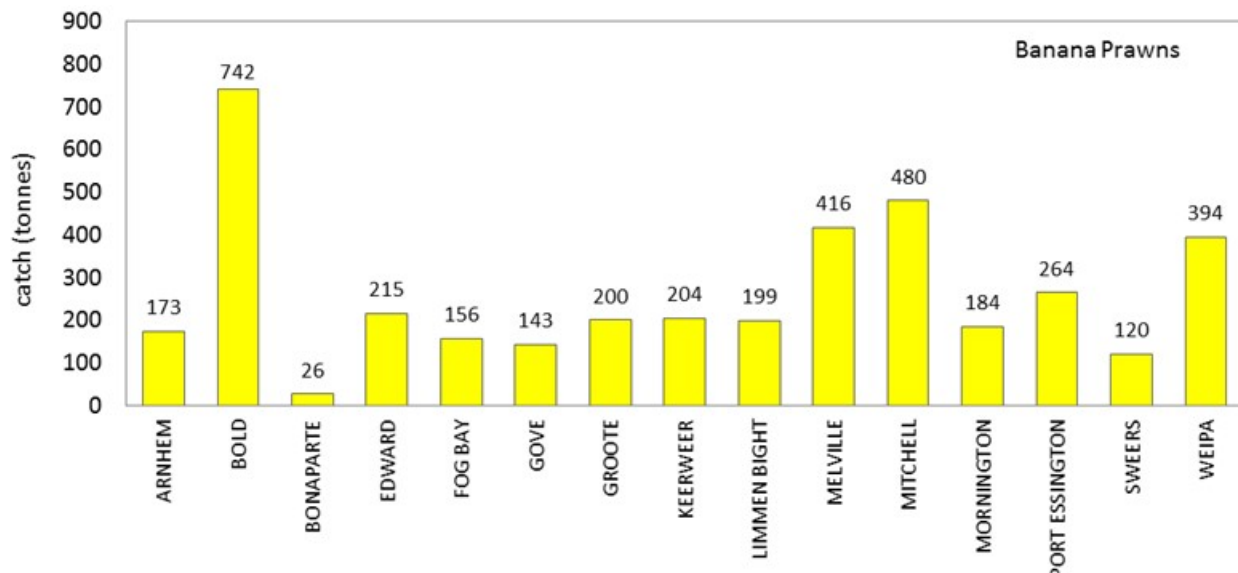


Figure 12: Total catch of banana prawns for each statistical area of the NPF in 2015.

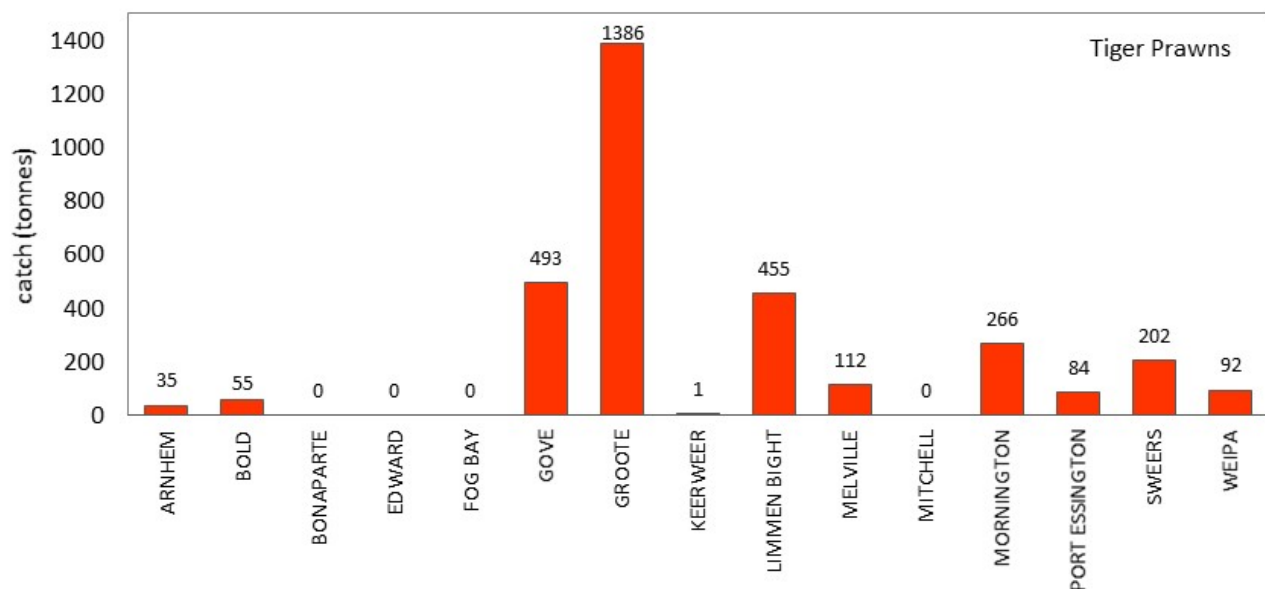


Figure 13: Total catch of tiger prawns for each statistical area of the NPF in 2015.

Weipa

Banana prawn catches in Weipa increased from 338 t in 2014 to 394 t in 2015. Tiger prawn catches decreased from 138 t in 2014 to 92 t in 2015 and catches of endeavour prawns also decreased from 160 t in 2014 to 28 t in 2015 (Figure 14). Banana prawns again dominated the catches in Weipa during 2015, comprising 77%, with tiger prawns making up 18% and endeavor prawns 5% (Figure 15).

Effort in the banana prawn fishery increased slightly from 136 days in 2014 to 178 days in 2015 (Figure 16a). CPUE of banana prawns decreased from 2.49 t per day in 2014 to 2.21 t per day in 2015 (Figure 16b). Effort in the tiger prawn fishery decreased from 559 days in 2014 to 298 days in 2015 (Figure 16a). Nominal and effective CPUE of tiger prawns decreased from 0.533 and 0.201 t per day, respectively, in 2014 to 0.403 and 0.138 t per day in 2015 (Figure 16c).

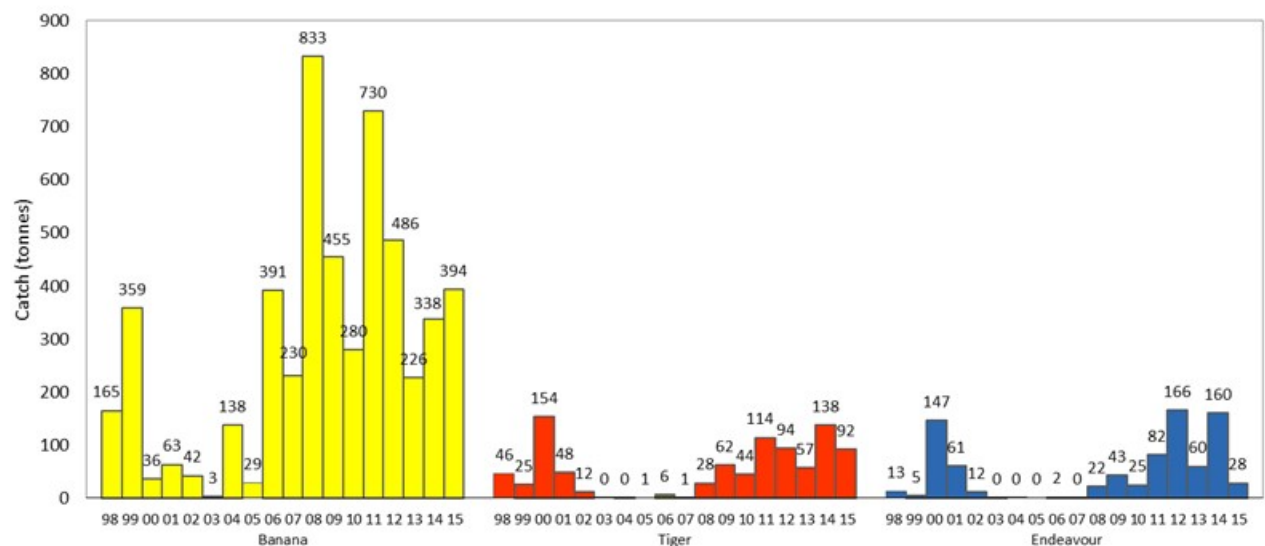


Figure 14: Catch by species in the Weipa area - 1998 to 2015.

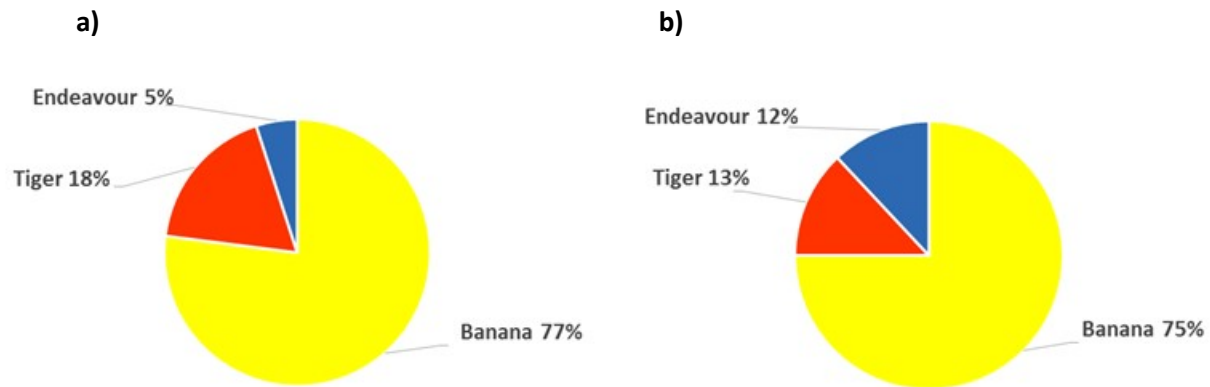


Figure 15: (a) Percentage catch of prawn species in the Weipa area during 2015, and (b) percentage catch of prawn species in the Weipa area, 1998 to 2015.

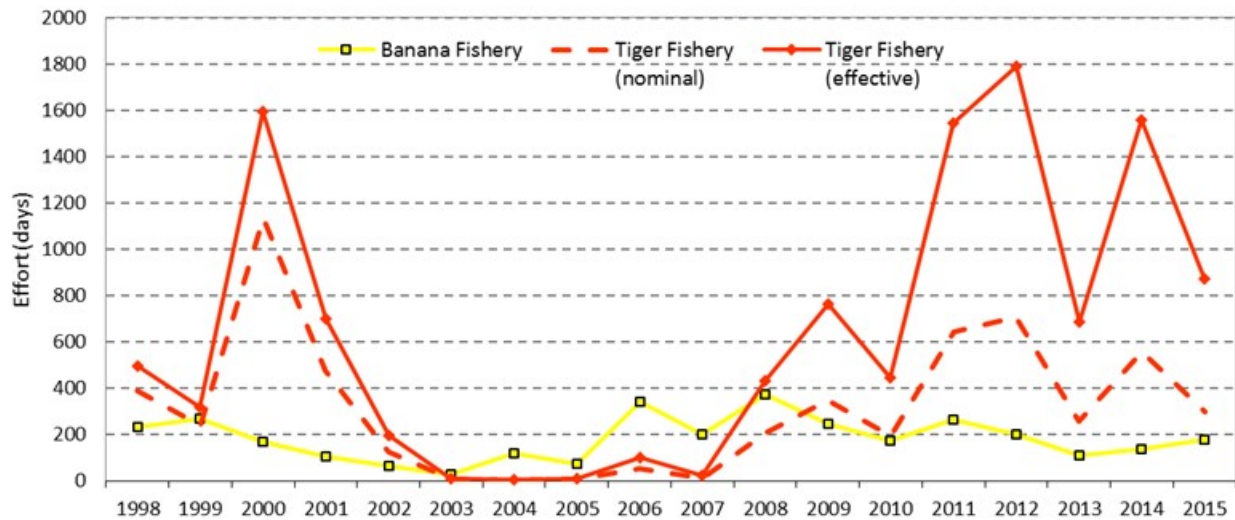


Figure 16a: Effort for the banana and tiger prawn fisheries in the Weipa area -1998 to 2015.

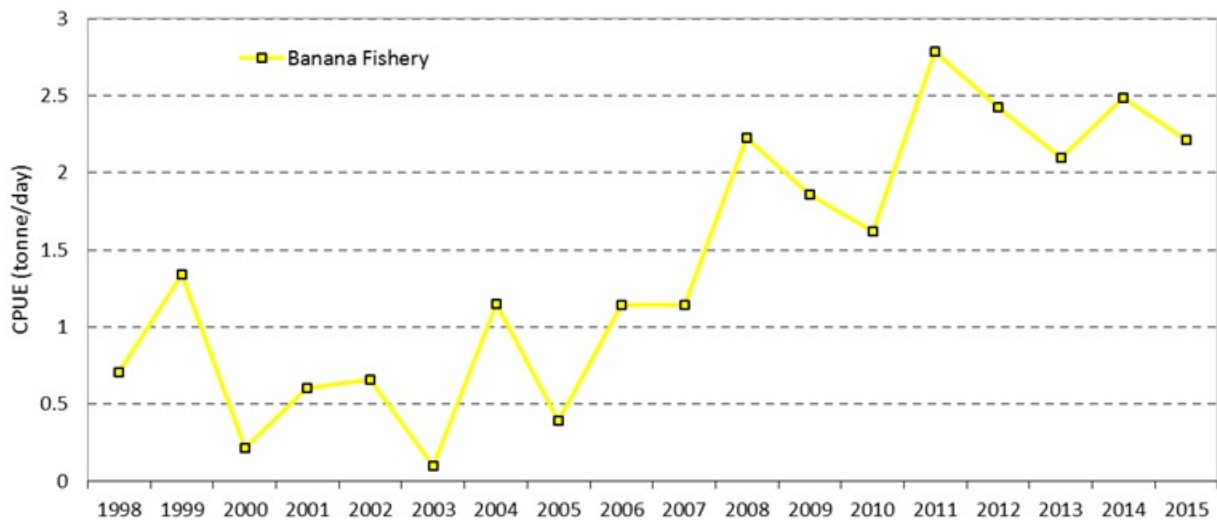


Figure 16b: Catch rate for the banana prawn fishery in the Weipa area - 1998 to 2015.

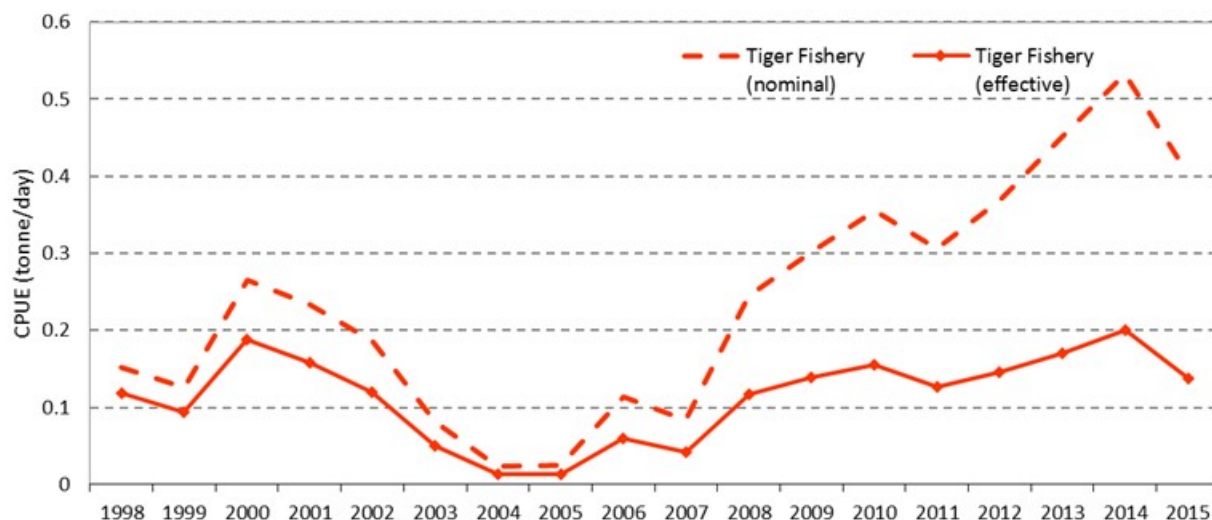


Figure 16c: Nominal and effective catch rate for the tiger prawn fishery in the Weipa area, 1998 to 2015.

Keerweer

Banana prawn catches in the Keerweer region increased from 139 t in 2014 to 204 t in 2015 (Figure 17). Catches of tiger and endeavor prawns were both <2 t in 2015 (Figure 17). Banana prawns comprised 99% of the catch in 2015 (Figure 18).

Effort in the banana prawn fishery increased from 139 days in 2014 to 204 days in 2015 (Figure 19a). CPUE for banana prawns also increased from 1.67 t per day in 2014 to 2.49 t per day in 2015 (Figure 19b). Nominal and effective CPUE of tiger prawns increased again from 0.333 and 0.125 t per day, respectively, in 2014 to 0.600 and 0.226 in 2015 (Figure 19c).

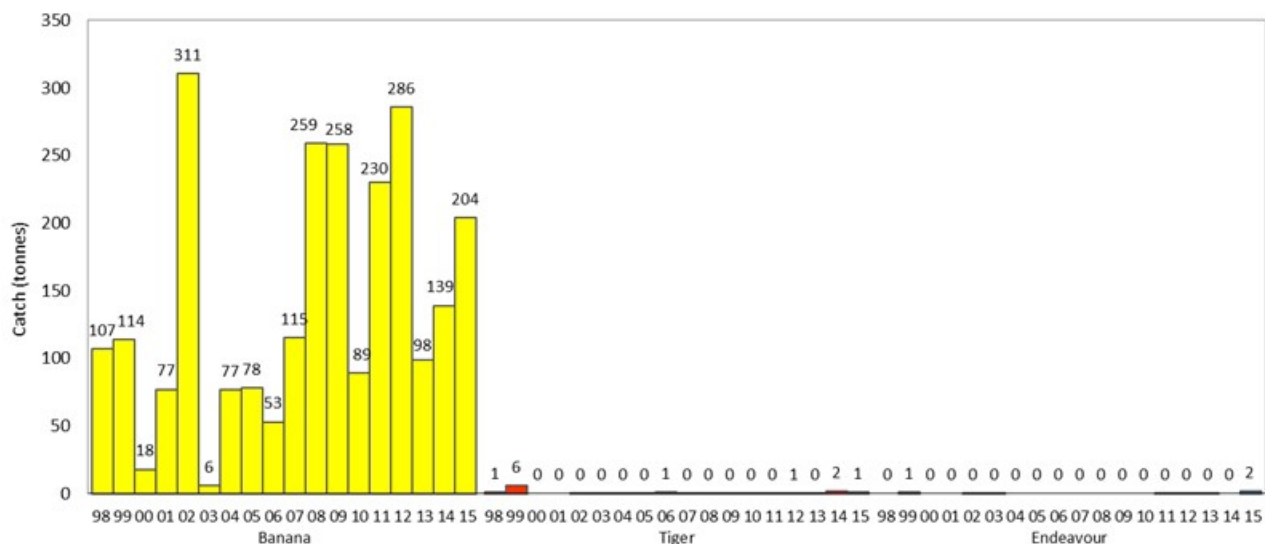


Figure 17: Catch by species in the Keerweer area - 1998 to 2015.

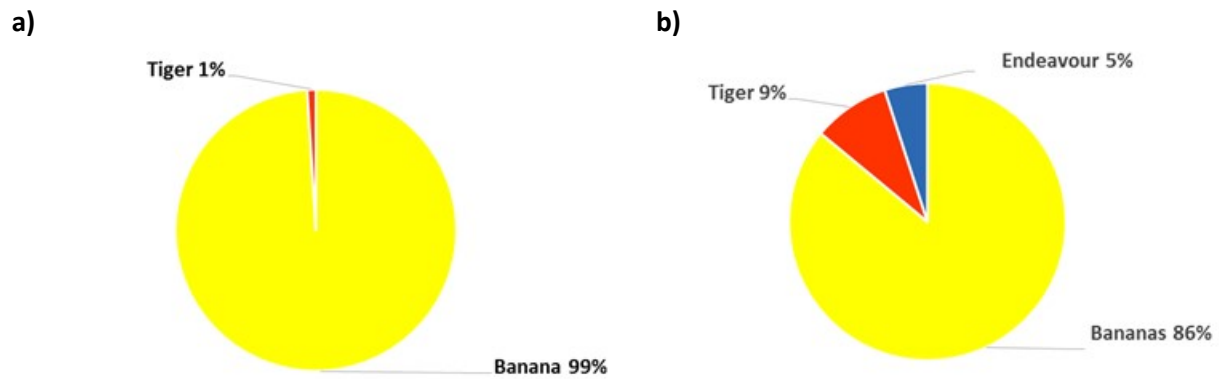


Figure 18: (a) Percentage catch of prawn species in the Keerweer area during 2015 and (b) percentage catch of prawn species in the Keerweer area, 1998 to 2015.

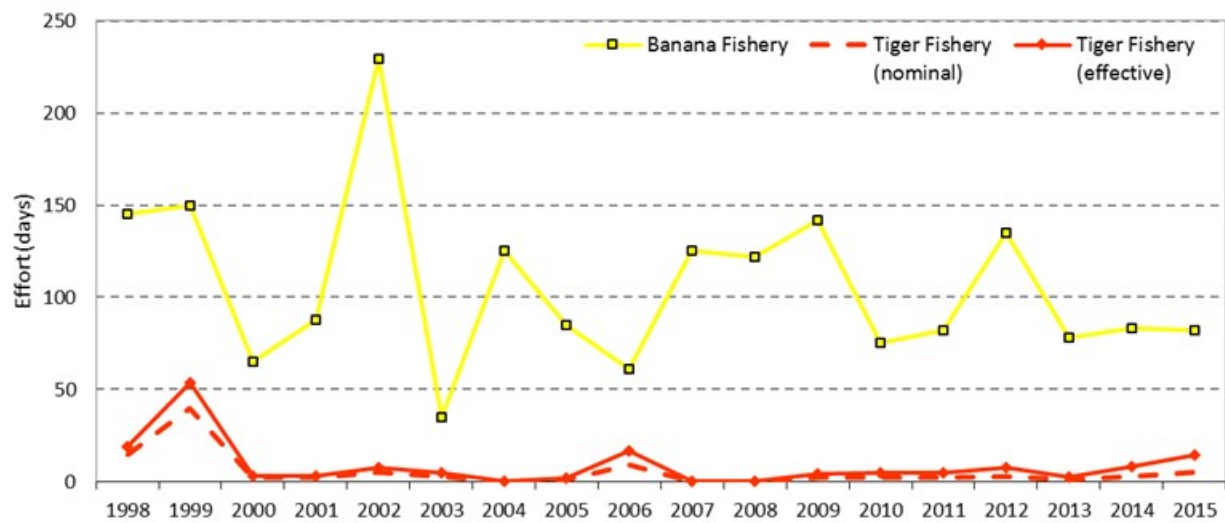


Figure 19a: Effort for the banana and tiger prawn fisheries in the Keerweer area - 1998 to 2015.

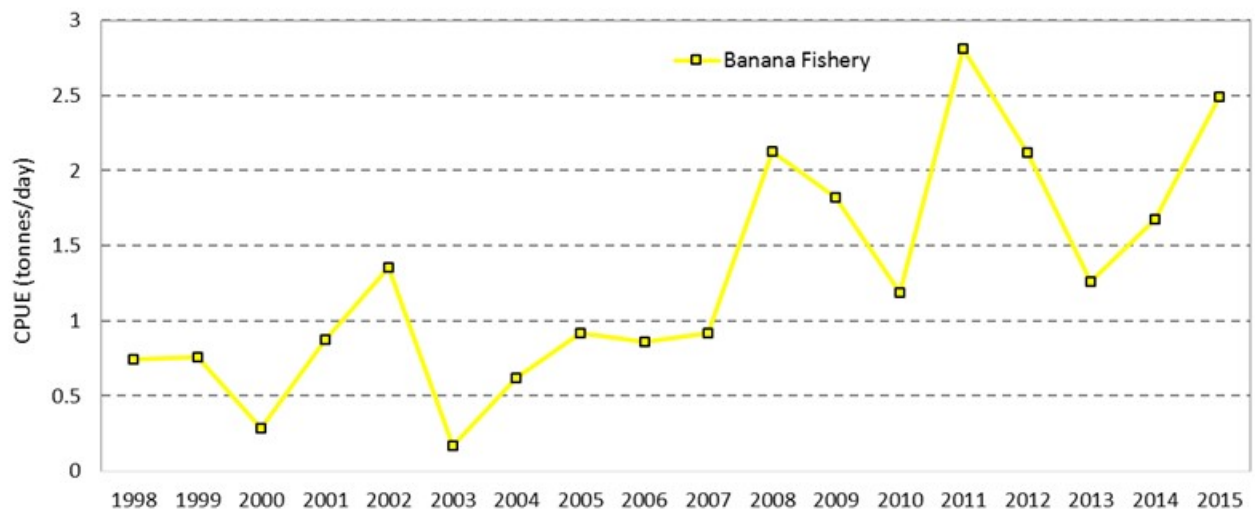


Figure 19b: Catch rate for the banana prawn fishery in the Keerweer area - 1998 to 2015.

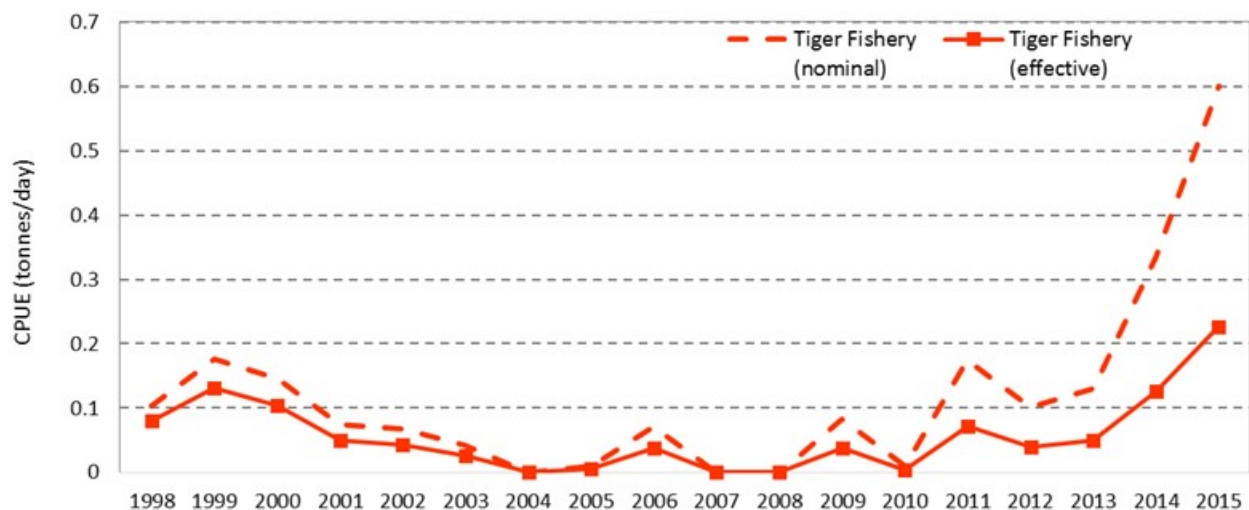


Figure 19c: Nominal and effective catch rate for the tiger prawn fishery in the Keerweer area - 1998 to 2015.

Edward

Banana prawn catches in the Edward area decreased slightly from 16 250 t in 2014 to 215 t in 2015 (Figure 20). Catches of tiger prawns was less than 1 t and no endeavour prawns were caught in this region in 2015. Banana prawns comprised 99.97% of the catch in 2015 (Figure 21).

Effort in the banana prawn fishery decreased from 128 days in 2014 to 113 days in 2015 (Figure 22a). CPUE of banana prawns decreased from 1.953 t per day in 2014 to 1.90 t per day in 2015 (Figure 22b). Nominal and effective CPUE of tiger prawns increased from zero in 2014 to 0.10 and 0.034 t per day, respectively, in 2015 (Figure 22a, c).

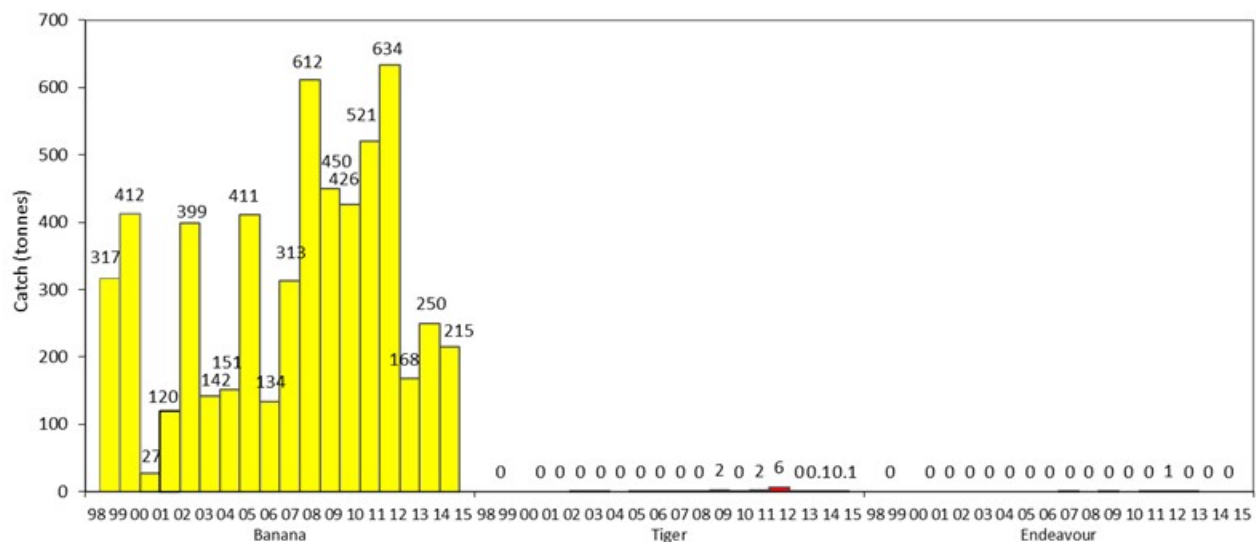


Figure 20: Catch by species in the Edward area, 1998 to 2015.

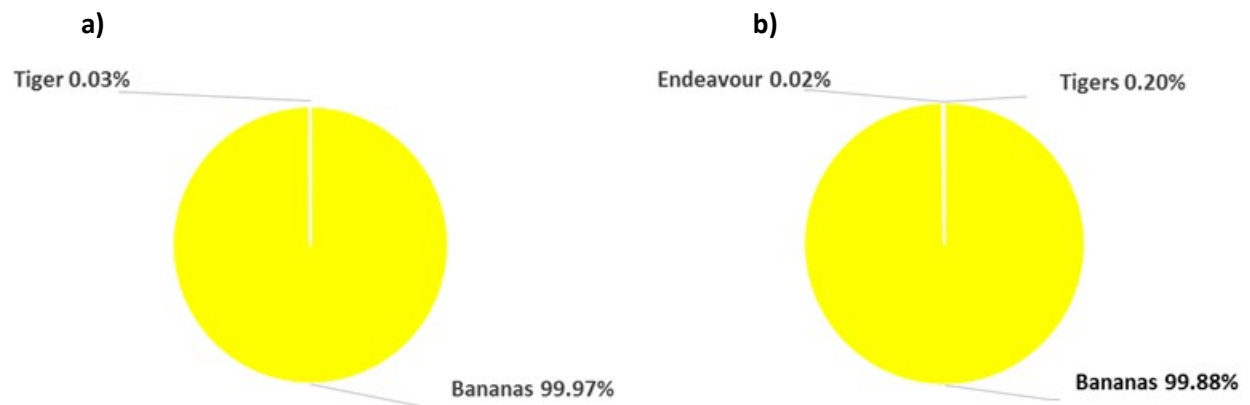


Figure 21: (a) Percentage catch of prawn species in the Edward area during 2015 and (b) percentage catch of prawn species in the Edward area, 1998 to 2015.

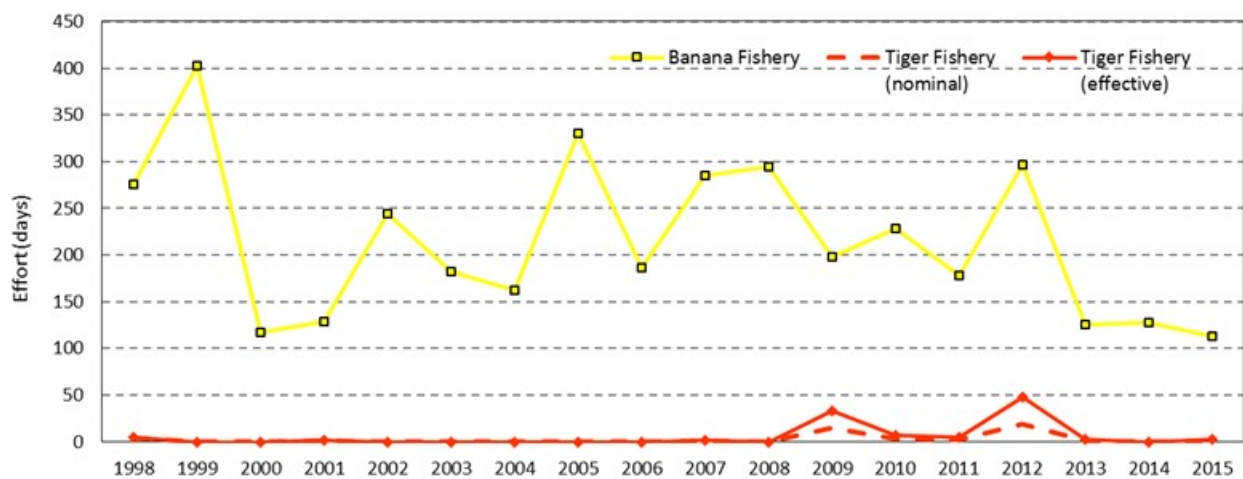


Figure 22a: Effort for the banana and tiger prawn fisheries in the Edward area - 1998 to 2015.



Figure 22b: Catch rate for the banana prawn fishery in the Edward area - 1998 to 2015.

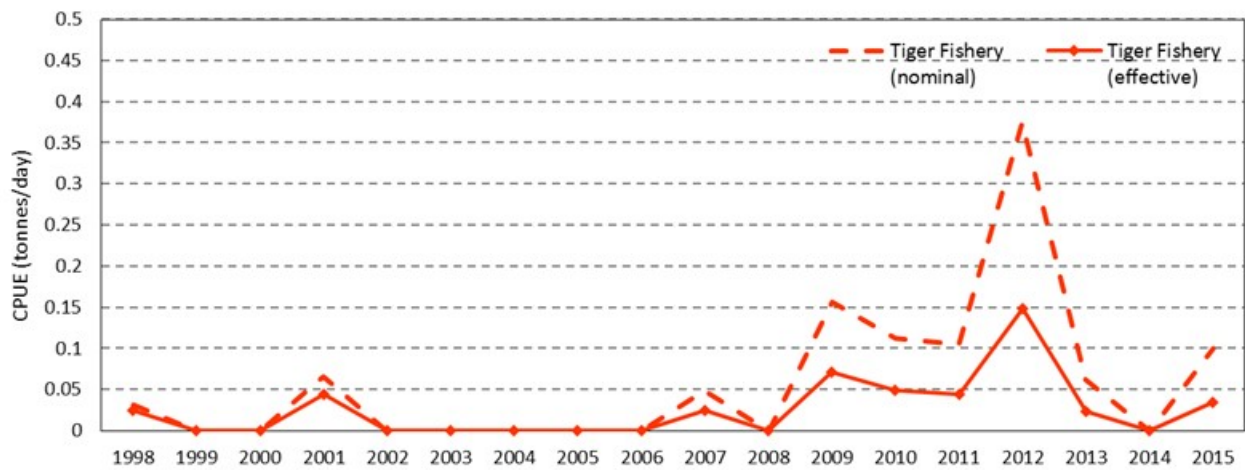


Figure 22c: Nominal and effective catch rate for the tiger prawn fishery in the Edward area - 1998 to 2015.

Mitchell

Banana prawn catches in the Mitchell area decreased from 528 t in 2014 to 480 t in 2015 (Figure 23). Tiger and Endeavour prawn catches were both 0 t, as has been the case for many years. Banana prawns comprised 100% of the catch in this area during 2015 (Figure 24).

Effort in the banana prawn fishery decreased from 210 days in 2014 to 131 days in 2015 (Figure 25a). However, CPUE of banana prawns increased from 2.514 t per day in 2014 to 3.66 t per day in 2015 (Figure 25b). Nominal and effective CPUE of tiger prawns remained at zero in 2015 (Figure 25a, c).

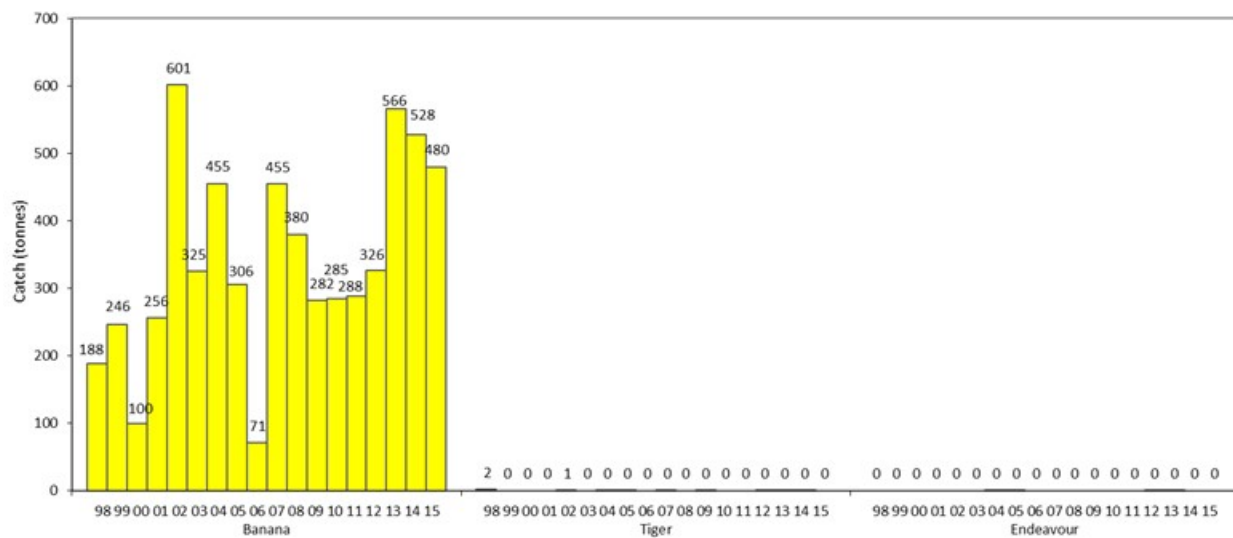
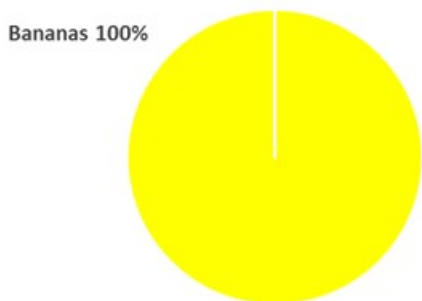


Figure 23: Catch by species in the Mitchell area - 1998 to 2015.

a)



b)

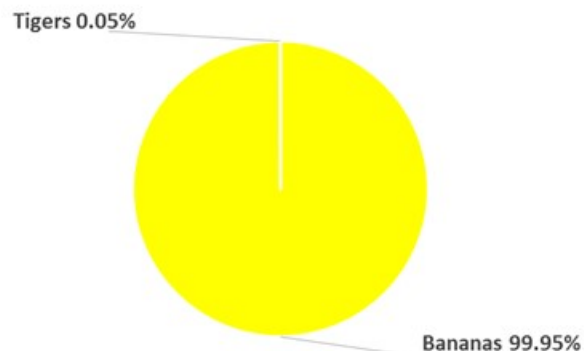


Figure 24: (a) Percentage catch of prawn species in the Mitchell area during 2014 and (b) percentage catch of prawn species in the Mitchell area, 1998 to 2015.

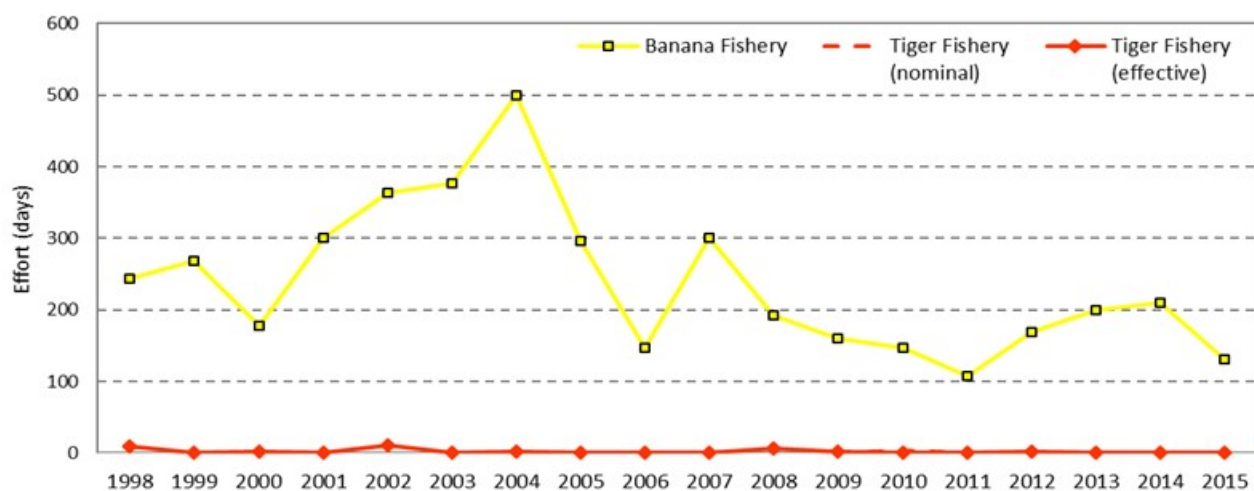


Figure 25a: Effort for the banana and tiger prawn fisheries in the Mitchell area - 1998 to 2015.

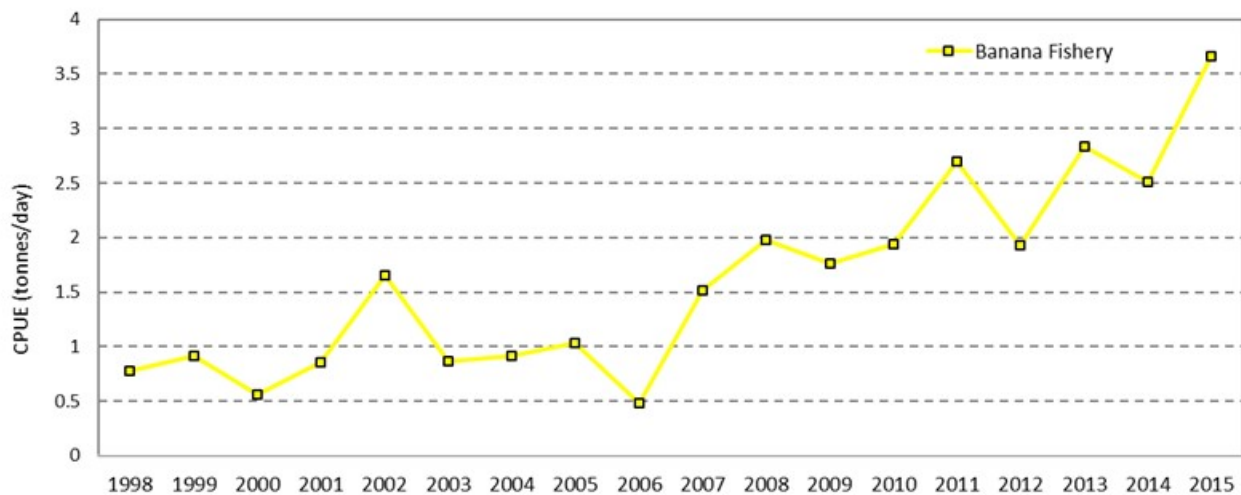


Figure 25b: Catch rate for the banana prawn fishery in the Mitchell area - 1998 to 2015.

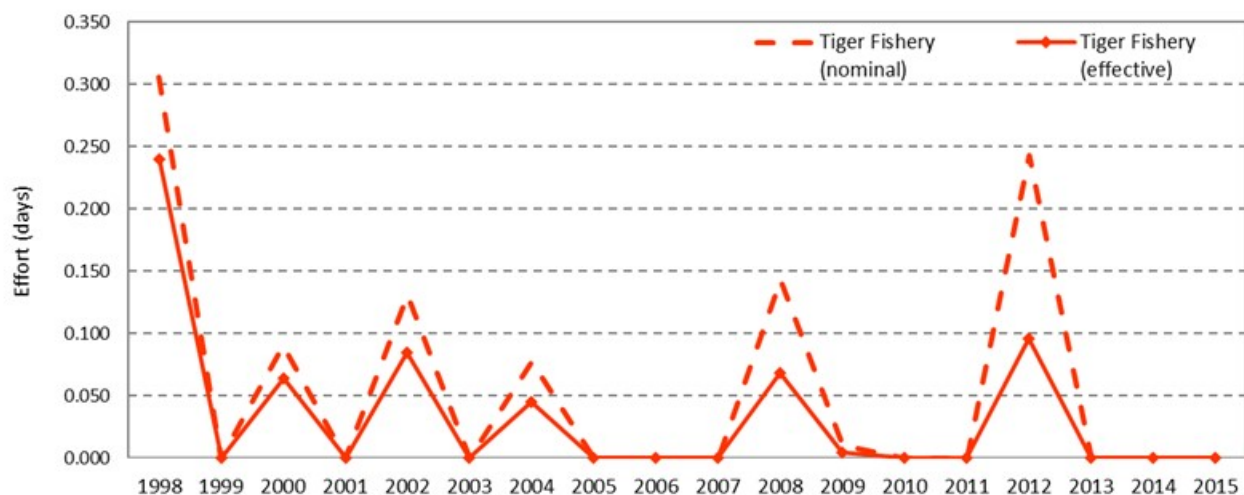


Figure 25c: Nominal and effective catch rate for the tiger prawn fishery in the Mitchell area - 1998 to 2015.

Bold

Banana prawn catches in the Bold area decreased substantially from 1,445 t in 2014 to 742 t in 2015 (Figure 26). Catches of tiger prawns increased from 42 t in 2014 to 55 t in 2015. Endeavour prawn catches decreased from 21 t in 2014 to 9 t in 2015. Banana prawns dominated the catch in this area in 2015, comprising 92% of the catch, with tiger prawns (7%) and endeavour prawns (1%) making up the remainder (Figure 27a).

Effort in the banana prawn fishery decreased from 518 days in 2014 to 271 days in 2015 (Figure 28a). CPUE of banana prawns decreased from 2.78 t per day in 2014 to 2.73 t per day in 2015 (Figure 28b). Effort in the tiger prawn fishery decreased from 131 days in 2014 to 112 days in 2015 (Figure 28a). Nominal and effective CPUE of tiger prawns decreased from 0.511 and 0.192 t per day in 2014 to 0.491 and 0.169, respectively, in 2015 (Figure 28c).

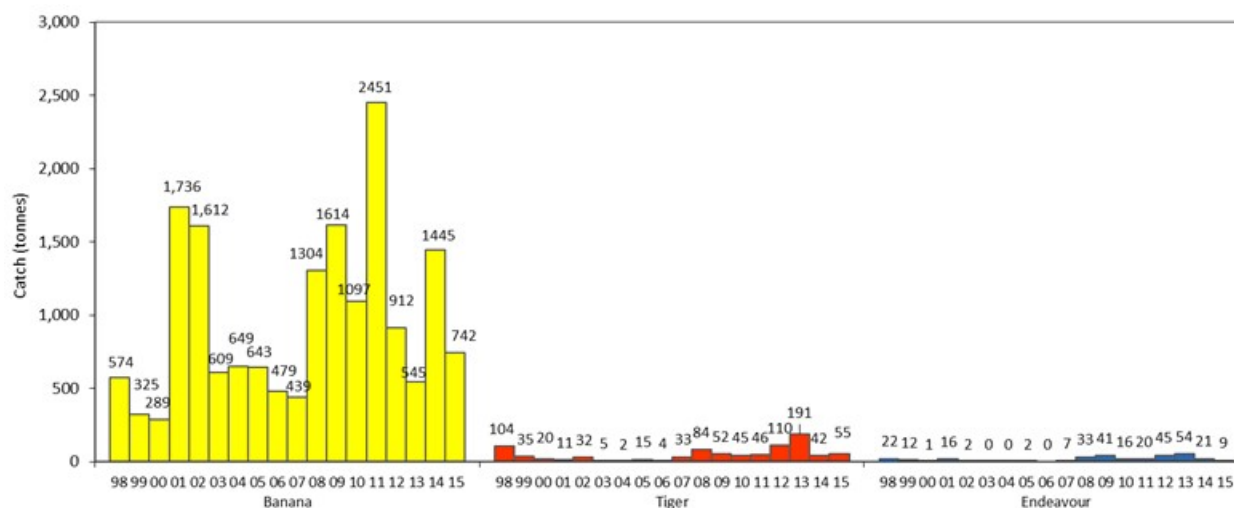


Figure 26: Catch by species in the Bold area - 1998 to 2015.

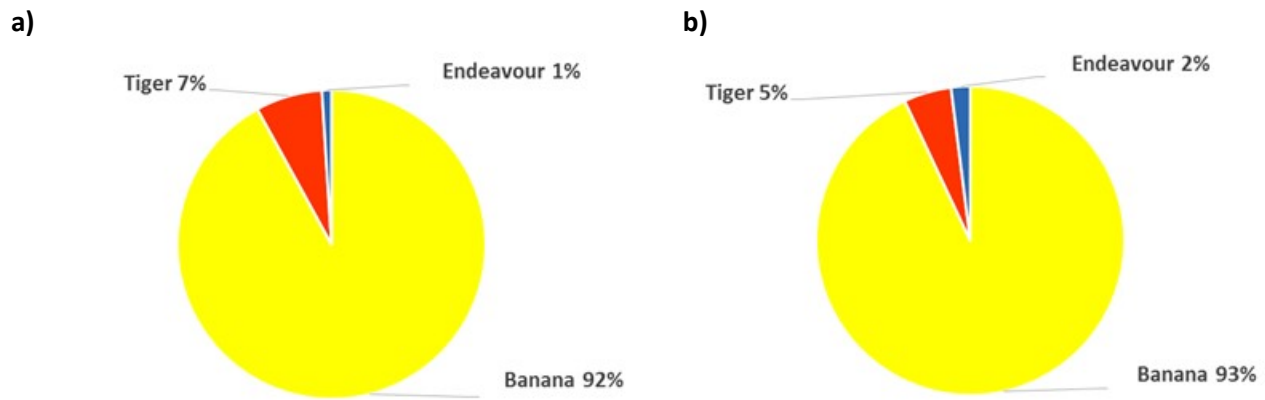


Figure 27: (a) Percentage catch of prawn species in the Bold area during 2015 and (b) catch of prawn species in the Bold area - 1998 to 2015.

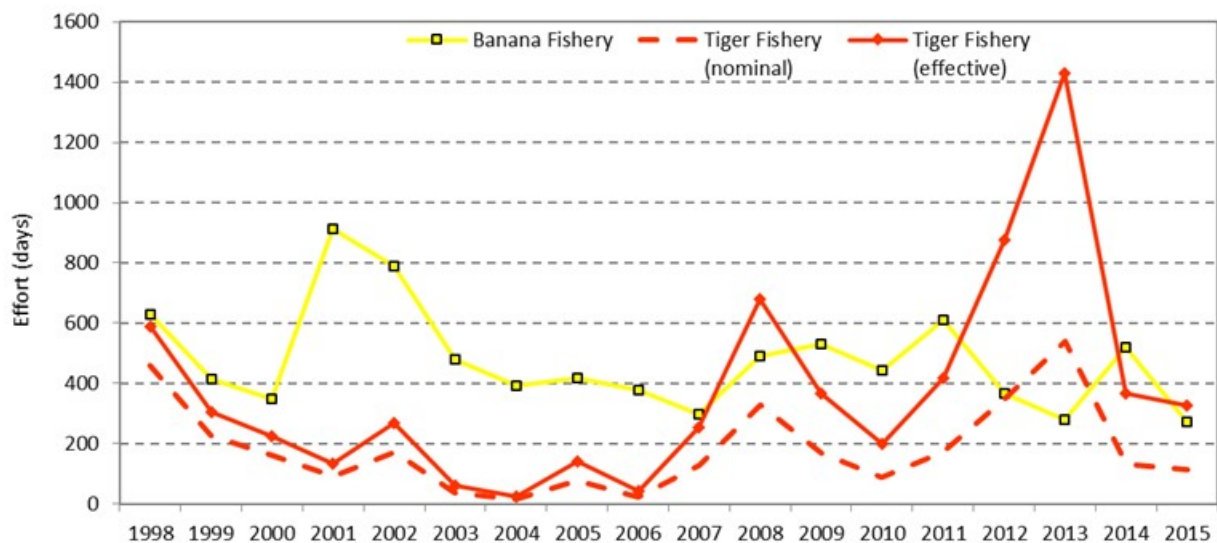


Figure 28a: Effort for the banana and tiger prawn fisheries in the Bold area - 1998 to 2015.

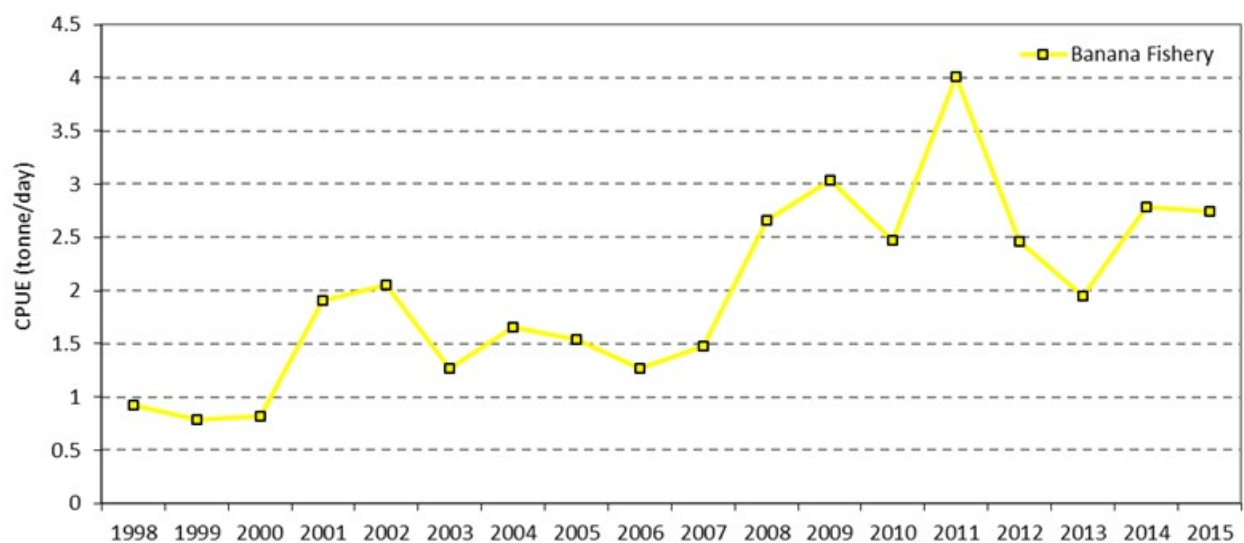


Figure 28b: Catch rate for the banana prawn fishery in the Bold area - 1998 to 2015.

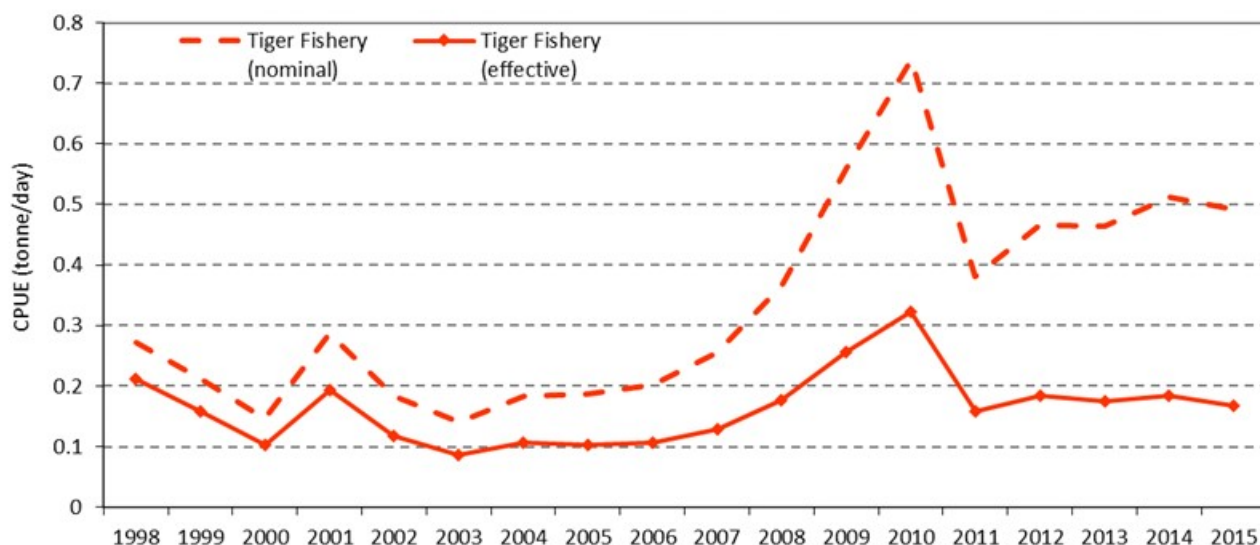


Figure 28c: Nominal and effective catch rate for the tiger prawn fishery in the Bold area - 1998 to 2015.

Sweers

Banana prawn catches in the Sweers area decreased from 436 t in 2014 to 120 t in 2015 (Figure 29). Catches of tiger prawns increased from 70 t in 2014 to 202 t in 2015 and endeavour also prawns increased from 49 t in 2014 to 66 t in 2015. Banana prawns comprised 31% of the catch in 2015 compared to 78.5% in 2014. Tiger and endeavor prawns comprising 52% and 17%, respectively, (Figure 30a) compared to 12.5% and 9% in 2014 (Figure 30a).

Effort in the banana prawn fishery decreased from 144 days in 2014 to 56 days in 2015 (Figure 31a). CPUE of banana prawns decreased from 2.97 t per day in 2014 to 2.09 t per day in 2015 (Figure 31b). Effort in the tiger prawn fishery increased from 223 days in 2014 to 374 days in 2015 (Figure 31a). Nominal and effective CPUE of tiger prawns increased from 0.578 and 0.218 t per day in 2014 to 0.757 and 0.259, respectively, in 2015 (Figure 31c).

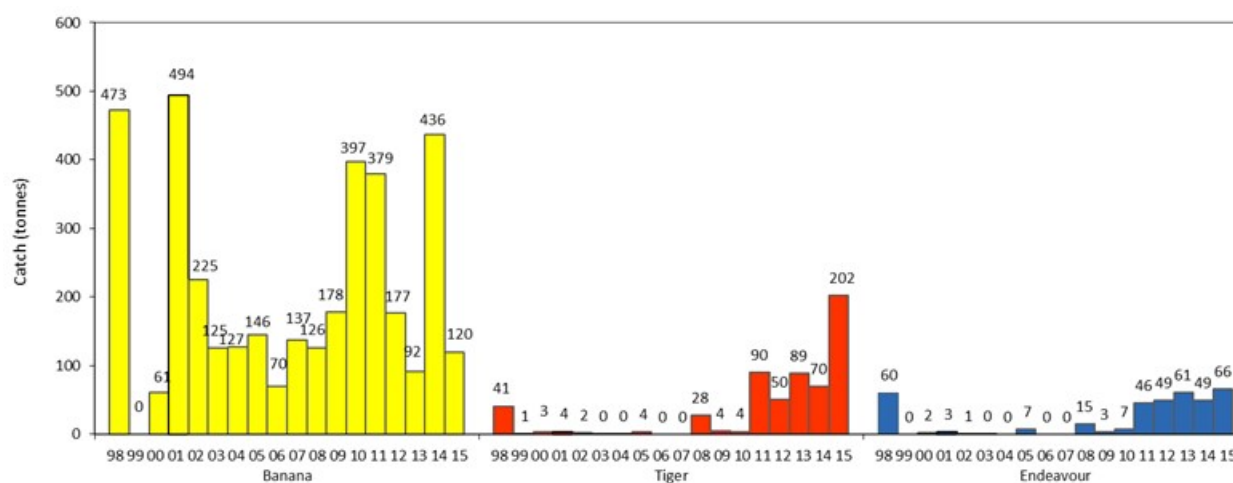
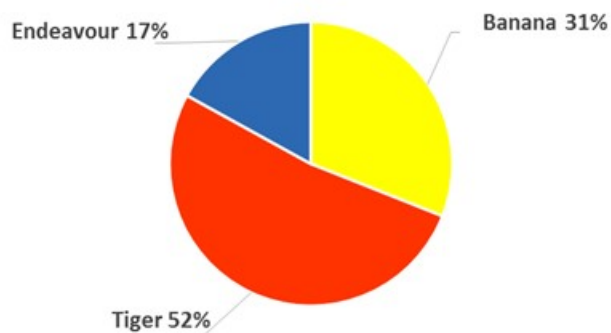


Figure 29: Catch by species in the Sweers area - 1998 to 2015.

a)



b)

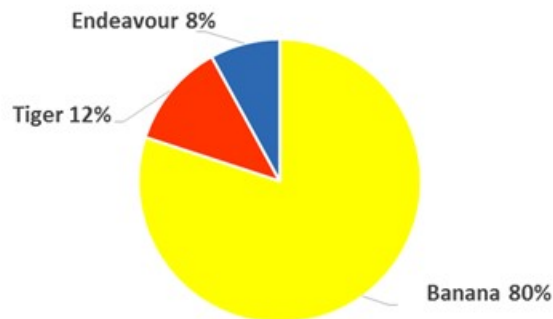


Figure 30: (a) Percentage catch of prawn species in the Sweers area during 2015, and (b) percentage catch of prawn species in the Sweers area - 1998 to 2015.

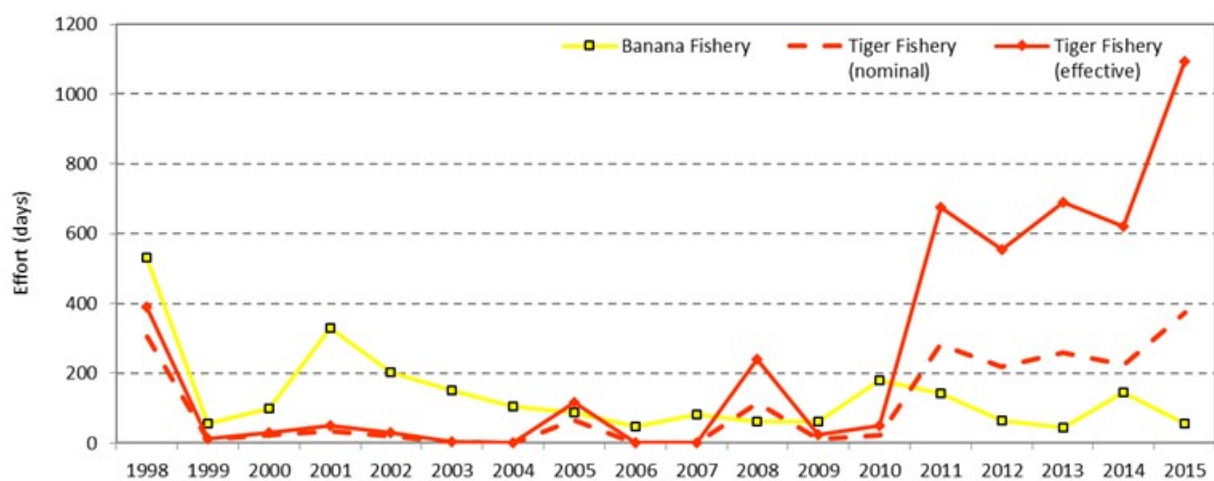


Figure 31a: Effort for the banana and tiger prawn fisheries in the Sweers area - 1998 to 2015.

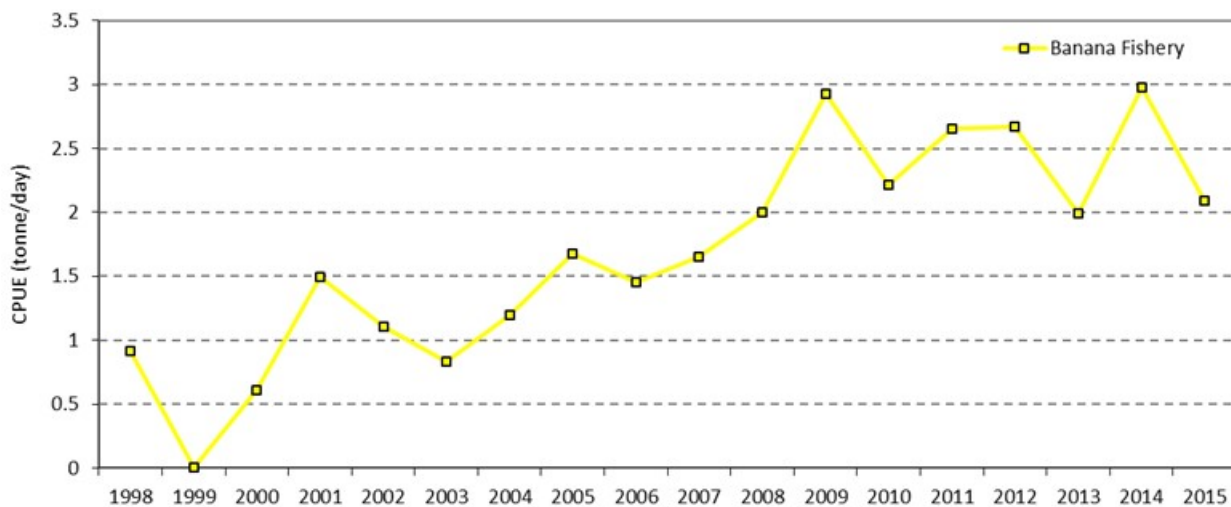


Figure 31b: Catch rate for the banana prawn fishery in the Sweers area - 1998 to 2015.

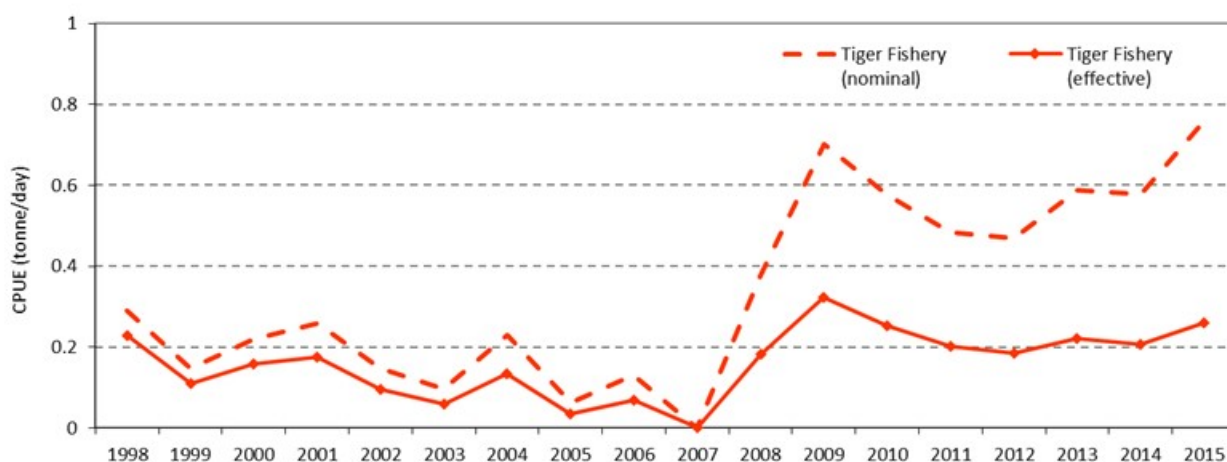


Figure 31c: Nominal and effective catch rate for the tiger prawn fishery in the Sweers area - 1998 to 2015.

Mornington

Banana prawn catches in the Mornington area decreased from 352 t in 2014 to 184 t in 2015 (Figure 32). Catches of tiger prawns increased again, from 188 t in 2014 to 266 t in 2015. Endeavour prawn catches increased slightly from 40 t in 2014 to 43 t in 2015. In contrast to 2014, tiger prawns dominated the catch in this area, contributing 54% of the catch in 2015, with banana and endeavor prawns contributing 37% and 9% to the total catch, respectively (Figure 33a).

Effort in the banana prawn fishery decreased from 186 days in 2014 to 75 days in 2015 (Figure 34a). CPUE of banana prawns increased from 1.897 t per day in 2014 to 2.40 t per day in 2015 (Figure 34b). Effort in the tiger prawn fishery decreased slightly from 599 days in 2014 to 567 days in 2015 (Figure 34a). Nominal and effective CPUE of tiger prawns increased from 0.383 and 0.145 t per day in 2014 to 0.580 and 0.198 t per day, respectively, in 2015 (Figure 34c).

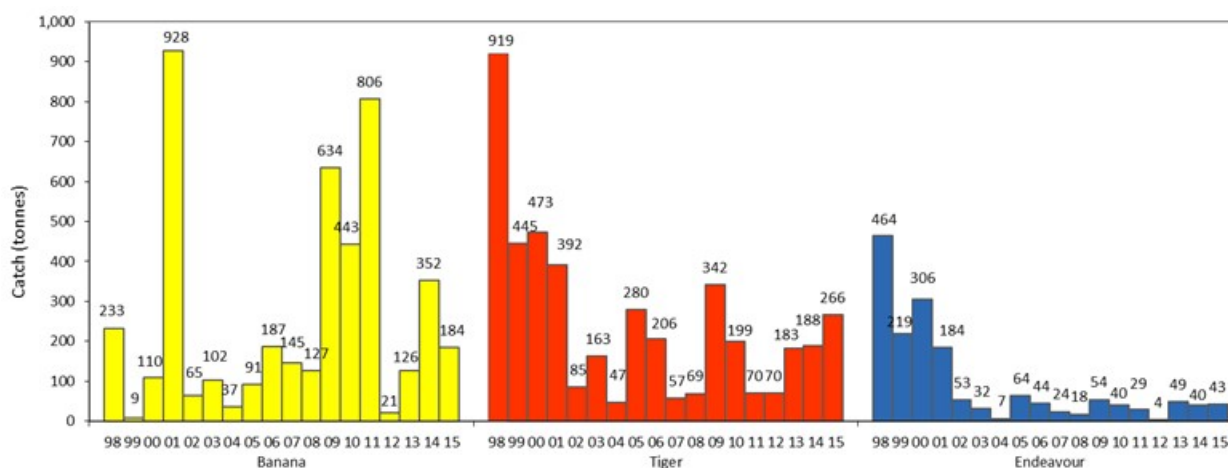
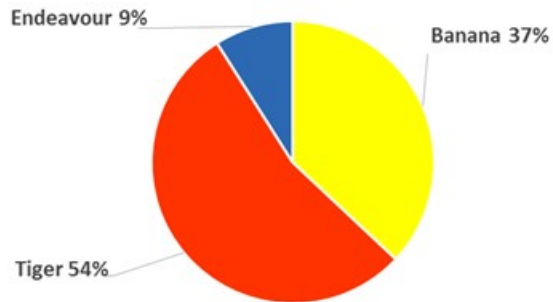


Figure 32: Catch by species in the Mornington area - 1998 to 2015.

a)



b)

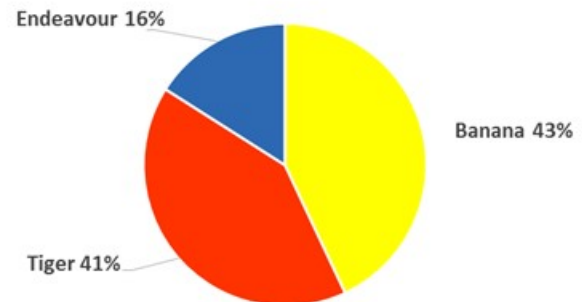


Figure 33: (a) Percentage catch of prawn species in the Mornington area during 2015 and (b) percentage catch of prawn species in the Mornington area - 1998 to 2015.

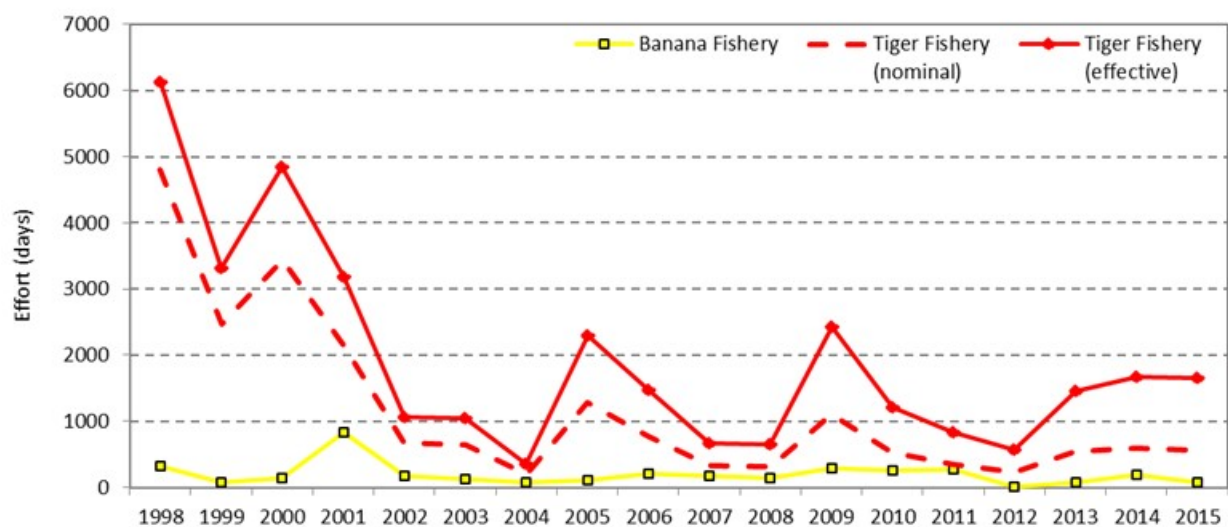


Figure 34a: Effort for the banana and tiger prawn fisheries in the Mornington area - 1998 to 2015.

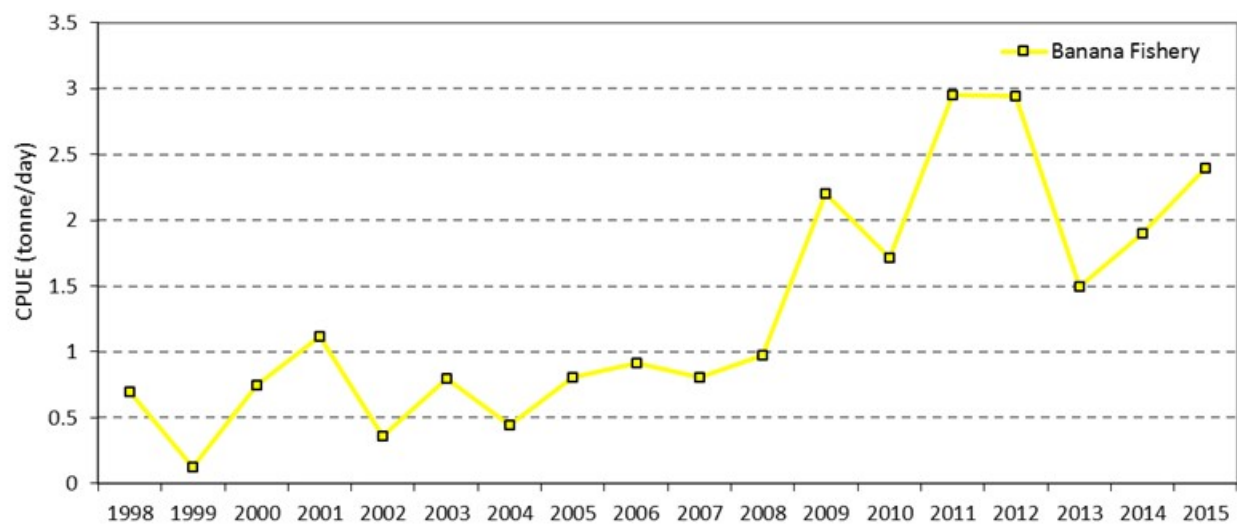


Figure 34b: Catch rate for the banana prawn fishery in the Mornington area - 1998 -2015.

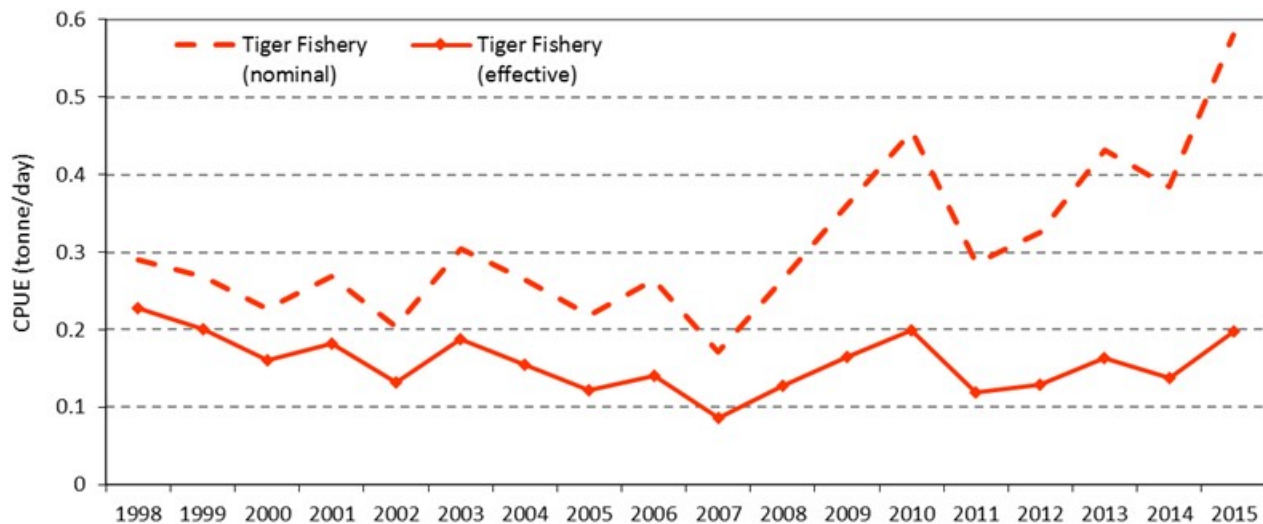


Figure 34c: Nominal and effective catch rate for the tiger prawn fishery in the Mornington area - 1998 to 2015.

Limmen Bight

Banana prawn catches in the Limmen Bight area decreased 516 t in 2014 to 199 t in 2015 (Figure 35). Catches of tiger prawns increased from 364 t in 2014 to 455 t in 2015. Endeavour prawn catches decreased from 48 t in 2014 to 21 t in 2015. As in 2014, banana prawns dominated catches for 2015, comprising 56% of the total catch (compared to 81% tigers in 2013) (Figure 36).

Effort in the banana prawn fishery decreased from 191 days in 2014 to 106 days in 2015 (Figure 37a). CPUE of banana prawns decreased from 2.717 t per day in 2014 to 1.877 t per day in 2015 (Figure 37b). Effort in the tiger prawn fishery decreased from 972 days in 2014 to 814 days in 2015 (Figure 37a). However, nominal and effective CPUE of tiger prawns increased from 0.422 and 0.159 t per day in 2014 to 0.587 and 0.201 t per day in 2015 (Figure 37c).

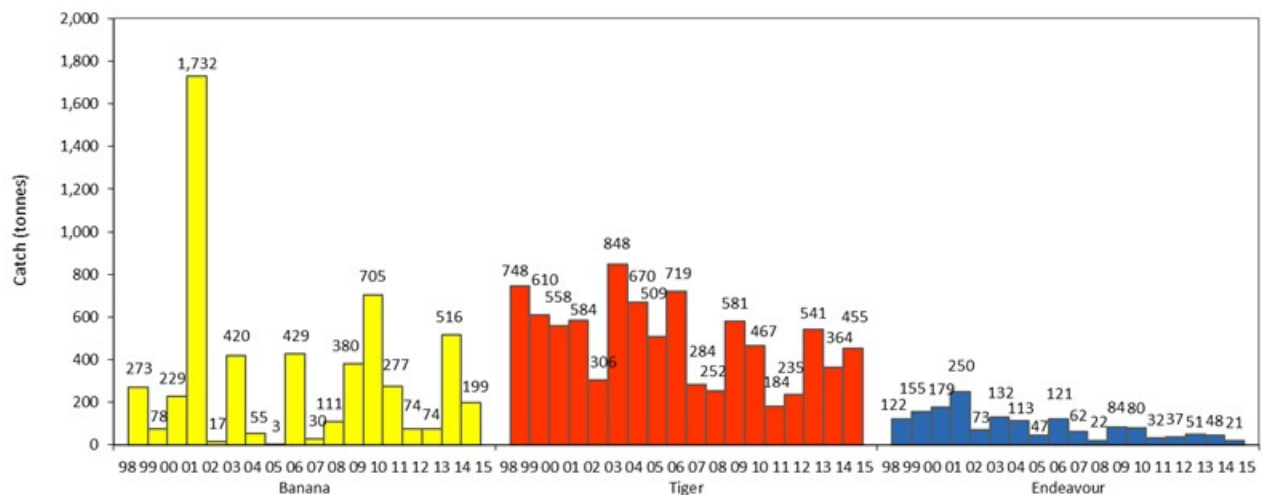


Figure 35: Catch by species in the Limmen Bight area - 1998 to 2015.

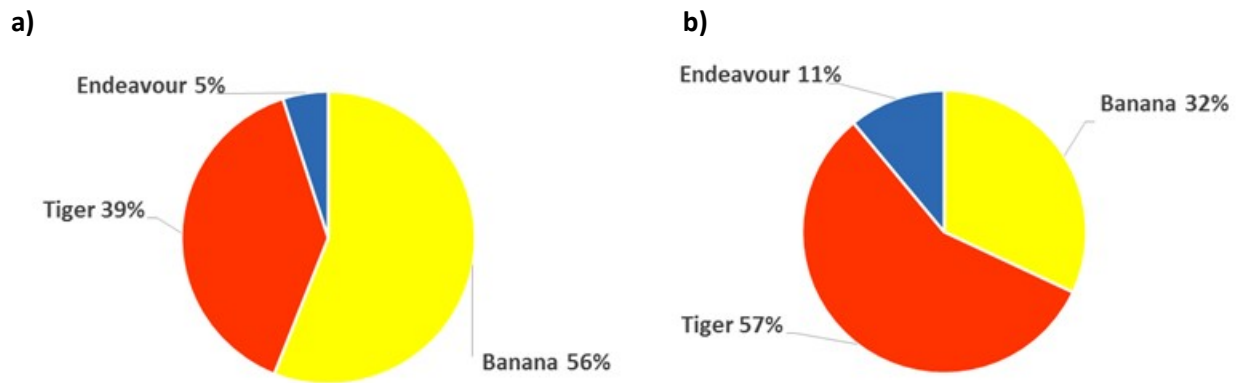


Figure 36: (a) Percentage catch of prawn species in the Limmen Bight area during 2015 and (b) percentage catch of prawn species in the Limmen Bight area - 1998 to 2015.

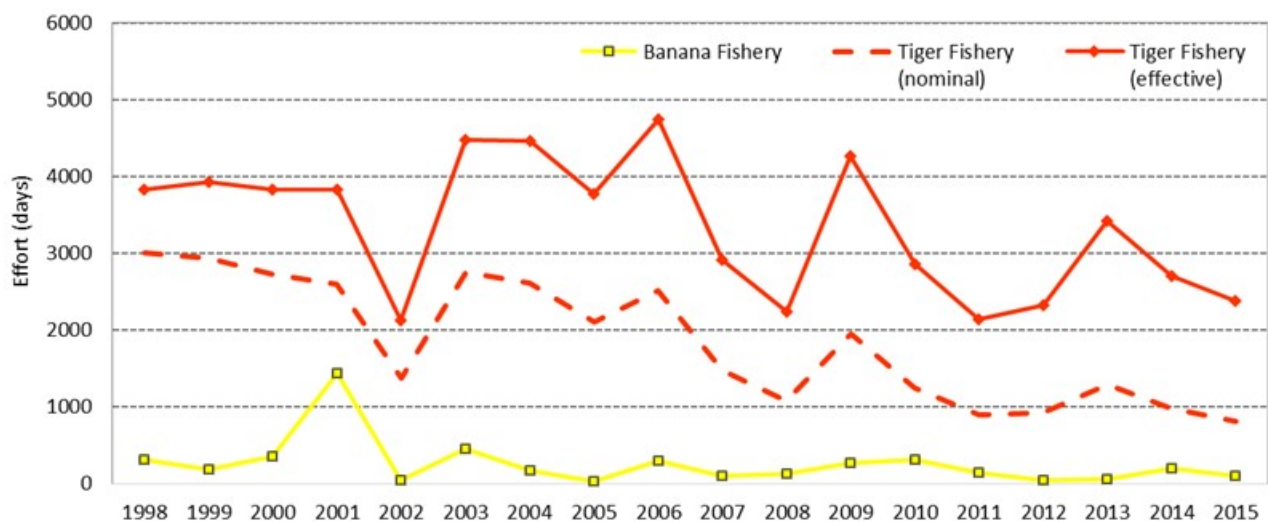


Figure 37a: Effort for the banana and tiger prawn fisheries in the Limmen Bight area - 1998 to 2015.

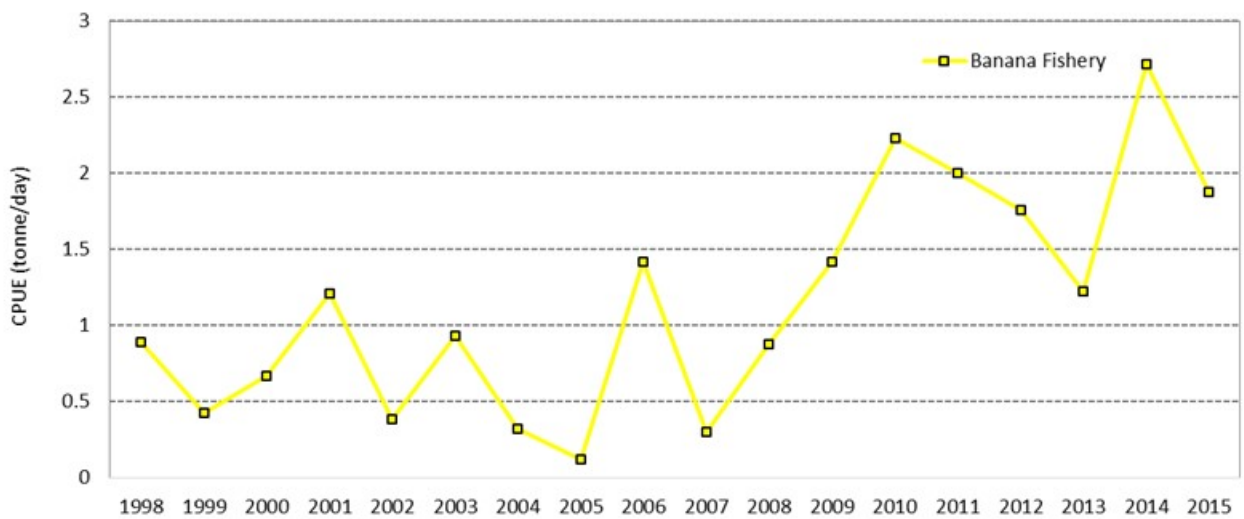


Figure 37b: Catch rate for the banana prawn fishery in the Limmen Bight area - 1998 to 2015.

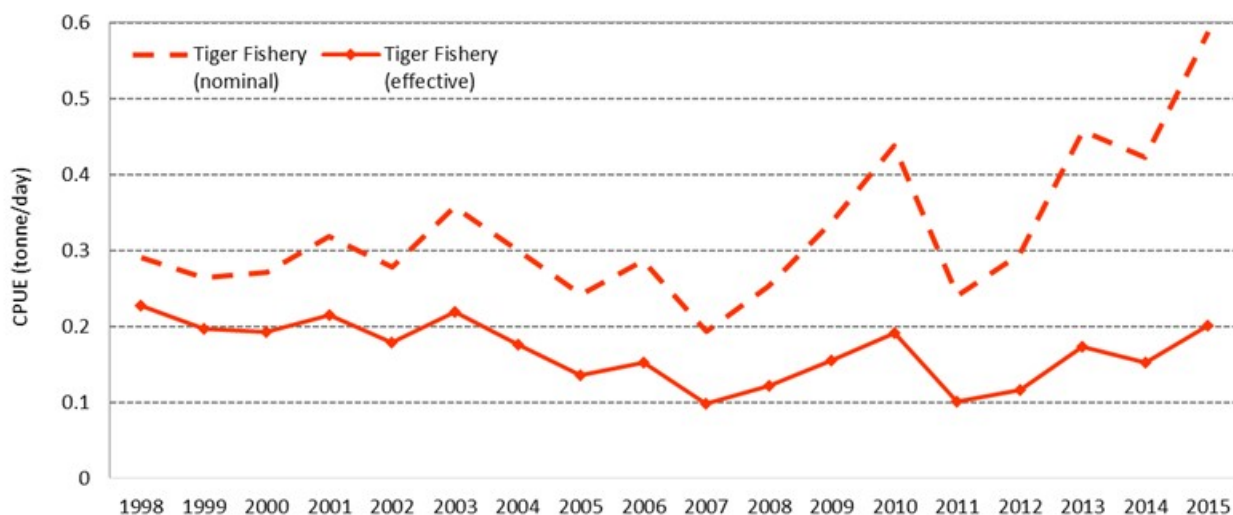


Figure 37c: Nominal and effective catch rate for the tiger prawn fishery in the Limmen Bight area - 1998 to 2015.

Groote

Banana prawn catches in the Groote area increased from 149 t in 2014 to 200 t in 2015 (Figure 38). Catches of tiger prawns were the highest ever recorded for the area, increasing from 491 t in 2014 to 1,386 t in 2015. Endeavour prawn catches also increased, from 150 t in 2014 to 214 t in 2015. In 2015, prawn catch comprised of 77% tiger prawns, 17% banana prawns and 12% endeavour prawns (Figure 39).

Effort in the banana prawn fishery increased from 43 days in 2014 to 101 days in 2015 (Figure 40a). CPUE of banana prawns decreased from 3.209 t per day in 2014 to 1.653 t per day in 2015 (Figure 40b). Effort in the tiger prawn fishery increased from 1,435 days in 2014 to 2,538 days in 2015 (Figure 40a). Nominal and effective CPUE of tiger prawns increased from 0.454 and 0.171 t per day in 2014 to 0.644 and 0.220 t per day, respectively, in 2015 (Figure 40c).

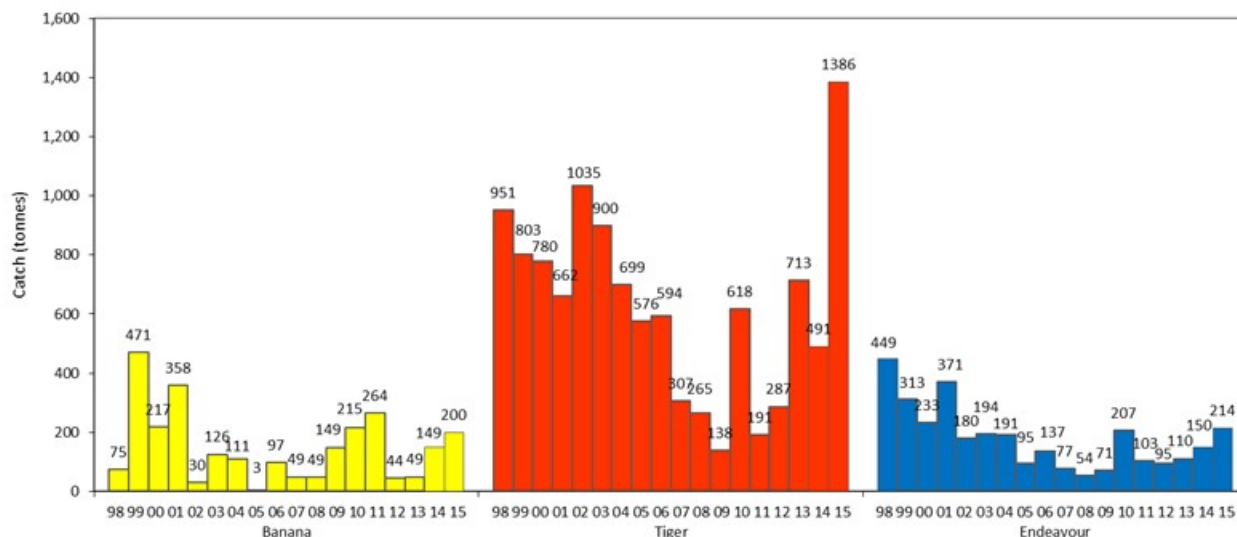


Figure 38: Catch by species in the Groote area between 1998 and 2015.

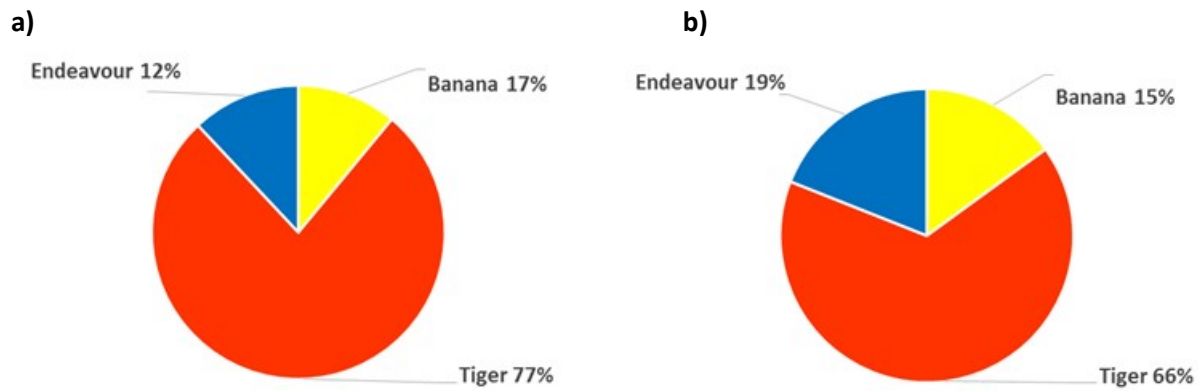


Figure 39: (a) Percentage catch of prawn species in the Groote area during 2015 and (b) percentage catch of prawn species in the Groote area - 1998 to 2015.

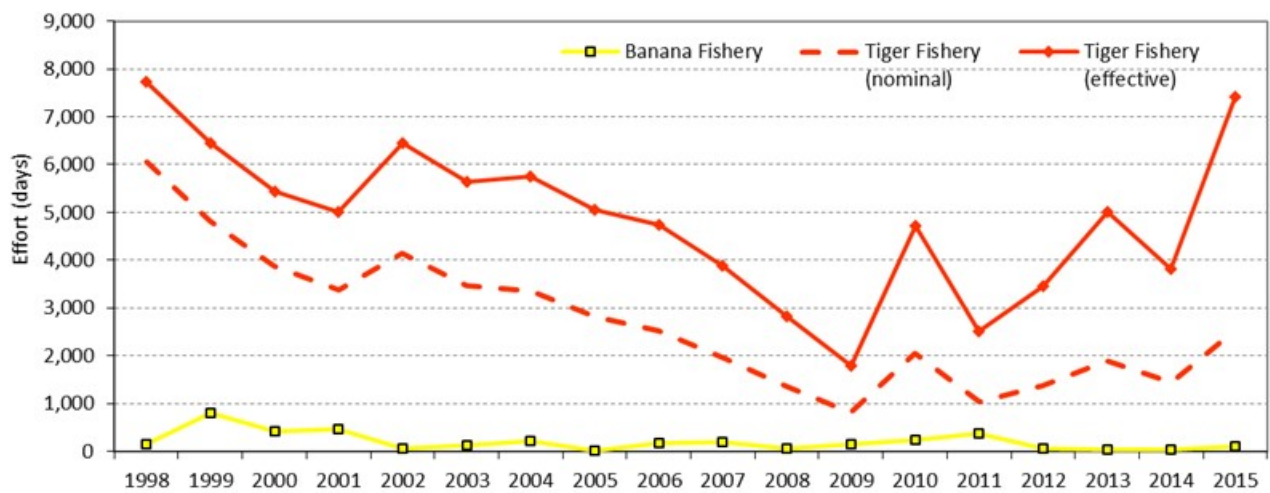


Figure 40a: Effort for the banana and tiger prawn fisheries in the Groote area - 1998 to 2015.

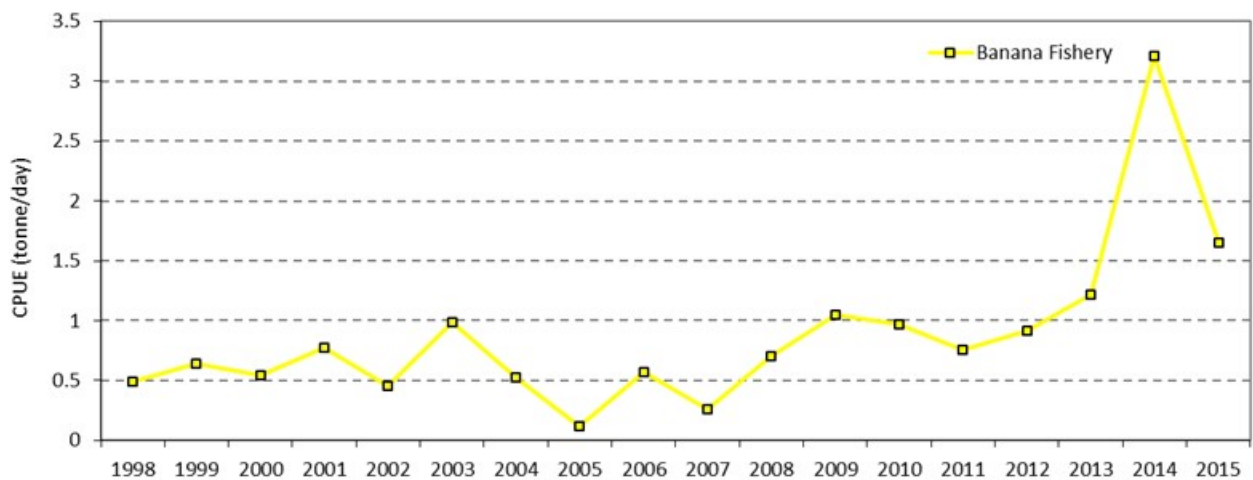


Figure 40b: Catch rate for the banana prawn fishery in the Groote area - 1998 to 2015.

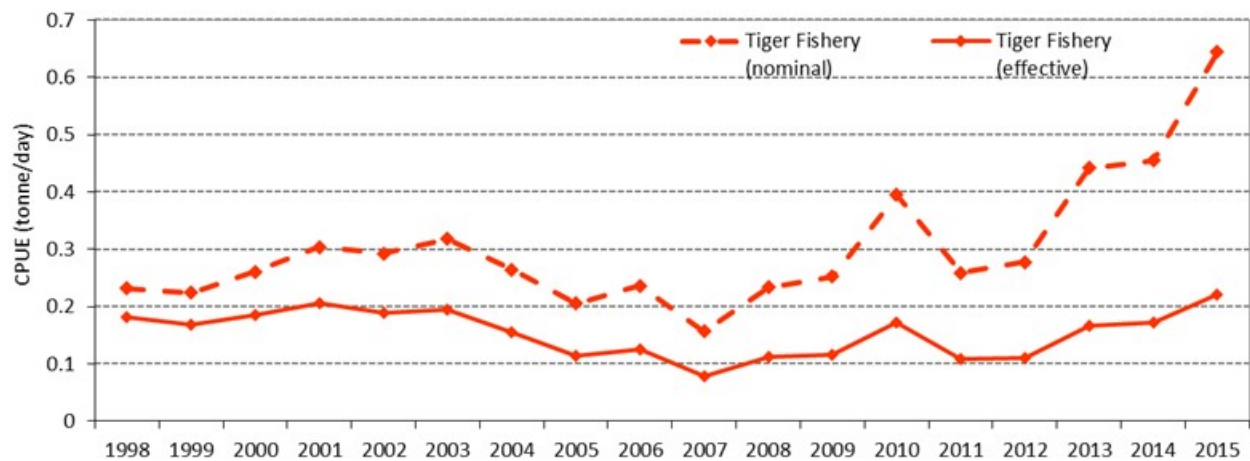


Figure 40c: Nominal and effective catch rate for the tiger prawn fishery in the Groote area - 1998 to 2015.

Gove

Banana prawn catches in the Gove area increased from 42 t in 2014 to 143 t in 2015 (Figure 41). Catches of tiger prawns were the highest ever recorded for the area, increasing from 259 t in 2014 to 493 t in 2015. Endeavour prawn catches increased slightly from 66 t in 2014 to 72 t in 2015. Tiger prawns again dominated the catch from this area, comprising 70% of the catch, with banana prawns making up 20% and endeavour prawns the remaining 10% (Figure 42).

Effort in the banana prawn fishery increased from 39 days in 2014 to 150 days in 2015 (Figure 43a). CPUE of banana prawns decreased from 1.051 t per day in 2014 to 0.973 t per day in 2015 (Figure 43b). Effort in the tiger prawn fishery increased from 737 days in 2014 to 905 days in 2015 (Figure 43a). Nominal and effective CPUE for tiger prawns increased from 0.444 and 0.184 t per day in 2014 to 0.621 and 0.212 t per day, respectively, in 2015 (Figure 43c).

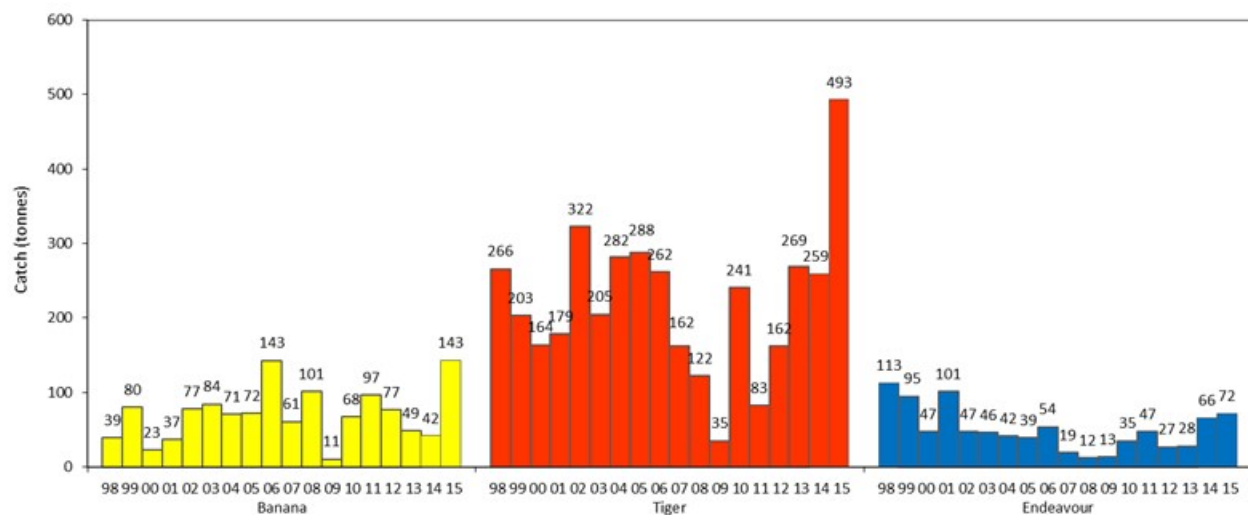


Figure 41: Catch by species in the Gove area - 1998 to 2015.

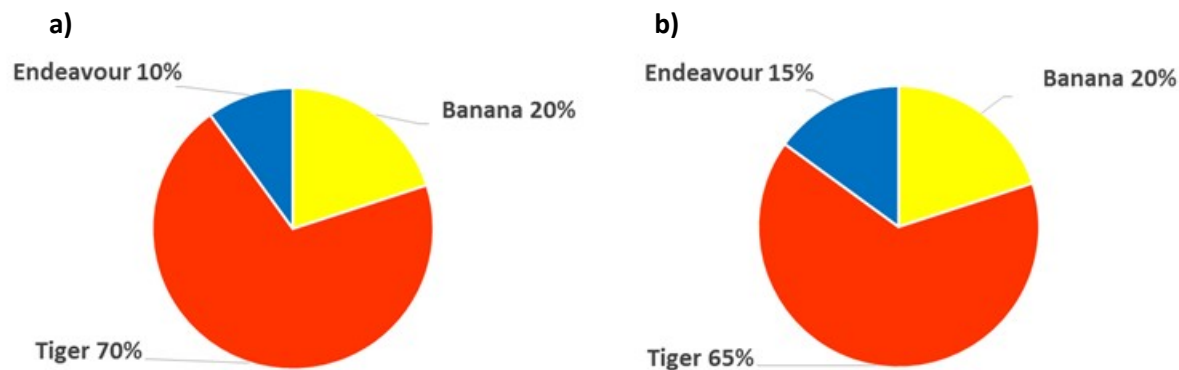


Figure 42: (a) Percentage catch of prawn species in the Gove area during 2015 and (b) percentage catch of prawn species in the Gove area - 1998 to 2015.

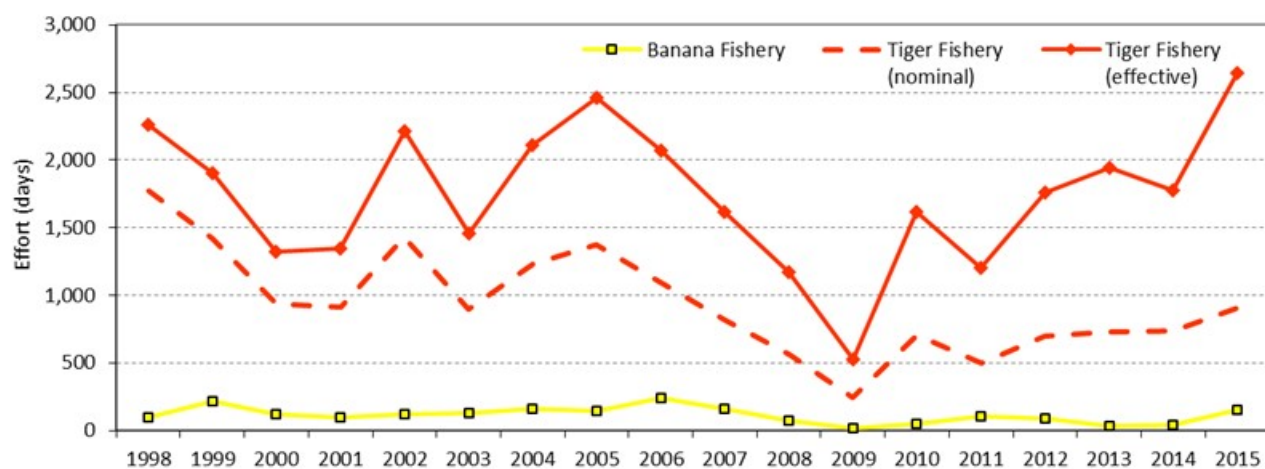


Figure 43a: Effort for the banana and tiger prawn fisheries in the Gove area - 1998 to 2015.

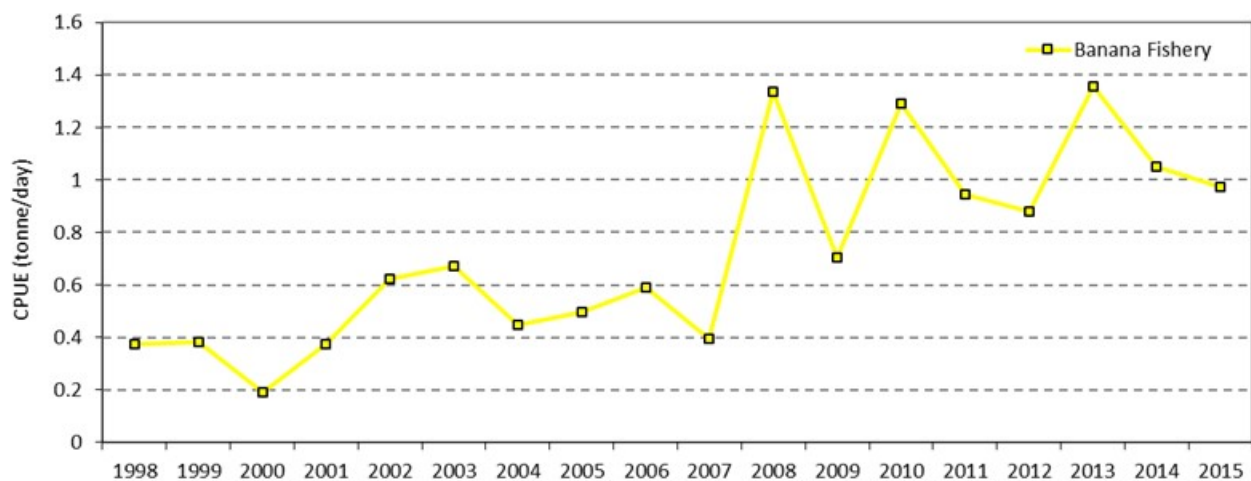


Figure 43b: Catch rate for the banana prawn fishery in the Gove area - 1998 to 2015.

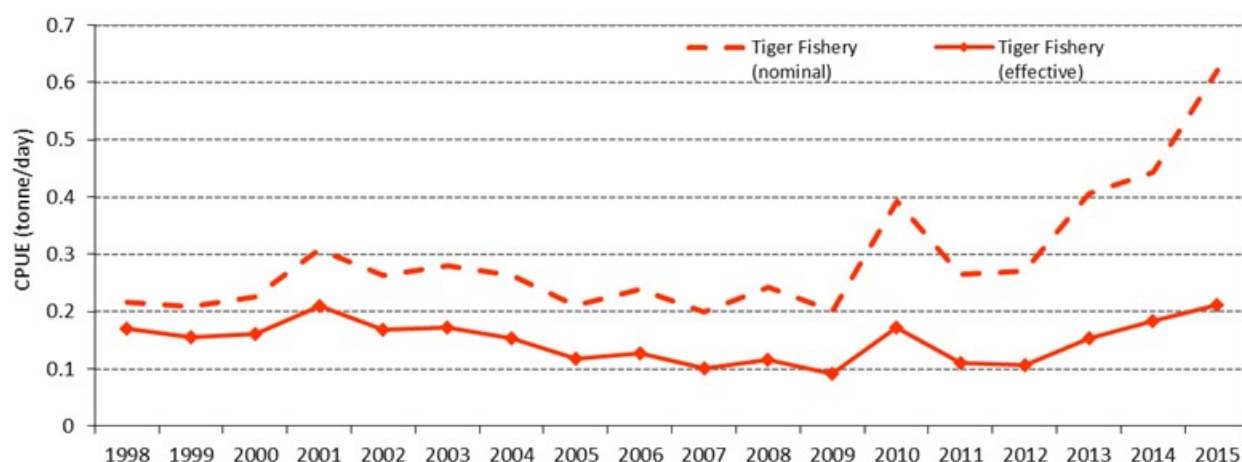


Figure 43c: Nominal and effective catch rate for the tiger prawn fishery in the Gove area - 1998 to 2015.

Arnhem

Banana prawn catches in the Arnhem area decreased from 308 t in 2014 to 173. Catches of tiger prawns increased from 15 t in 2014 to 35 t in 2015. As in 2014, 3 tonnes of endeavour prawns were caught in 2015 (Figure 44). Banana prawns again dominated the catch for 2015, comprising 82% of the total catch (Figure 45). The remaining catch comprised 17% tiger prawns and 1% endeavour prawns.

Effort in the banana prawn fishery remained the same as 2014 with 153 days in 2015 (Figure 46a). CPUE of banana prawns decreased from 2.019 t per day in 2014 to 1.131 in 2015 (Figure 46b). Effort in the tiger prawn fishery increased from 51 days in 2014 to 62 days in 2015 (Figure 46a). Nominal and effective CPUE of tiger prawns increased from 0.333 and 0.139 t per day in 2014 to 0.613 and 0.210 t per day, respectively, in 2015 (Figure 46c).

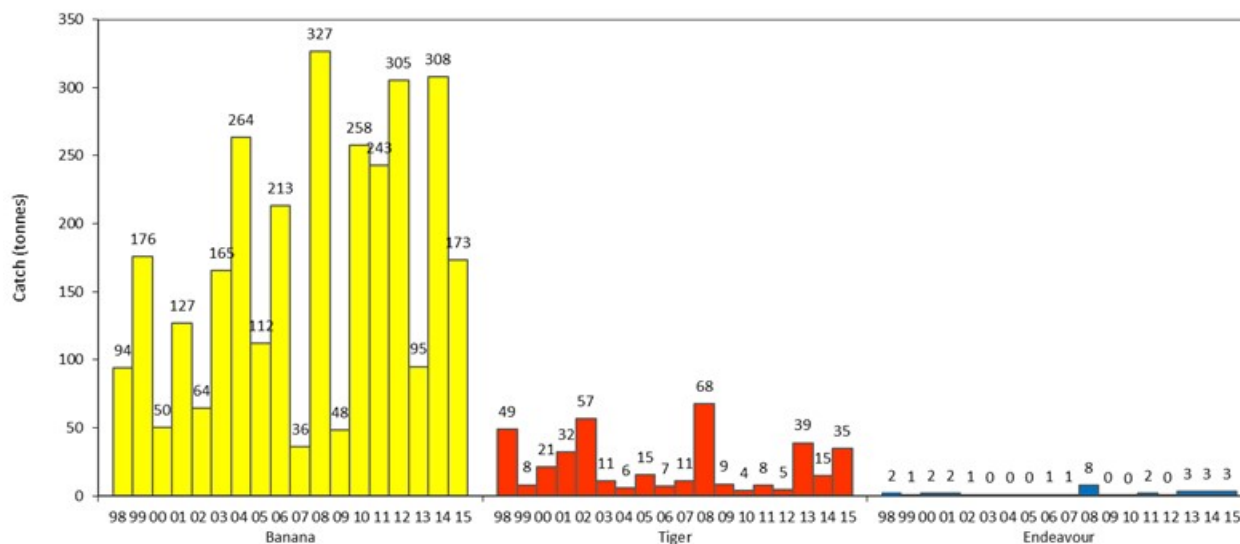
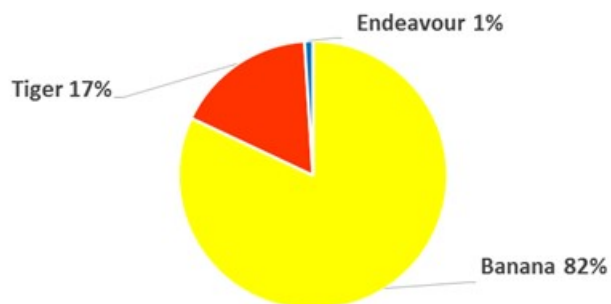


Figure 44: Catch by species in the Arnhem area - 1998 to 2015.

a)



b)

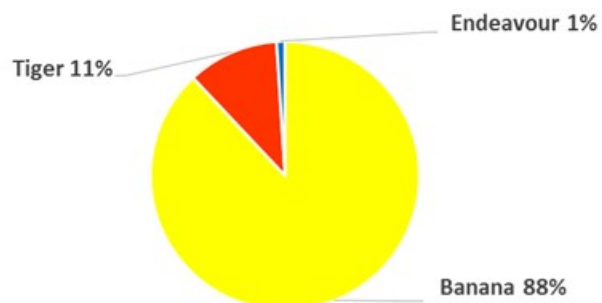


Figure 45: (a) Percentage catch of prawn species in the Arnhem area during 2015 and (b) percentage catch of prawn species in the Arnhem area - 1998 to 2015.

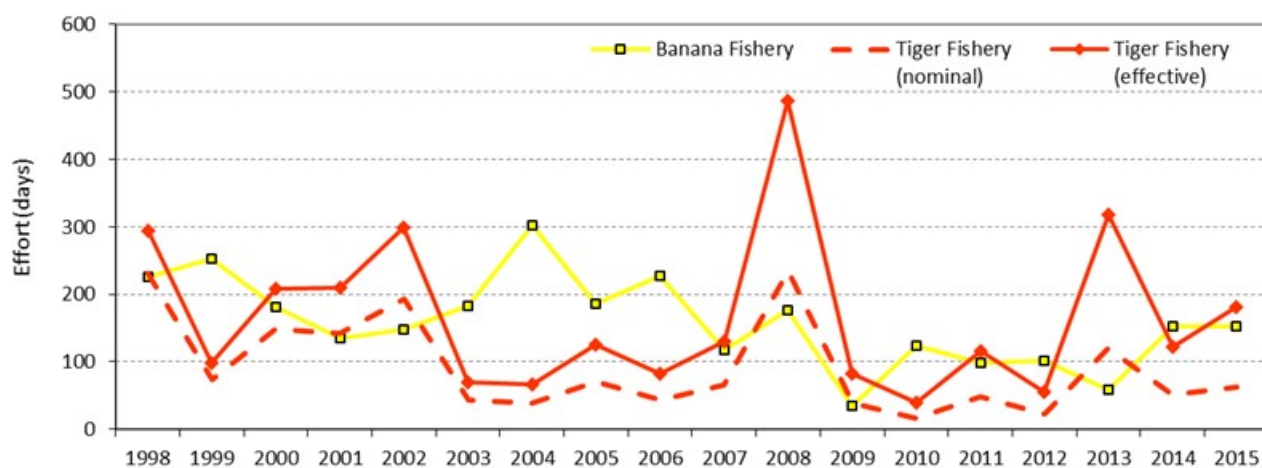


Figure 46a: Effort for the banana and tiger prawn fisheries in the Arnhem area - 1998 to 2015.

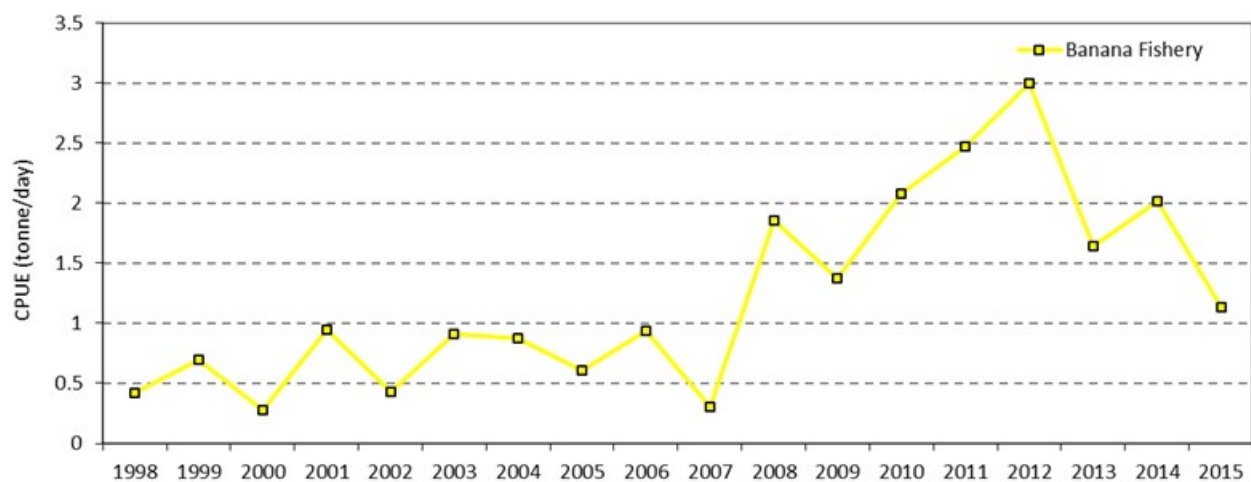


Figure 46b: Catch rate for the banana prawn fishery in the Arnhem area, 1998 to 2015.

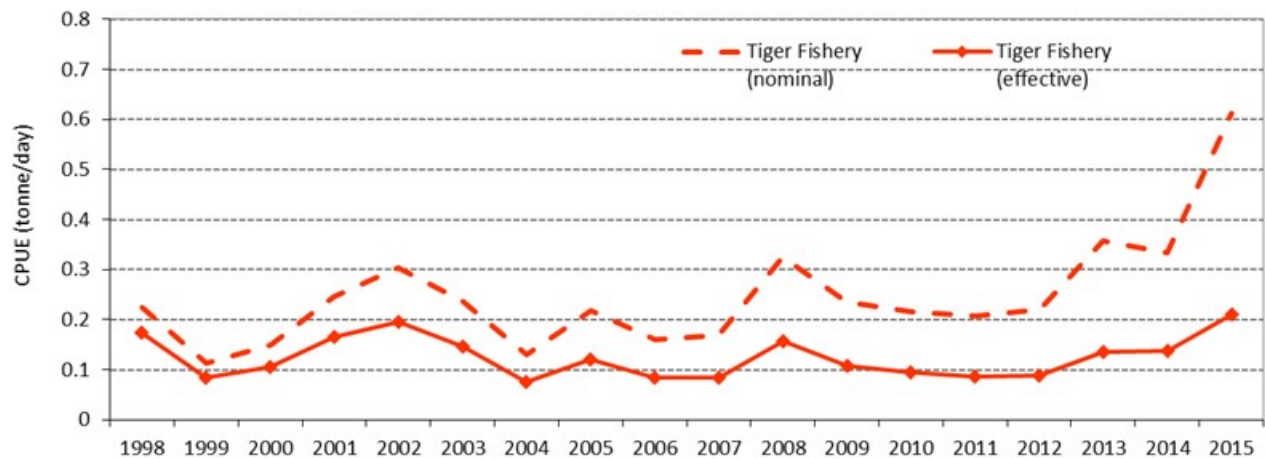


Figure 46c: Nominal and effective catch rate for the tiger prawn fishery in the Arnhem area - 1998 to 2015.

Port Essington

Banana prawn catches in the Port Essington area decreased from 340 t in 2014 to 264 t in 2015 (Figure 47). Tiger prawn catches increased from 41 t in 2014 to 85 t in 2015. Endeavour prawn catches decreased from 51 t in 2014 to 37 t in 2015. Banana prawns dominated catches in 2015, comprising 68% of prawn catches from the Port Essington area. Tiger prawns made up 22% of catches, and endeavour prawns, the remaining 10% (Figure 48).

Effort in the banana prawn fishery decreased from 264 days in 2014 to 240 days in 2015 (Figure 49a). CPUE of banana prawns decreased from 1.314 t per day in 2014 to 1.092 t per in 2015 (Figure 49b). Effort in the tiger prawn fishery increased from 133 days in 2014 to 152 days in 2015 (Figure 49a). Nominal and effective CPUE of tiger prawns increased from 0.639 and 0.266 t per day in 2014 to 0.816 and 0.279 t per day, respectively, in 2015 (Figure 49c).

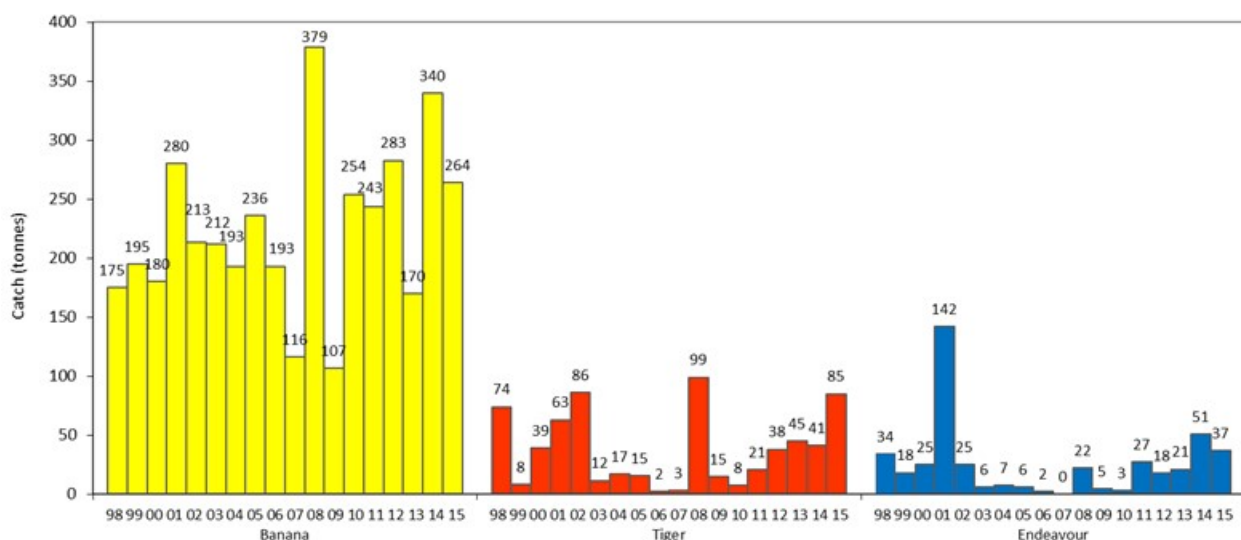


Figure 47: Catch by species in the Port Essington area - 1998 to 2015.

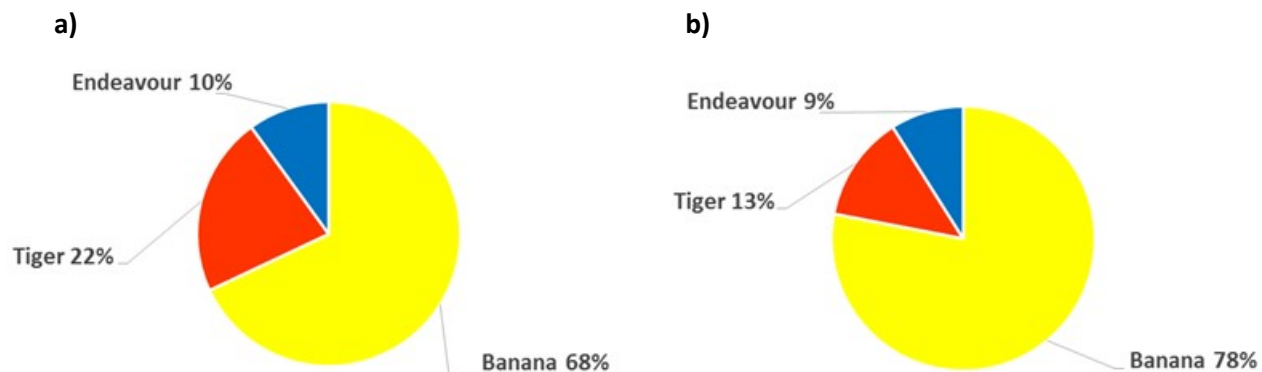
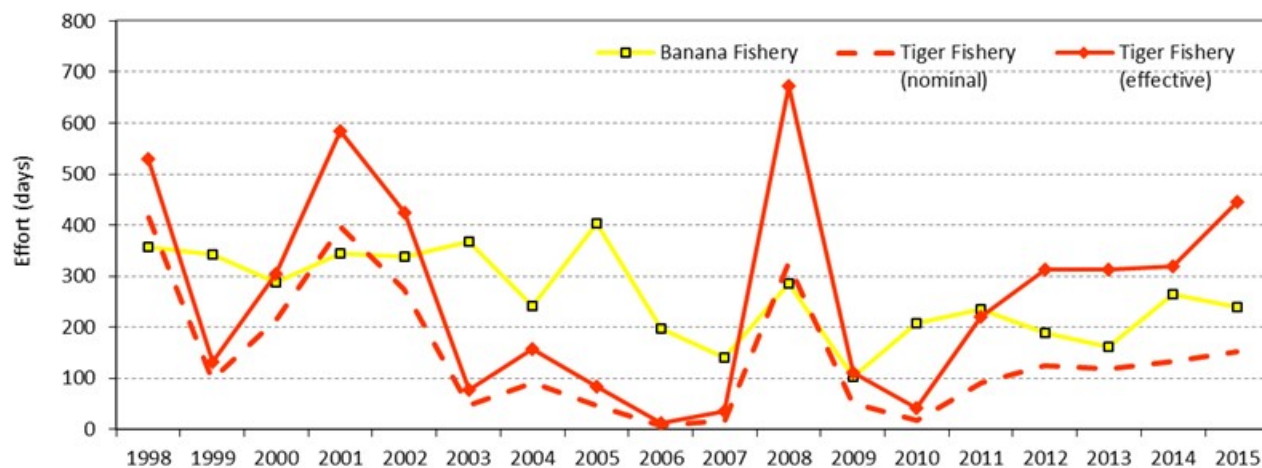


Figure 48: (a) Percentage catch of prawn species in the Port Essington area during 2015, and (b) percentage



catch of prawn species in the Port Essington area - 1998 to 2015.

Figure 49a: Effort for the banana and tiger prawn fisheries in the Port Essington area - 1998 to 2015.

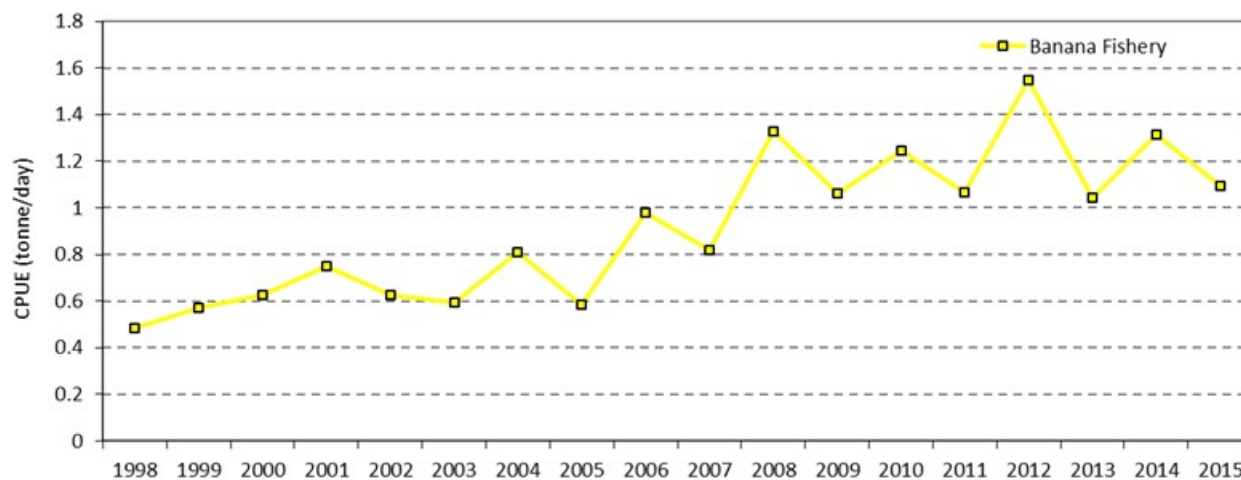


Figure 49b: Catch rate for the banana prawn fishery in the Port Essington area 1998 to 2015.

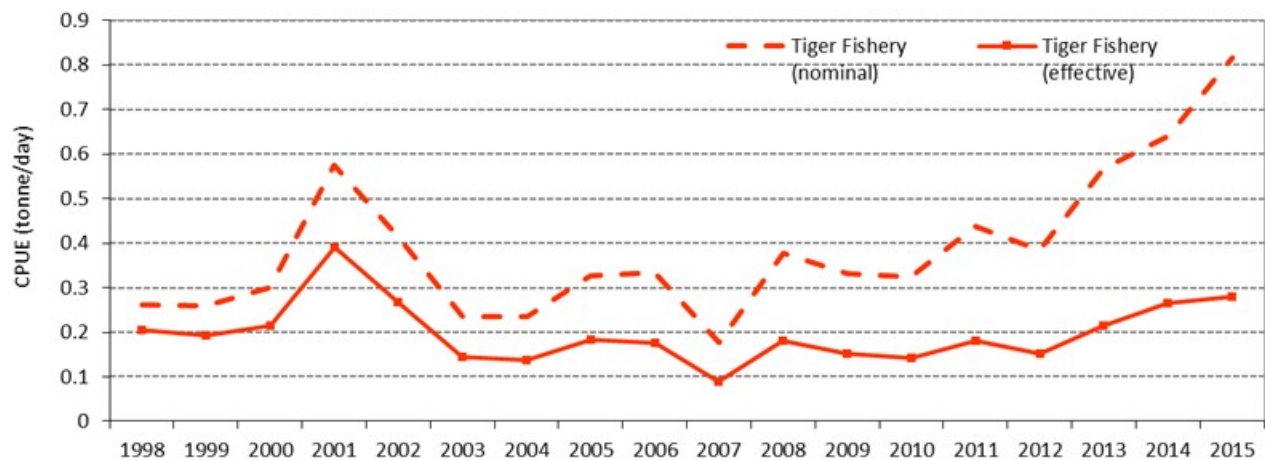


Figure 49c: Nominal and effective catch rate for the tiger prawn fishery in the Port Essington area 1998 to 2015.

Melville

Banana prawn catches in the Melville area increased from 322 t in 2014 to 416 t in 2015 (Figure 50). Catches of tiger prawns increased from 72 t in 2014 to 112 t in 2015. Endeavour prawn catches decreased slightly from 65 t in 2014 to 64 t in 2015. Banana prawns comprised 70% of the catch in 2015, with tiger prawns making up 19%, and endeavor prawns, 11% (Figure 51).

Effort in the banana prawn fishery increased from 265 days in 2014 to 329 days in 2015 (Figure 52a). CPUE for banana prawns increased from 1.245 t per day in 2014 to 1.292 t per day in 2015 (Figure 52b). Effort in the tiger prawn fishery increased from 194 days in 2014 to 206 days in 2015 (Figure 52a). Nominal and effective CPUE for tiger prawns increased from 0.670 and 0.2784 t per day in 2014 to 0.811 and 0.277 t per day, respectively, in 2015 (Figure 52c).

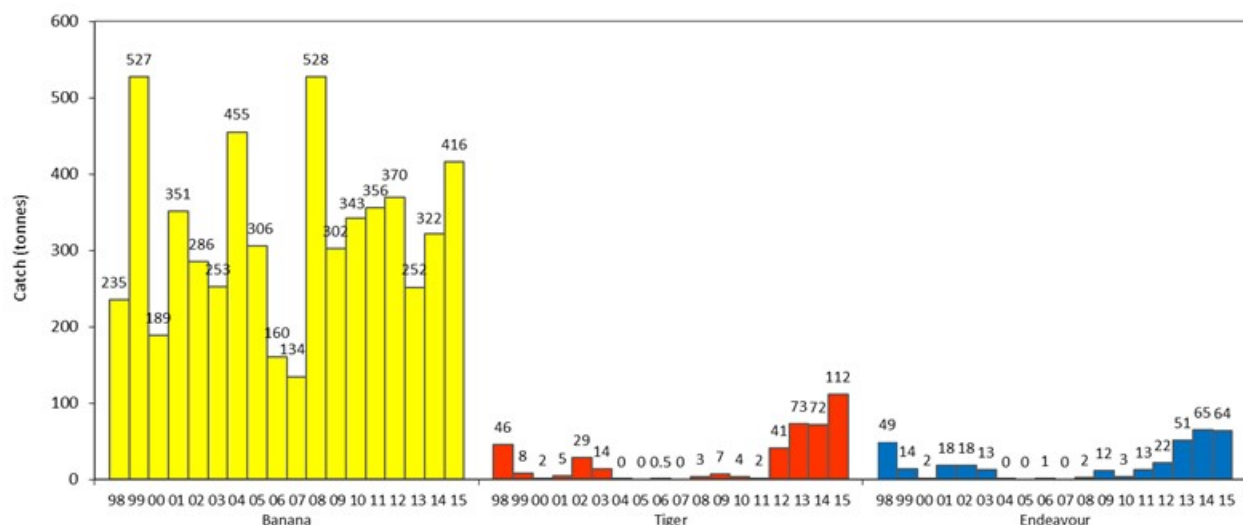


Figure 50: Catch by species in the Melville area - 1998 to 2015.

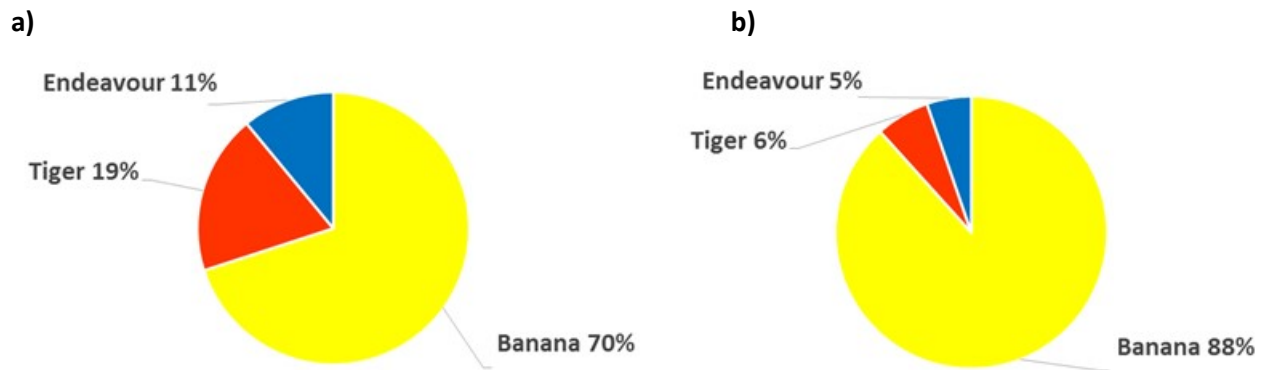


Figure 51: (a) Percentage catch of prawn species in the Melville area during 2015 and (b) percentage catch of prawn species in the Melville area -1998 to 2015.

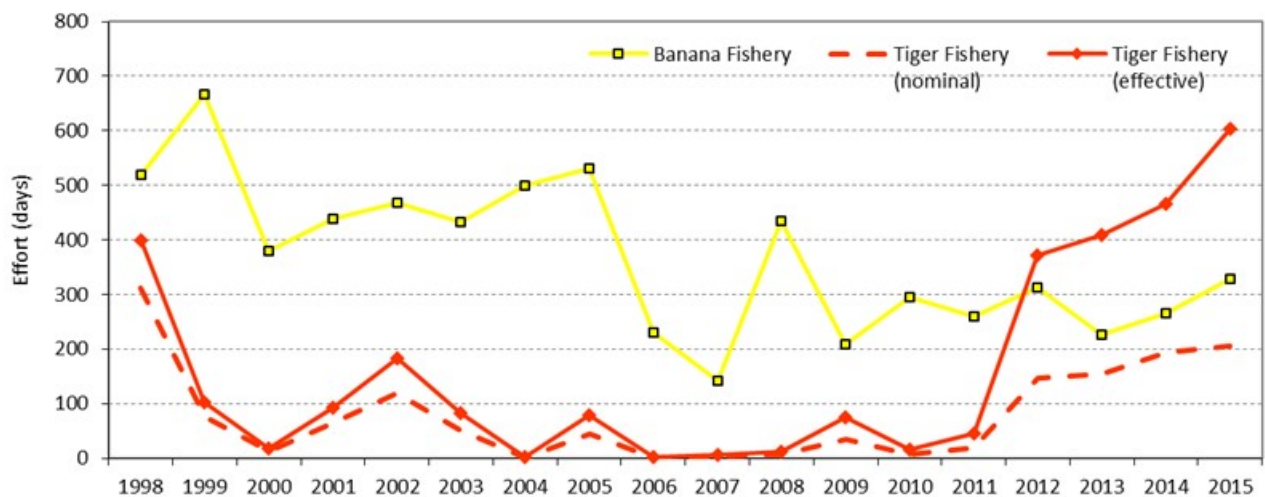


Figure 52a: Effort for the banana and tiger prawn fisheries in the Melville area - 1998 to 2015.

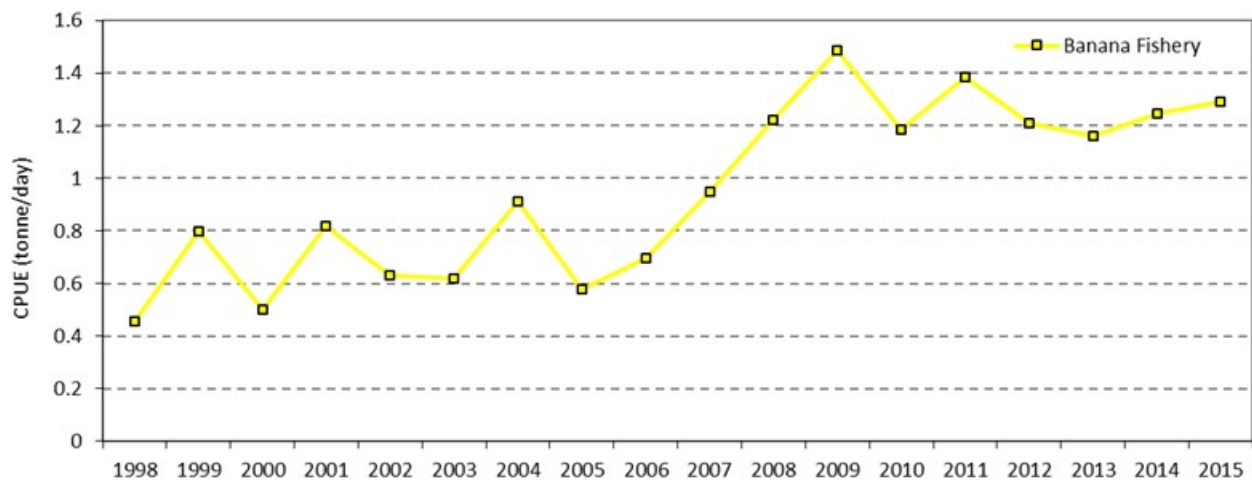


Figure 52b: Catch rate for the banana prawn fishery in the Melville area - 1998 to 2015.

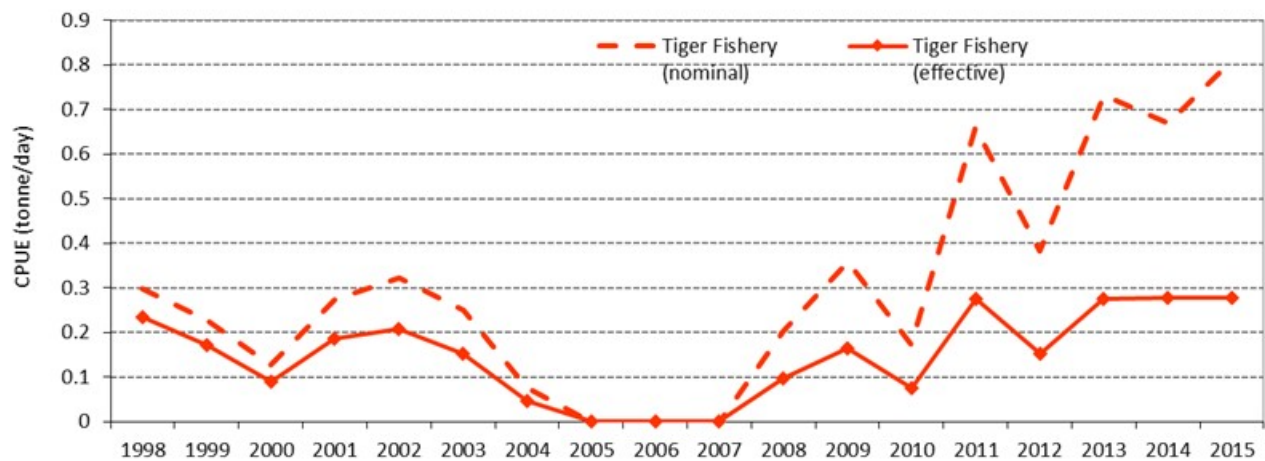


Figure 52c: Nominal and effective catch rate for the tiger prawn fishery in the Melville area - 1998 to 2015.

Fog Bay

Banana prawn catches in the Fog Bay area decreased from 191 t in 2014 to 156 t in 2015 (Figure 53). Catches of tiger prawns was less than 1 t, as in 2014 and there was no endeavour prawn catch. Banana prawns comprised 99.99% of the catch taken during 2015 in this area (Figure 54).

Effort in the banana prawn fishery increased from 102 days in 2014 to 110 days in 2015 (Figure 55a). CPUE of banana prawns decreased from 1.872 t per day in 2014 to 1.418 in 2015 (Figure 55b). As in 2014, one day of effort was expended in the tiger prawn fishery in 2015 for this area (Figure 55a). Both nominal and effective CPUE were zero in 2015 (Figure 55c).

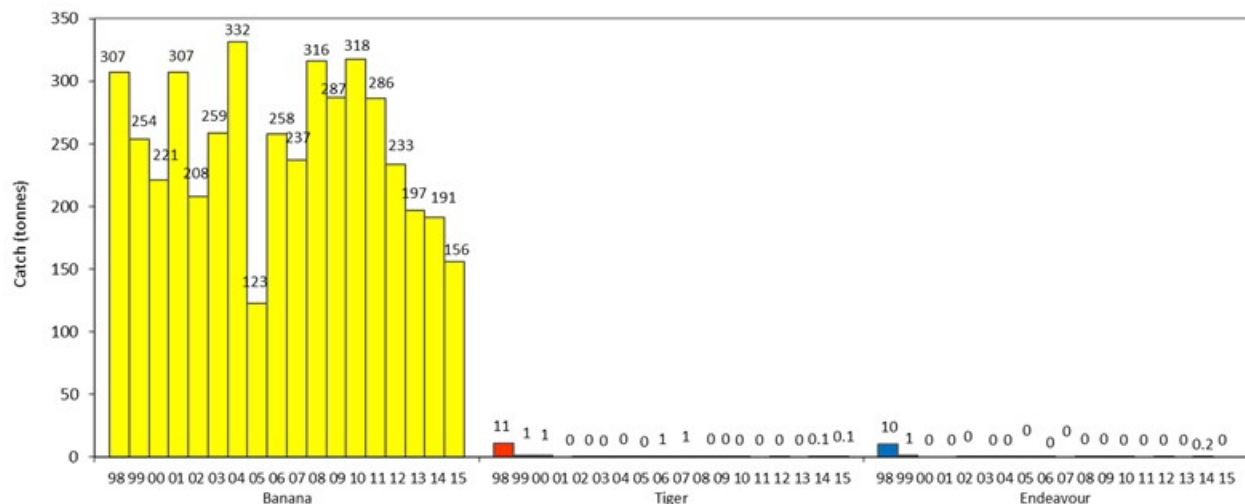


Figure 53: Catch by species in the Fog Bay area - 1998 to 2015.

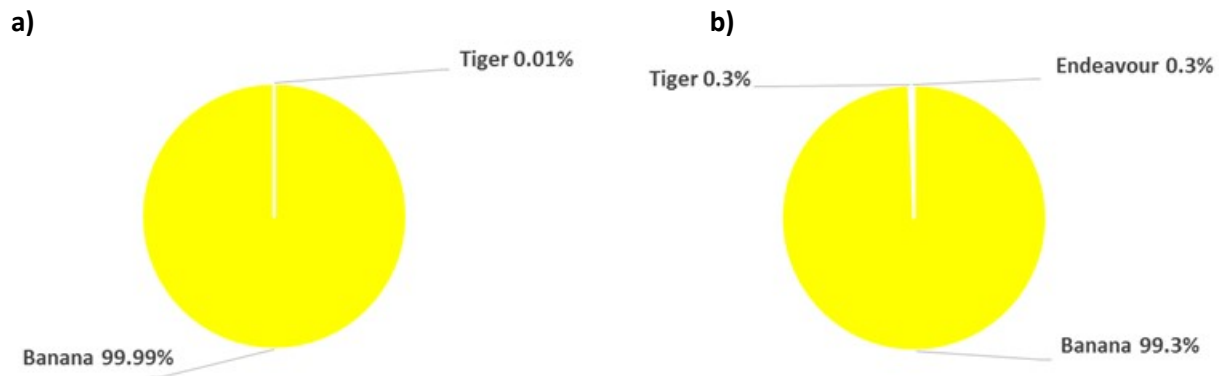


Figure 54: (a) Percentage catch of prawn species in the Fog Bay area during 2015 and (b) percentage catch of prawn species in the Fog Bay area - 1998 to 2015.

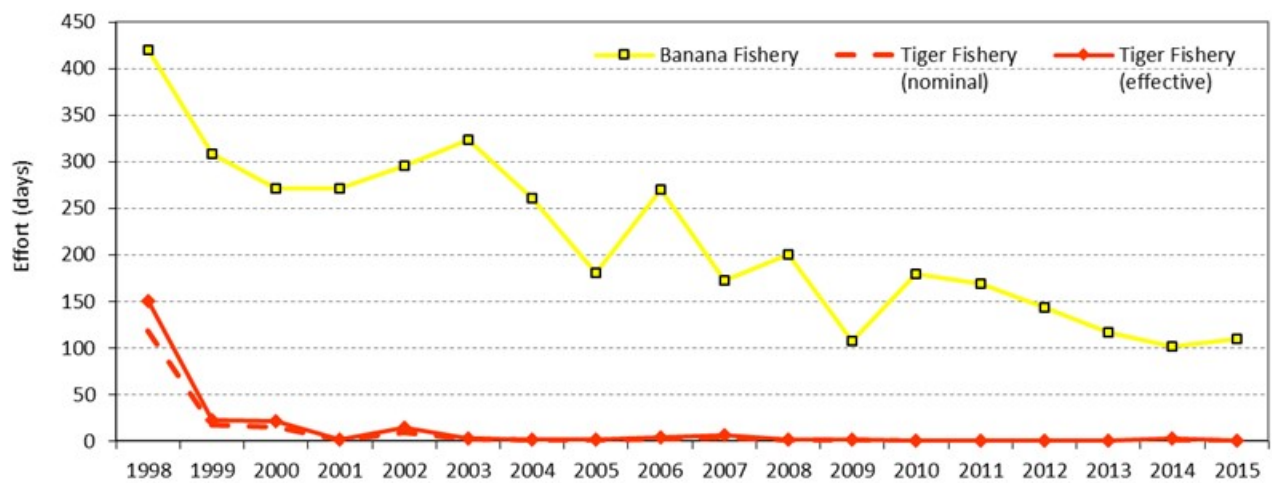


Figure 55a: Effort for the banana and tiger prawn fisheries in the Fog Bay area - 1998 to 2015.

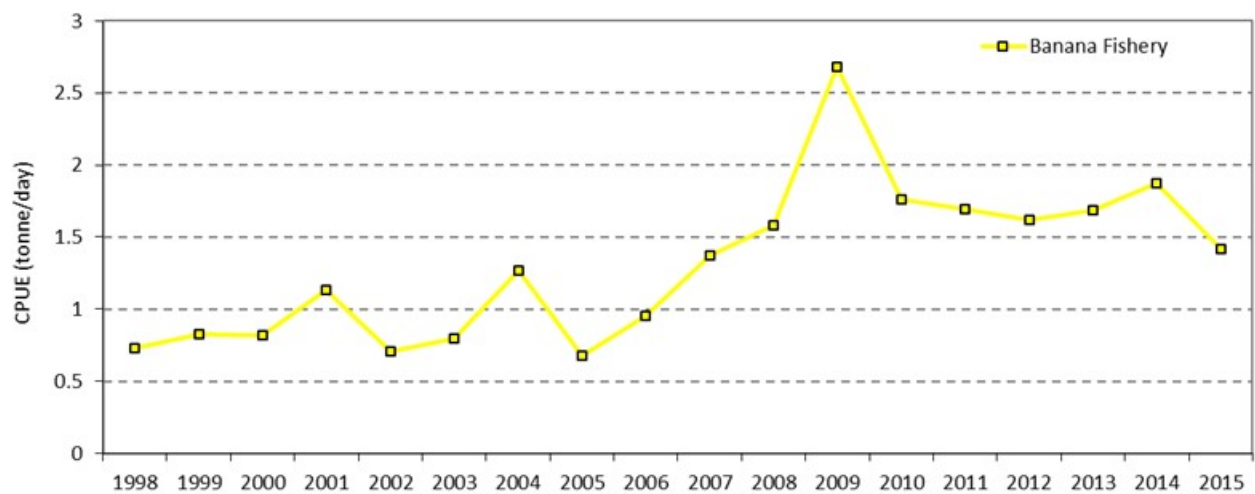


Figure 55b: Catch rate for the banana prawn fishery in the Fog Bay area - 1998 to 2015.

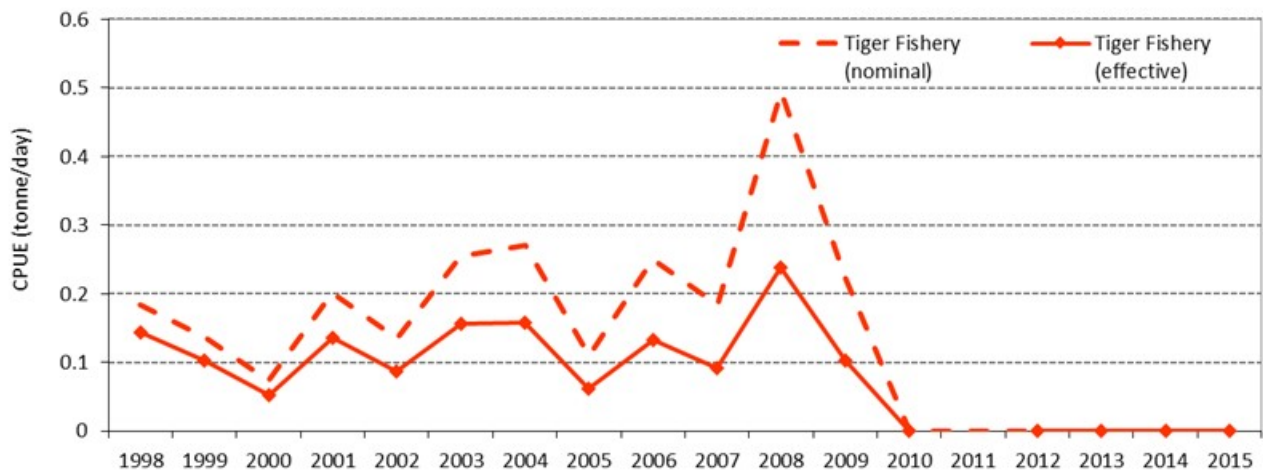


Figure 55c: Nominal and effective catch rate for the tiger prawn fishery in the Fog Bay area - 1998 to 2015.

Bonaparte

Banana prawn catches in the Bonaparte area decreased substantially from 883 t in 2014 to 30 t in 2015 (Figure 56). Tiger and endeavour prawn catches were both less than 1 t in 2015. Banana prawns made up 98.6% of the catch for 2015 (Figure 57).

Effort in the banana prawn fishery decreased from 604 days in 2014 to 57 days in 2015 (Figure 58a). CPUE of banana prawns decreased from 1.475 t per day in 2014 to 0.526 t per day in 2015 (Figure 58b). Effort in the tiger prawn fishery decreased from 4 day in 2014 to 1 day in 2015 (Figure 58a). Nominal and effective CPUE of tiger prawns decreased from 0.75 and 0.312 t per day in 2014 to 0.429 and 0.147 t per day, respectively, in 2015 (Figure 58c).

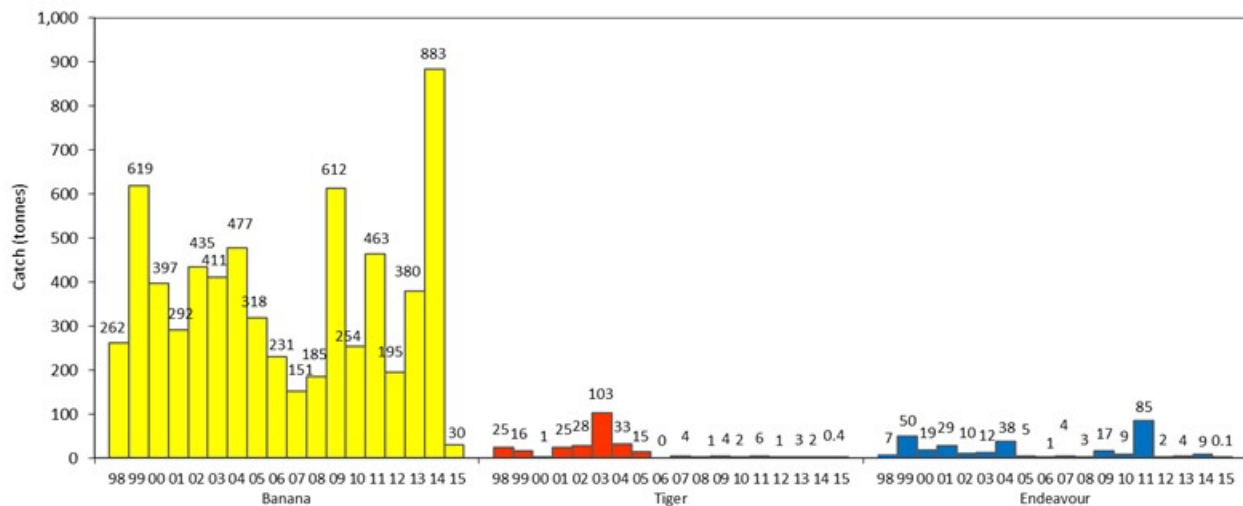


Figure 56: Catch by species in the Bonaparte area - 1998 to 2015.

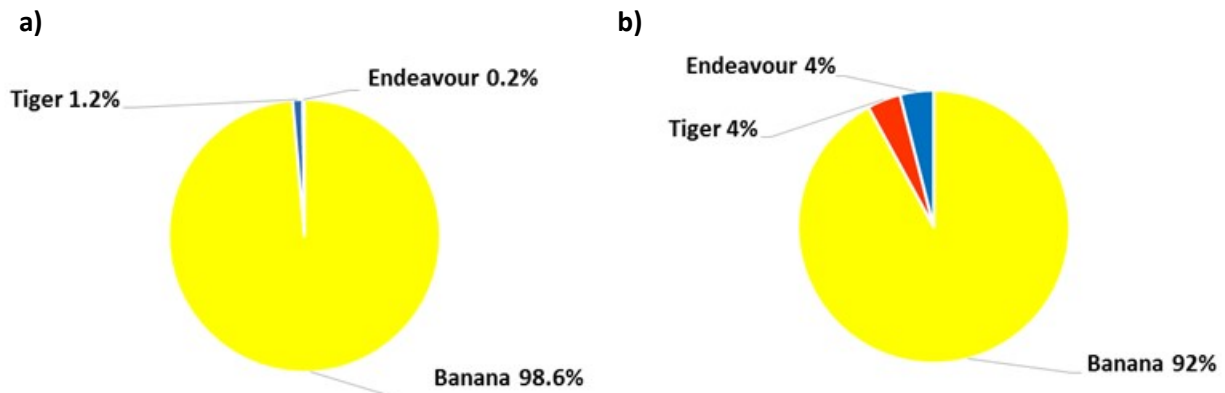


Figure 57: (a) Percentage catch of prawn species in the Bonaparte area during 2015, and (b) percentage catch of prawn species in the Bonaparte area - 1998 to 2015.

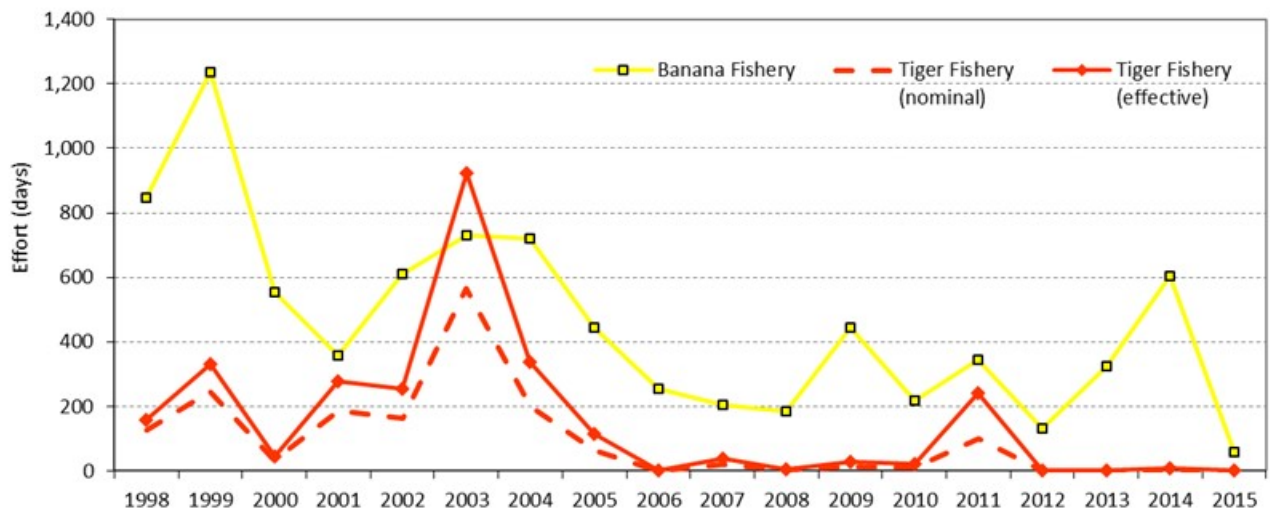


Figure 58a: Effort for the banana and tiger prawn fisheries in the Bonaparte area - 1998 to 2015.

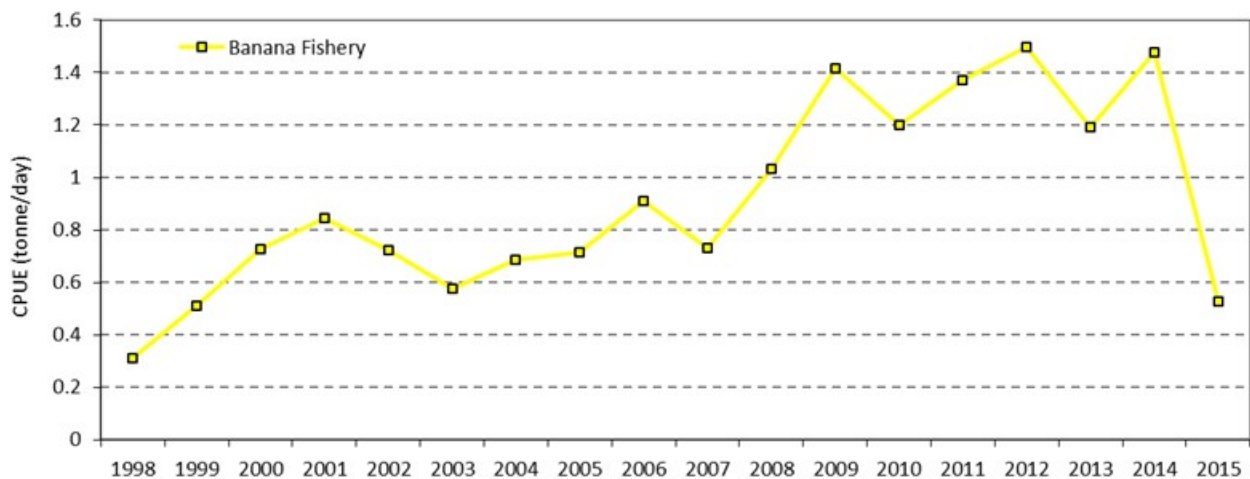


Figure 58b: Catch rate for the banana prawn fishery in the Bonaparte area - 1998 to 2015.

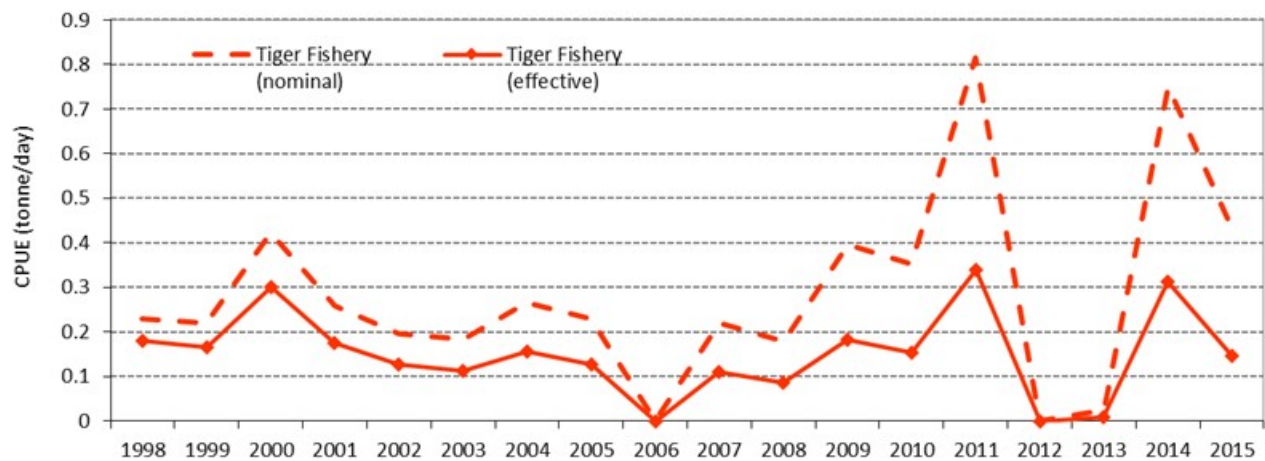


Figure 58c: Nominal and effective catch rate for the tiger prawn fishery in the Bonaparte area - 1998 to 2015.

Interactions with TEP species in the Northern Prawn Fishery

Turtle interactions

A total of 63 turtle interactions were reported in the NPF during 2015 (Table 5). This is 13% more than 2014 when there were 56 interactions. Turtles of undetermined species were the most numerous (46 interactions) followed by Green turtles (6 interactions). Five interactions occurred with Flatback turtles and three interactions occurred with a Pacific (Olive) Ridley turtles and one with a Hawksbill, Leatherback and Loggerhead turtle (Figure 59). All turtles were released alive. Turtle interactions were highest in the Groote region, which was also one of the areas which experienced the most fishing effort (Figure 60).

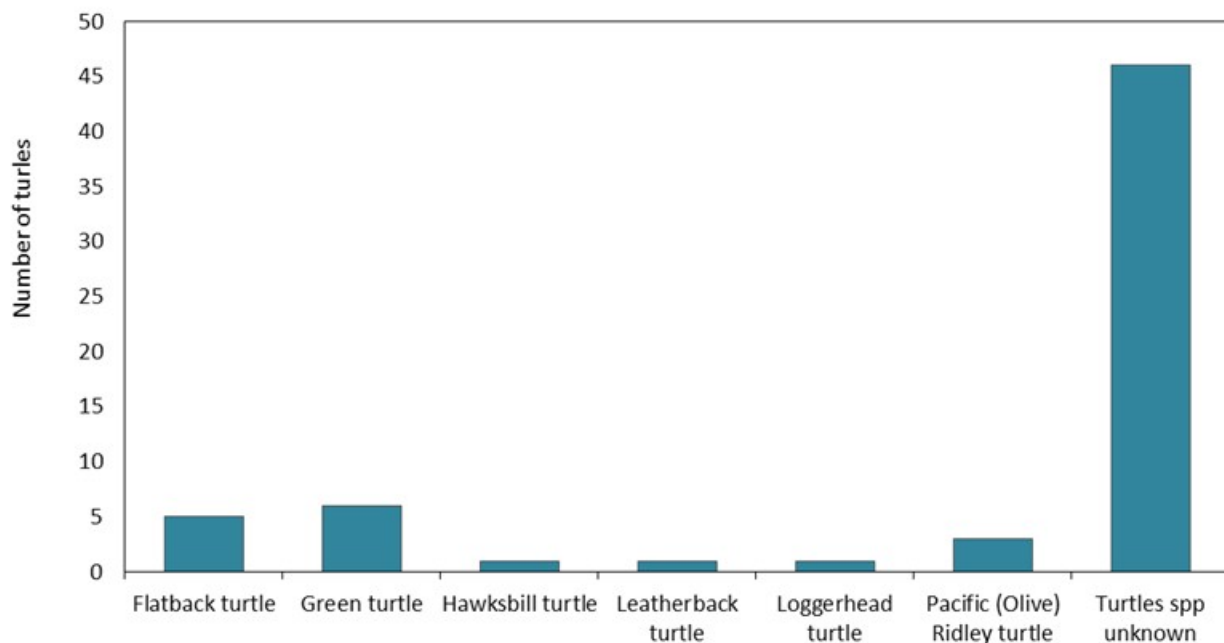


Figure 59: Turtle interactions in the NPF by species in 2015.

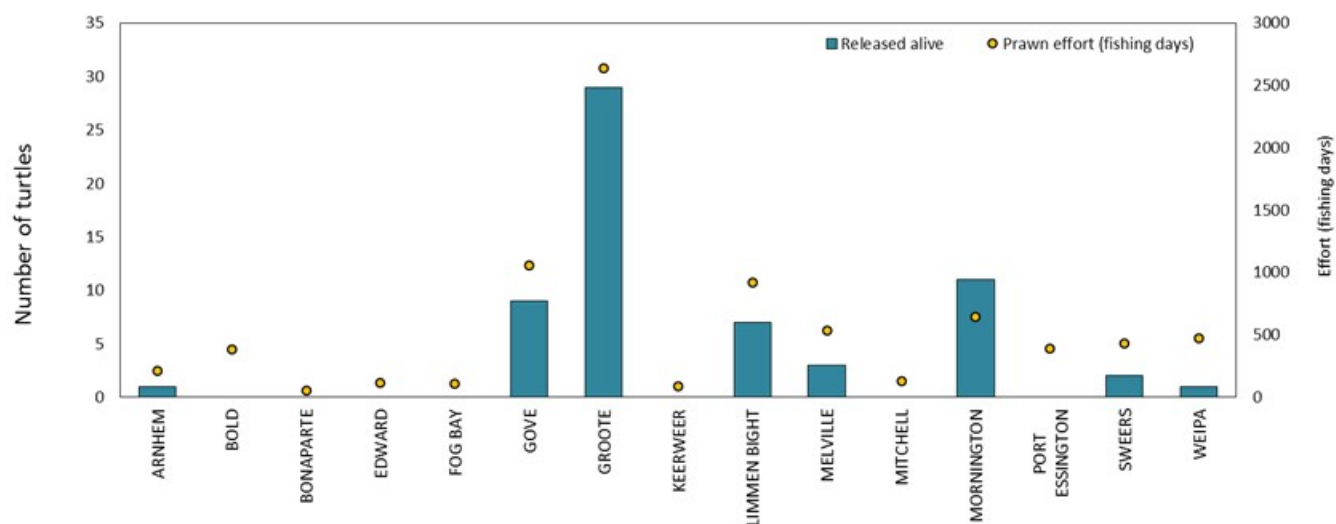


Figure 60: Turtle interactions in the NPF by area in 2015.

Table 5: Turtle interactions by species, for each area between 2011 and 2015.

Statistical Area	Turtle Species	Released Alive					Perished					Condition Unknown				
		11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15
ARNHEM	Flatback			3												
	Green															
	Hawksbill															
	Leatherback															
	Loggerhead															
	Pacific Ridley															
	Unidentified species					1										
BOLD	Flatback			1				1								
	Green		4	1												
	Hawksbill															
	Leatherback															
	Loggerhead		2													
	Pacific Ridley		1	1												
	Unidentified species			4	5											
BONAPARTE	Flatback			1												
	Green															
	Hawksbill															
	Leatherback															
	Loggerhead															
	Pacific Ridley															
	Unidentified species					5										
EDWARD	Flatback			1												
	Green															
	Hawksbill															
	Leatherback															
	Loggerhead															
	Pacific Ridley															
	Unidentified species															
FOG BAY	Flatback															
	Green															
	Hawksbill															
	Leatherback															
	Loggerhead															
	Pacific Ridley															
	Unidentified species															

Statistical Area	Turtle Species	Released Alive					Perished					Condition Unknown				
		11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15
GOVE	Flatback															
	Green	1	3	1	2	1										
	Hawksbill															
	Leatherback															
	Loggerhead		1	2												
	Pacific Ridley			1												
	Unidentified species					1										
GROOTE	Flatback	3	1		2	2										
	Green	1	5	5	2	4										
	Hawksbill		1			1										
	Leatherback					1										
	Loggerhead			1												
	Pacific Ridley		4	3	1	1			1							
	Unidentified species		8	3	10	20										
LIMMEN BIGHT	Flatback			2	2	2										
	Green		4	3	2											
	Hawksbill			1	1											
	Leatherback															
	Loggerhead			2		1										
	Pacific Ridley		1	2		1										
	Unidentified species	1		9	6	3										
MELVILLE	Flatback															
	Green		1													
	Hawksbill								1							
	Leatherback															
	Loggerhead															
	Pacific Ridley			4					1							
	Unidentified species			1		3										
MITCHELL	Flatback															
	Green															
	Hawksbill															
	Leatherback															
	Loggerhead															
	Pacific Ridley			1												
	Unidentified species															
MORNINGTON	Flatback		2		1	1										
	Green	4	8		3	1										
	Hawksbill															
	Leatherback															
	Loggerhead															
	Pacific Ridley		1			1										
	Unidentified species		3		2	8										
PORT ESSINGTON	Flatback		2	1												
	Green		1	3												
	Hawksbill															
	Leatherback															
	Loggerhead															
	Pacific Ridley															
	Unidentified species								1							
SWEERS	Flatback															
	Green		2	5	1											
	Hawksbill		1													
	Leatherback															
	Loggerhead		3	3												
	Pacific Ridley			1												
	Unidentified species		2	3	5	1										

Statistical Area	Turtle Species	Released Alive					Perished					Condition Unknown				
		11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15
WEIPA	Flatback		1													
	Green				3											
	Hawksbill															
	Leatherback		1													
	Loggerhead			1												
	Pacific Ridley															
	Unidentified species		1		2	1										
TOTAL ALL AREAS	Flatback	3	6	9	5	5			1							
	Green	6	28	18	13	6										
	Hawksbill		2	1	1	1			1							
	Leatherback		1			1										
	Loggerhead		6	9		1										
	Pacific Ridley		7	13	1	3			2							
	Unidentified species	1	14	20	36	46			1							
GRAND TOTAL	ALL SPECIES	10	64	70	56	63	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Sea snake interactions

A total of 7,528 sea snake interactions were recorded during 2015. The majority of sea snakes (4,976 individuals representing 66% of the total) were released alive. 1,086 (14%) perished, 4 (<1%) were released injured, and 1,462 (19%) of sea snakes caught were released with condition unknown (Table 6). Sea snake interactions were highest in the Groote area (3,657 individuals), followed by Limmen Bight (664 individuals), and lowest in the Fog Bay area (20). The number of sea snakes interactions recorded in 2015 was up 223 compared to 2014 (7,305 individual interactions were reported in 2014). The percentage of sea snakes released alive in 2015 was lower in 2015 (66%) compared to 2014 (81%).

Table 6: Sea snake interactions by area in the NPF in 2015.

Statistical area	Released alive	Perished	Released injured	Condition unknown	Total
ARNHEM	114	23		14	151
BOLD	174	58	2	131	365
BONAPARTE	41	24			65
EDWARD	36	3		28	67
FOG BAY	17	3			20
GOVE	268	52		147	467
GROOTE	2,360	520	2	775	3,657
KEERWEER	9	2		25	36
LIMMEN BIGHT	540	103		21	664
MELVILLE	423	73		43	539
MITCHELL	34	7		7	48
MORNINGTON	209	70		25	304
PORT ESSINGTON	175	30		20	225
SWEERS	362	20		4	386
WEIPA	214	98		222	534
Total	4,976	1,086	4	1,462	7,528

Sawfish Interactions

A total of 326 sawfish interactions were recorded during 2015 with unidentified species being the most numerous (Figure 61), representing 79% of the total interactions. This was followed by the Narrow Sawfish with 38 interactions (11%) and Dwarf Sawfish with 20 interactions (6%). The Freshwater and Green Sawfishes represented <2% of the interactions with 3 and 6 animals caught, respectively (Figure 61). Of the 326 animals caught in 2015, 217 individuals (67%) were released alive.

Sawfish interactions were highest in the Groote area (80 individuals) which also had the highest fishing effort (Figure 62). The Bonaparte area had the lowest number of interactions with sawfish (2 individuals) and also the lowest fishing effort.

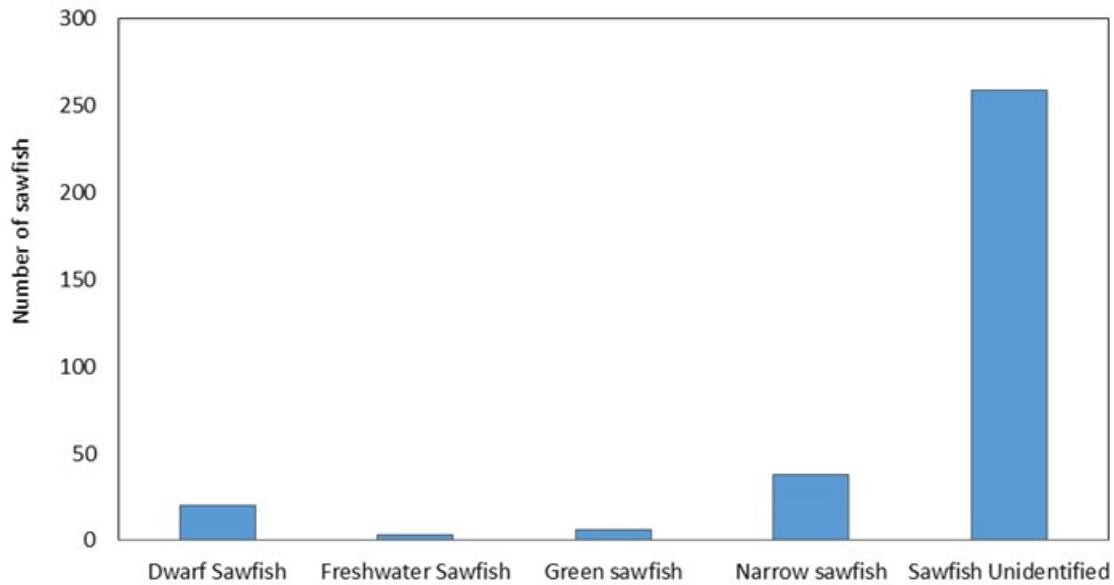


Figure 61: Sawfish interactions in the NPF by species in 2015.

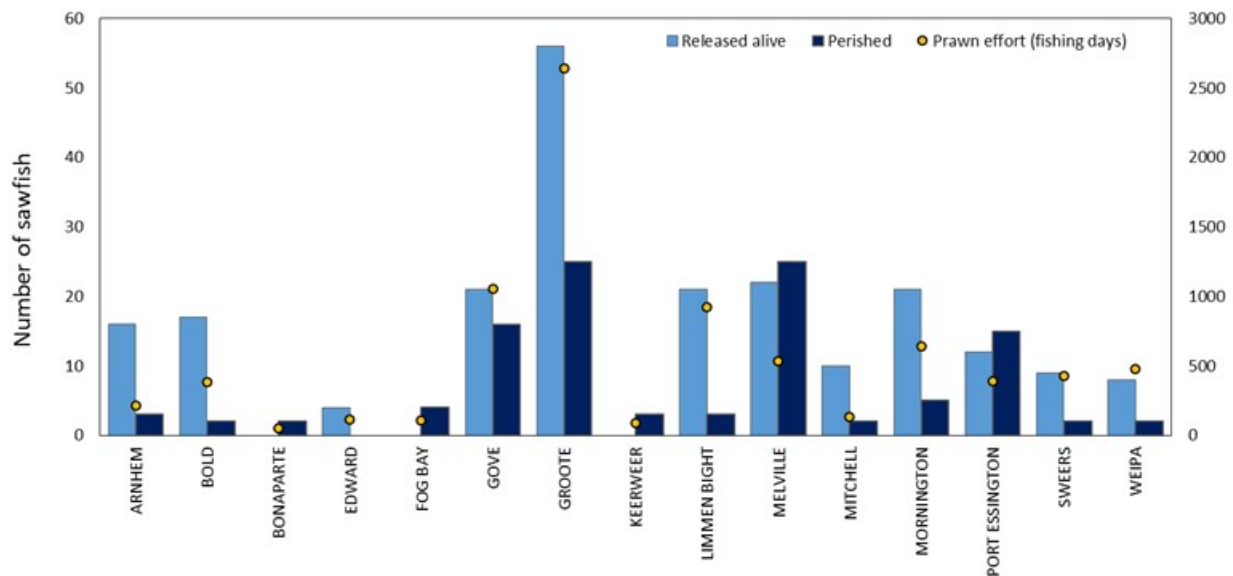


Figure 62: Sawfish interactions in the NPF by area in 2015.

Syngnathid Interactions

A total of 140 syngnathid (seahorses and pipefish) interactions were recorded during 2015 (Table 7). Of these, 46 (33%) were released alive and 94 (67%) perished. Syngnathid interactions were highest in the Groote area (97 individuals), followed by Limmen Bight (16 individuals). Eight of the statistical areas of the fishery recorded no interactions with syngnathids.

Table 7: Syngnathid interactions by area in the NPF in 2015.

Statistical area	Released alive	Perished	Released injured	Condition unknown	Total
ARNHEM	0	0	0	0	0
BOLD	0	3	0	0	3
BONAPARTE	0	0	0	0	0
EDWARD	0	0	0	0	0
FOG BAY	0	0	0	0	0
GOVE	0	5	0	0	5
GROOTE	36	61	0	0	97
KEERWEER	0	0	0	0	0
LIMMEN BIGHT	7	9	0	0	16
MELVILLE	0	0	0	0	0
MITCHELL	0	0	0	0	0
MORNINGTON	2	5	0	0	7
PORT ESSINGTON	0	0	0	0	0
SWEERS	1	3	0	0	4
WEIPA	0	8	0	0	8
Total	46	94	0	0	140

Scientific Observer and Crew Member Observer coverage

Tables 8 and 9 enable comparison of recorded interactions with TEP species within the Crew Member Observer (CMO), Scientific Observer and logbook datasets.

In 2015, the number of fishing days from logbook returns increased to 8,233 from 8,145 days in 2014. The number of days observed by CMOs increased from 949 in 2014 to 1,058 in 2015. The number of days observed by Scientific Observers decreased from 117 days in 2014 to 71 days in 2015.

The frequency of sea snake interactions per fishing day was highest in the CMO dataset (1.931) compared to the Scientific Observer dataset (1.437) and the NPF logbook dataset (0.914). Turtles were reported more frequently in the CMOs dataset (0.030) followed by the Scientific Observer dataset (0.014) and logbook dataset (0.008). The frequency of syngnathid interactions was also highest in the CMO dataset (0.378) compared to the Scientific Observer dataset (0.155) and logbook dataset (0.017). The frequency of sawfish interactions was higher in the Scientific Observer dataset (0.366) than in the CMO dataset (0.043) - both were higher than the logbook dataset (0.040).

Table 8: Comparison of TEP species interactions reported by Scientific Observers, CMOs and in logbooks in the NPF in 2015.

	Vessel Returns	Fishing Days*	Total Sea Snakes	Total Turtles	Total Syngnathids	Total Sawfish	Dolphins
Logbook Returns	52	8,233	7,528	63	140	326	0
Crew Member Observers	11	1,058	2,043	32	400	88	0
Scientific Observers**	11	71	102	1	11	26	0

*Days fishing practices were observed.

**Scientific observer data includes data collected during gear trials.

Table 9: Comparison of TEP species interactions reported by Scientific Observers, CMOs and in logbooks per boat day during in the NPF in 2015.

	Sea Snakes per Fishing Day	Turtles per Fishing Day	Syngnathids per Fishing Day	Sawfish per Fishing Day
Logbook Returns	0.914	0.008	0.017	0.040
Crew Member Observers	1.931	0.030	0.378	0.043
Scientific Observers*	1.437	0.014	0.155	0.366

*Scientific observer data include data collected during gear trials.

State/Territory specific data

Total prawn catch in Queensland (QLD) waters of the NPF decreased from 4,017 t in 2013/14 to 3,131 t in 2014/15 (Table 10). In the Northern Territory (NT), prawn catches decreased slightly from 3,734 t in 2013/14 to 3,255 t in 2014/15. Total prawn catch in Western Australia (WA) decreased from 531 t in 2013/14 to 528 t in 2014/15.

In 2014/15, banana prawn catch decreased in QLD, the NT and WA from that caught in the 2013/14 financial year. QLD decreased from 3,454 t to 2,372 t, the NT from 1,792 t to 1,664 t and WA from 526 t to 519 t (Table 10).

Tiger prawn catches decreased in QLD from 347 t in 2013/14 to 495 t in 2014/15 and in the NT from 1,676 t in 2013/14 to 1,204 t. Tiger prawn catches in WA remained the same at 1 t.

Catches of endeavour prawns increased in QLD, NT and WA. In QLD catches increased from 216 t to 258 t, in the NT catches increased from 266 t to 384 t and in WA endeavour catch increased from 4 t to 8 t. In QLD

and the NT, 6 t and 3 t of king prawns was caught, respectively, in 2014/15. In 2013/14 there was no catch of king prawns in QLD, the NT or WA.

Table 10: Prawn catch by State/Territory from 1994/95 to 2014/15 financial years.

<i>State</i>	<i>Financial Year</i>	<i>Banana (t)</i>	<i>Tiger (t)</i>	<i>Endeavour (t)</i>	<i>King (t)</i>	<i>Total Catch (t)</i>
Queensland	1994/95	2,540	1,883	346	24	4,793
	1995/96	2,562	1,570	761	23	4,916
	1996/97	2,050	1,259	817	15	4,141
	1997/98	1,986	1,318	878	11	4,193
	1998/99	1,548	634	335	5	2,522
	1999/00	637	629	348	1	1,615
	2000/01	3,651	553	352	4	4,560
	2001/02	3,286	372	211	1	3,870
	2002/03	1,307	97	54	1	1,459
	2003/04	1,639	152	14	0	1,805
	2004/05	1,700	70	7	0	1,777
	2005/06	1,374	310	71	13	1,768
	2006/07	1,839	195	47	8	2,089
	2007/08	3,587	126	32	8	3,753
	2008/09	3,917	202	88	0	4,207
Northern Territory	2009/10	2,968	473	143	0	3,584
	2010/11	5,454	279	88	1	5,822
	2011/12	3,198	368	179	1	3,746
	2012/13	1,867	575	299	3	2,744
	2013/14	3,454	347	216	0	4,017
	2014/15	2,372	495	258	6	3,131
	1994/95	1,536	1,855	423	19	3,833
	1995/96	1,072	1,615	434	6	3,127
	1996/97	1,472	1,184	387	9	3,052
	1997/98	1,241	1,466	490	9	3,206
	1998/99	1,549	2,141	778	6	4,474
	1999/00	1,247	1,564	586	11	3,408
	2000/01	2,323	1,546	489	3	4,361
	2001/02	1,789	1,561	892	1	4,243
	2002/03	1,509	1,797	333	2	3,641
	2003/04	1,437	1,985	390	1	3,813
	2004/05	838	1,683	368	2	2,891
	2005/06	1,389	1,423	205	6	3,023
	2006/07	783	1,635	308	20	2,746
	2007/08	1,550	1,100	164	12	2,826
	2008/09	1,288	809	121	0	2,218
	2009/10	2,229	788	189	0	3,207
	2010/11	1,738	1,337	325	0	3,401
	2011/12	1,544	490	228	0	1,230
	2012/13	867	775	199	0	1,841
	2013/14	1,792	1,676	266	0	3,734
	2014/15	1,664	1,204	384	3	3,255

State	Financial Year	Banana (t)	Tiger (t)	Endeavour (t)	King (t)	Total Catch (t)
Western Australia	1994/95	414	2	16	0	432
	1995/96	713	18	65	0	796
	1996/97	1,079	5	38	0	1,122
	1997/98	756	66	686	1	1,509
	1998/99	519	23	17	0	559
	1999/00	329	2	38	0	369
	2000/01	281	16	23	0	320
	2001/02	345	23	28	0	396
	2002/03	509	75	8	0	592
	2003/04	461	49	13	0	523
	2004/05	293	29	36	0	358
	2005/06	399	13	4	0	416
	2006/07	108	0	1	0	109
	2007/08	151	5	4	0	160
	2008/09	287	1	3	0	291
	2009/10	616	10	19	0	645
	2010/11	371	2	9	0	383
	2011/12	4,426	52	5	0	4,484
	2012/13	420	3	3	0	426
	2013/14	526	1	4	0	531
	2014/15	519	1	8	0	528

Retained Byproduct in the Northern Prawn Fishery by State/Territory waters

Total byproduct retained in the NPF by State/Territory in 2015 was 125,868 kg. The highest retained byproduct level was observed in NT waters (78,262 kg) the and lowest in WA waters (267 kg). Moreton Bay bugs were the largest component of byproduct catches, with 51,304 kg retained, an increase of 8% from 2014 in which 47,531 kg of bugs was retained (Table 11).

Table 11: Retained byproduct in the NPF by State/Territory in 2015 (kilograms).

Species	NT	QLD	WA	Total
Australian scampi	14,180	0	0	14,180
Bugs - Shovel nosed and slipper lobsters	9,097	15,995	0	25,092
Champagne lobster - Spear lobster	2,925	0	5	2,930
Commercial scallop	460	0	0	460
Cuttlefishes	3,990	1,947	0	5,937
Golden snapper - Fingermark seaperch	90	0	0	90
Moreton Bay bugs	26,676	24,628	0	51,304
Octopuses	75	13	0	88
Pomfret	240	13	0	253
Scallops	449	0	0	449
Squids	19,976	5,005	0	24,981
Tailor	5	0	0	
Whitings	99	0	0	99
Total	78,262	47,601	5	125,868

References

Ma, K. Y., Chan, T. -Y & Chu, K. H. (2011). *Refuting the six-genus classification of Penaeus s.l. (Dendrobranchiata, Penaeidae): a combined analysis of mitochondrial and nuclear genes.* — Zoologica Scripta, 40, 498–508.

Appendix 1 Historical Catch in NPF Statistical Areas

Table 12: Weipa

Year	Catch (tonnes)					Effort (days)			CPUE (tonnes/day)		
	Banana	Tiger	Endeavour	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery (nominal)	Tiger Fishery (effective)	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery (nominal)	Tiger Fishery (effective)
1994	208	201	49	230	228	455	1164	1222	0.504	0.196	0.187
1995	596	198	174	591	377	443	1396	1539	1.335	0.270	0.245
1996	1073	137	207	1072	345	676	1830	2118	1.585	0.188	0.163
1997	696	252	273	699	523	519	1844	2241	1.346	0.284	0.233
1998	165	46	13	165	59	233	388	495	0.709	0.151	0.119
1999	359	25	5	359	30	268	237	318	1.341	0.126	0.094
2000	36	154	147	37	301	170	1134	1596	0.218	0.265	0.188
2001	63	48	61	64	111	105	475	702	0.606	0.234	0.158
2002	42	12	12	42	24	64	127	197	0.661	0.186	0.120
2003	3	0	0	3	0	28	6	10	0.100	0.081	0.050
2004	138	0	0	138	0	120	3	5	1.147	0.024	0.014
2005	29	1	0	30	0	75	5	9	0.395	0.025	0.014
2006	391	6	2	391	6	342	53	100	1.143	0.113	0.060
2007	230	1	0	230	1	201	12	24	1.144	0.083	0.042
2008	833	28	22	833	51	374	208	432	2.226	0.244	0.117
2009	455	62	43	455	106	245	350	764	1.859	0.302	0.138
2010	280	44	25	280	69	173	194	445	1.619	0.355	0.155
2011	730	114	82	729	197	262	642	1545	2.784	0.306	0.127
2012	486	94	166	485	261	200	708	1789	2.426	0.369	0.146
2013	226	57	60	226	117	108	258	685	2.096	0.452	0.170
2014	338	138	160	338	298	136	559	1557	2.485	0.533	0.201
2015	394	92	28	394	120	178	298	872	2.213	0.403	0.138

Table 13: Keerweer

Year	Catch (tonnes)					Effort (days)			CPUE (tonnes/day)		
	Banana	Tiger	Endeavour	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery (nominal)	Tiger Fishery (effective)	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery (nominal)	Tiger Fishery (effective)
1994	76	3	0	76	3	202	23	24	0.376	0.134	0.127
1995	107	2	0	108	1	123	8	9	0.874	0.100	0.090
1996	184	162	115	177	285	297	1097	1270	0.595	0.260	0.225
1997	123	88	18	119	113	164	463	563	0.726	0.244	0.201
1998	107	1	0	107	2	145	15	19	0.740	0.103	0.081
1999	114	6	1	114	7	150	40	54	0.761	0.176	0.131
2000	18	0	0	18	0	65	2	3	0.281	0.146	0.103
2001	77	0	0	77	0	88	2	3	0.878	0.075	0.050
2002	311	0	0	311	0	229	5	8	1.356	0.067	0.043
2003	6	0	0	6	0	35	3	5	0.168	0.042	0.026
2004	77	0	0	77	0	125	0	0	0.616	0.000	0.000
2005	78	0	0	78	0	85	1	2	0.917	0.010	0.006
2006	53	1	0	53	1	61	9	17	0.862	0.072	0.038
2007	115	0	0	115	0	125	0	0	0.916	0.000	0.000
2008	259	0	0	259	0	122	0	0	2.124	0.000	0.000
2009	258	0	0	258	0	142	2	4	1.818	0.082	0.038
2010	89	0	0	89	0	75	2	5	1.190	0.010	0.004
2011	230	0	0	230	0	82	2	5	2.811	0.175	0.073
2012	286	1	0	286	0	135	3	8	2.119	0.102	0.040
2013	98	0	0	99	0	78	1	3	1.263	0.130	0.049
2014	139	2	0	139	1	83	3	8	1.675	0.333	0.126
2015	204	1	2	204	3	82	5	15	2.488	0.600	0.226

Table 14: Edward

Year	Catch (tonnes)					Effort (days)			CPUE (tonnes/day)		
	Banana	Tiger	Endeavour	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery (nominal)	Tiger Fishery (effective)	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery (nominal)	Tiger Fishery (effective)
1994	161	1	0	161	1	335	6	6	0.481	0.134	0.127
1995	245	0	0	245	0	179	3	3	1.369	0.070	0.063
1996	248	1	0	248	1	253	4	5	0.979	0.179	0.154
1997	148	0	0	148		178	0	0	0.833	0.000	0.000
1998	317	0	0	317	0	276	4	5	1.148	0.032	0.025
1999	412	0	0	412		403	0	0	1.022	0.000	0.000
2000	27	0	0	27		117	0	0	0.233	0.000	0.000
2001	120	0	0	121	0	129	1	1	0.936	0.066	0.045
2002	399	0	0	399		244	0	0	1.635	0.000	0.000
2003	142	0	0	142		182	0	0	0.779	0.000	0.000
2004	151	0	0	151	0	162	0	0	0.932	0.000	0.000
2005	411	0	0	411	0	330	0	0	1.244	0.000	0.000
2006	134	0	0	134	0	186	0	0	0.721	0.000	0.000
2007	313	0	0	313	0	285	1	2	1.098	0.048	0.024
2008	612	0	0	612	0	295	0	0	2.074	0.000	0.000
2009	450	2	0	450	2	198	15	33	2.274	0.156	0.071
2010	426	0	0	426	0	228	3	7	1.869	0.112	0.049
2011	521	2	0	523	0	178	2	5	2.935	0.105	0.044
2012	634	6	1	634	7	297	19	48	2.135	0.374	0.148
2013	168	0	0	168	0	125	1	3	1.344	0.062	0.023
2014	250	0	0	250	0	128	0	0	1.953	0.000	0.000
2015	215	0	0	215	0	113	1	3	1.903	0.100	0.034

Table 15: Mitchell

Year	Catch (tonnes)					Effort (days)			CPUE (tonnes/day)		
	Banana	Tiger	Endeavour	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery (nominal)	Tiger Fishery (effective)	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery (nominal)	Tiger Fishery (effective)
1994	180	2	0	180	2	406	3	3	0.442	0.708	0.675
1995	433	0	0	433	0	308	0	0	1.406	0.000	0.000
1996	433	0	0	433	0	468	1	1	0.926	0.135	0.117
1997	274	0	0	274	0	289	0	0	0.949	0.000	0.000
1998	188	2	0	188	2	244	7	9	0.772	0.305	0.239
1999	246	0	0	246	0	268	0	0	0.918	0.000	0.000
2000	100	0	0	100	0	178	1	1	0.563	0.090	0.064
2001	256	0	0	257	0	300	0	0	0.856	0.000	0.000
2002	601	1	0	601	1	363	7	11	1.657	0.131	0.084
2003	325	0	0	325	0	377	0	0	0.862	0.000	0.000
2004	455	0	0	455	0	500	1	2	0.911	0.077	0.045
2005	306	0	0	306	0	296	0	0	1.034	0.000	0.000
2006	71	0	0	71	0	147	0	0	0.483	0.000	0.000
2007	455	0	0	455	0	301	0	0	1.512	0.000	0.000
2008	380	0	0	380	0	192	3	6	1.980	0.142	0.068
2009	282	0	0	282	0	160	1	2	1.761	0.010	0.005
2010	285	0	0	285	0	147	0	0	1.940	0.000	0.000
2011	288	0	0	288	0	107	0	0	2.695	0.000	0.000
2012	326	0	0	326	0	169	1	3	1.932	0.243	0.096
2013	566	0	0	567	0	200	0	0	2.833	0.000	0.000
2014	528	0	0	528	0	210	0	0	2.514	0.000	0.000
2015	480	0	0	480	0	131	0	0	3.664	0.000	0.000

Table 16: Bold

Year	Catch (tonnes)					Effort (days)			CPUE (tonnes/day)		
	Banana	Tiger	Endeavour	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery (nominal)	Tiger Fishery (effective)	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery (nominal)	Tiger Fishery (effective)
1994	244	115	22	241	143	542	553	581	0.444	0.258	0.246
1995	646	416	89	643	516	571	1187	1309	1.127	0.435	0.394
1996	393	86	24	393	112	429	457	529	0.917	0.246	0.212
1997	570	53	49	570	102	332	274	333	1.716	0.373	0.307
1998	574	104	22	579	125	628	460	587	0.922	0.271	0.213
1999	325	35	12	324	48	413	227	304	0.786	0.213	0.159
2000	289	20	1	287	23	349	161	227	0.823	0.145	0.103
2001	1736	11	16	1739	26	912	91	134	1.907	0.286	0.193
2002	1612	32	2	1614	32	788	172	267	2.048	0.183	0.118
2003	609	5	0	610	5	480	37	60	1.271	0.141	0.087
2004	649	2	0	649	3	392	15	26	1.654	0.183	0.107
2005	643	15	2	643	15	417	79	142	1.542	0.186	0.104
2006	479	4	0	479	4	378	22	41	1.268	0.202	0.107
2007	439	33	7	439	33	297	129	255	1.477	0.256	0.129
2008	1304	84	33	1302	120	489	327	680	2.662	0.366	0.176
2009	1614	52	41	1614	94	531	168	367	3.040	0.559	0.256
2010	1097	45	16	1094	64	442	87	199	2.475	0.739	0.323
2011	2451	46	20	2451	66	611	173	416	4.011	0.381	0.158
2012	912	110	45	905	162	368	347	877	2.459	0.466	0.185
2013	545	191	54	541	250	278	539	1430	1.946	0.464	0.175
2014	1445	42	21	1442	67	518	131	365	2.784	0.511	0.184
2015	742	55	9	742	55	271	112	328	2.738	0.491	0.168

Table 17: Sweers

Year	Catch (tonnes)					Effort (days)			CPUE (tonnes/day)		
	Banana	Tiger	Endeavour	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery (nominal)	Tiger Fishery (effective)	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery (nominal)	Tiger Fishery (effective)
1994	16	49	33	17	82	95	288	302	0.178	0.286	0.272
1995	336	357	126	331	498	213	1249	1377	1.553	0.398	0.361
1996	162	167	146	161	316	147	980	1134	1.097	0.323	0.279
1997	127	145	104	127	251	101	713	867	1.257	0.352	0.290
1998	473	41	60	486	88	532	305	389	0.914	0.290	0.227
1999	0	1	0	0	1	56	10	13	0.004	0.147	0.110
2000	61	3	2	60	5	98	22	31	0.612	0.221	0.157
2001	494	4	3	494	9	330	34	50	1.498	0.258	0.174
2002	225	2	1	225	3	204	19	29	1.105	0.146	0.094
2003	125	0	0	125	0	150	2	3	0.836	0.096	0.059
2004	127	0	0	127	0	106	1	2	1.198	0.230	0.134
2005	146	4	7	146	4	87	65	117	1.678	0.062	0.034
2006	70	0	0	70	0	48	1	2	1.454	0.130	0.069
2007	137	0	0	137	0	83	0	0	1.649	0.000	0.000
2008	126	28	15	126	43	63	115	239	2.001	0.378	0.182
2009	178	4	3	178	8	61	11	24	2.924	0.702	0.322
2010	397	4	7	396	13	179	22	50	2.213	0.576	0.251
2011	379	90	46	379	136	143	281	676	2.653	0.485	0.201
2012	177	50	49	174	103	65	219	553	2.673	0.468	0.185
2013	92	89	61	90	153	45	260	690	1.990	0.587	0.221
2014	436	70	49	428	129	144	223	621	2.972	0.578	0.208
2015	120	202	66	117	283	56	374	1094	2.089	0.757	0.259

Table 18: Mornington

Year	Catch (tonnes)					Effort (days)			CPUE (tonnes/day)		
	Banana	Tiger	Endeavour	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery (nominal)	Tiger Fishery (effective)	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery (nominal)	Tiger Fishery (effective)
1994	4	760	306	2	1085	50	4813	5054	0.036	0.225	0.215
1995	126	1531	283	110	1840	141	5243	5780	0.779	0.351	0.318
1996	105	640	405	104	1052	148	4571	5292	0.702	0.230	0.199
1997	62	690	347	62	1046	72	3867	4700	0.857	0.271	0.223
1998	233	919	464	226	1394	323	4795	6120	0.699	0.291	0.228
1999	9	445	219	9	665	72	2474	3315	0.123	0.269	0.201
2000	110	473	306	110	780	147	3445	4847	0.752	0.226	0.161
2001	928	392	184	926	578	827	2157	3187	1.120	0.268	0.182
2002	65	85	53	65	139	177	680	1055	0.365	0.204	0.132
2003	102	163	32	101	197	127	645	1051	0.798	0.305	0.187
2004	37	47	7	37	54	82	205	351	0.446	0.265	0.155
2005	91	280	64	91	280	113	1281	2300	0.807	0.219	0.122
2006	187	206	44	187	206	204	780	1471	0.915	0.264	0.140
2007	145	57	24	145	57	179	333	659	0.810	0.171	0.086
2008	127	69	18	131	83	134	315	655	0.975	0.264	0.127
2009	634	342	54	630	401	286	1111	2425	2.202	0.361	0.165
2010	443	199	40	441	241	258	528	1210	1.711	0.456	0.199
2011	806	70	29	806	99	273	347	835	2.952	0.285	0.119
2012	21	70	4	21	74	7	227	574	2.945	0.326	0.129
2013	126	183	49	124	236	83	546	1449	1.492	0.432	0.163
2014	352	188	40	353	230	186	599	1669	1.898	0.384	0.138
2015	184	266	43	180	329	75	567	1659	2.400	0.580	0.198

Table 19: Limmen Bight

Year	Catch (tonnes)					Effort (days)			CPUE (tonnes/day)		
	Banana	Tiger	Endeavour	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery (nominal)	Tiger Fishery (effective)	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery (nominal)	Tiger Fishery (effective)
1994	9	716	107	5	842	68	3515	3691	0.073	0.240	0.228
1995	326	448	68	330	515	327	1856	2046	1.009	0.277	0.252
1996	201	555	174	201	737	252	3175	3675	0.797	0.232	0.200
1997	28	472	115	28	593	91	2100	2553	0.311	0.282	0.232
1998	273	748	122	274	870	307	3003	3833	0.891	0.290	0.227
1999	78	610	155	79	773	183	2933	3931	0.429	0.264	0.197
2000	229	558	179	232	737	348	2725	3834	0.666	0.270	0.192
2001	1732	584	250	1744	825	1440	2594	3833	1.211	0.318	0.215
2002	17	306	73	14	381	37	1373	2130	0.381	0.278	0.179
2003	420	848	132	420	981	449	2749	4478	0.935	0.357	0.219
2004	55	670	113	55	784	173	2607	4459	0.319	0.301	0.176
2005	3	509	47	3	509	25	2103	3777	0.120	0.242	0.135
2006	429	719	121	429	719	303	2516	4744	1.416	0.286	0.152
2007	30	284	62	30	284	101	1470	2910	0.299	0.193	0.098
2008	111	252	22	112	273	128	1079	2243	0.878	0.253	0.121
2009	380	581	85	386	659	272	1951	4259	1.419	0.338	0.155
2010	705	467	80	708	544	317	1245	2854	2.232	0.437	0.191
2011	277	184	32	278	215	139	891	2144	2.003	0.241	0.100
2012	74	235	37	75	271	43	919	2322	1.756	0.294	0.117
2013	74	541	51	77	589	63	1288	3417	1.222	0.457	0.172
2014	516	364	48	519	411	191	972	2708	2.717	0.423	0.152
2015	199	455	21	199	478	106	814	2381	1.877	0.587	0.201

Table 20: Groote

Year	Catch (tonnes)					Effort (days)			CPUE (tonnes/day)		
	Banana	Tiger	Endeavour	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery (nominal)	Tiger Fishery (effective)	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery (nominal)	Tiger Fishery (effective)
1994	26	930	243	25	1176	49	5669	5952	0.503	0.207	0.198
1995	60	722	202	56	930	81	3554	3918	0.686	0.262	0.237
1996	62	418	131	61	550	109	3134	3628	0.560	0.175	0.152
1997	74	662	186	72	849	129	3279	3986	0.559	0.259	0.213
1998	75	951	449	73	1404	147	6051	7723	0.494	0.232	0.182
1999	471	803	313	509	1079	795	4810	6446	0.640	0.224	0.167
2000	217	780	233	222	1008	412	3870	5445	0.539	0.260	0.185
2001	358	662	371	363	1030	469	3387	5004	0.774	0.304	0.206
2002	30	1035	180	29	1216	63	4152	6441	0.457	0.293	0.189
2003	126	900	194	119	1100	121	3459	5634	0.984	0.318	0.195
2004	111	699	191	112	889	214	3363	5752	0.522	0.264	0.155
2005	3	576	95	3	576	25	2811	5048	0.120	0.205	0.114
2006	97	594	137	97	594	171	2516	4744	0.566	0.236	0.125
2007	49	307	77	49	307	190	1958	3877	0.257	0.157	0.079
2008	49	265	54	50	318	71	1361	2829	0.702	0.234	0.112
2009	149	138	71	152	206	146	818	1786	1.044	0.252	0.116
2010	215	618	207	227	813	235	2059	4719	0.965	0.395	0.172
2011	264	191	103	288	270	380	1045	2515	0.759	0.259	0.108
2012	44	287	95	47	379	51	1369	3459	0.915	0.277	0.110
2013	49	713	110	38	834	31	1888	5009	1.221	0.442	0.167
2014	149	491	150	138	652	43	1435	3807	3.209	0.454	0.171
2015	200	1386	214	167	1634	101	2538	7424	1.653	0.644	0.220

Table 21: Gove

Year	Catch (tonnes)					Effort (days)			CPUE (tonnes/day)		
	Banana	Tiger	Endeavour	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery (nominal)	Tiger Fishery (effective)	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery (nominal)	Tiger Fishery (effective)
1994	42	225	71	43	296	116	1439	1511	0.370	0.206	0.196
1995	47	345	53	48	398	125	1522	1678	0.383	0.261	0.237
1996	18	111	21	18	133	131	775	897	0.140	0.171	0.148
1997	45	228	54	47	281	136	1032	1254	0.346	0.272	0.224
1998	39	266	113	37	383	98	1769	2258	0.374	0.216	0.170
1999	80	203	95	83	296	216	1423	1907	0.384	0.208	0.155
2000	23	164	47	23	212	122	939	1321	0.188	0.226	0.161
2001	37	179	101	37	281	99	911	1346	0.374	0.309	0.209
2002	77	322	47	74	374	119	1426	2212	0.624	0.262	0.169
2003	84	205	46	85	251	127	893	1455	0.669	0.281	0.172
2004	71	282	42	72	324	161	1234	2111	0.446	0.262	0.153
2005	72	288	39	72	288	145	1370	2460	0.497	0.210	0.117
2006	143	262	54	143	262	243	1099	2072	0.588	0.238	0.126
2007	61	162	19	61	162	156	816	1616	0.393	0.199	0.100
2008	101	122	12	100	136	75	562	1168	1.335	0.242	0.116
2009	11	35	13	11	48	15	240	524	0.706	0.201	0.092
2010	68	241	35	66	278	51	706	1618	1.292	0.393	0.172
2011	97	83	47	95	133	100	501	1206	0.947	0.265	0.110
2012	77	162	27	77	189	87	697	1761	0.881	0.271	0.107
2013	49	269	28	49	297	36	732	1942	1.356	0.406	0.153
2014	42	259	66	41	327	39	737	1774	1.051	0.444	0.184
2015	143	493	72	146	562	150	905	2647	0.973	0.621	0.212

Table 22: Arnhem

Year	Catch (tonnes)					Effort (days)			CPUE (tonnes/day)		
	Banana	Tiger	Endeavour	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery (nominal)	Tiger Fishery (effective)	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery (nominal)	Tiger Fishery (effective)
1994	42	90	11	44	100	178	526	552	0.245	0.190	0.181
1995	160	19	1	160	21	132	109	120	1.211	0.188	0.171
1996	90	37	3	90	40	210	252	292	0.430	0.158	0.137
1997	87	17	2	87	18	178	105	128	0.490	0.174	0.143
1998	94	49	2	95	52	225	231	295	0.422	0.223	0.175
1999	176	8	1	176	8	253	74	99	0.695	0.113	0.085
2000	50	21	2	50	22	181	148	208	0.278	0.149	0.106
2001	127	32	2	128	35	135	142	210	0.950	0.245	0.166
2002	64	57	1	63	59	147	193	299	0.432	0.304	0.196
2003	165	11	0	166	10	183	43	70	0.908	0.237	0.145
2004	264	6	0	265	5	303	39	67	0.873	0.129	0.076
2005	112	15	0	112	15	186	70	126	0.603	0.217	0.121
2006	213	7	1	213	7	227	44	83	0.938	0.159	0.084
2007	36	11	1	36	11	118	66	131	0.302	0.168	0.085
2008	327	68	8	326	76	176	234	486	1.854	0.324	0.156
2009	48	9	0	48	9	35	38	83	1.374	0.236	0.108
2010	258	4	0	258	4	124	17	39	2.079	0.215	0.094
2011	243	8	2	242	10	98	48	116	2.473	0.207	0.086
2012	305	5	0	305	5	102	22	56	2.994	0.221	0.087
2013	95	39	3	95	43	58	120	318	1.641	0.358	0.135
2014	308	15	3	309	17	153	51	123	2.020	0.333	0.139
2015	173	35	3	173	38	153	62	181	1.131	0.613	0.210

Table 23: Port Essington

Year	Catch (tonnes)					Effort (days)			CPUE (tonnes/day)		
	Banana	Tiger	Endeavour	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery (nominal)	Tiger Fishery (effective)	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery (nominal)	Tiger Fishery (effective)
1994	132	26	9	136	31	378	176	185	0.361	0.176	0.167
1995	257	63	57	253	124	363	359	396	0.697	0.344	0.312
1996	177	14	4	180	15	332	96	111	0.543	0.154	0.133
1997	302	16	54	302	69	478	186	226	0.632	0.372	0.306
1998	175	74	34	173	109	358	415	530	0.485	0.262	0.205
1999	195	8	18	196	25	343	98	131	0.570	0.259	0.193
2000	180	39	25	180	65	288	216	304	0.624	0.301	0.214
2001	280	63	142	258	227	345	395	584	0.749	0.576	0.390
2002	213	86	25	212	113	339	273	424	0.624	0.414	0.267
2003	212	12	6	219	11	367	47	77	0.595	0.236	0.145
2004	193	17	7	195	22	241	92	157	0.810	0.235	0.137
2005	236	15	6	236	15	403	47	84	0.586	0.327	0.182
2006	193	2	2	193	2	197	6	11	0.980	0.333	0.177
2007	116	3	0	116	3	141	18	36	0.820	0.178	0.090
2008	379	99	22	378	122	285	324	674	1.326	0.377	0.181
2009	107	15	5	109	17	103	51	111	1.062	0.332	0.152
2010	254	8	3	259	6	208	18	41	1.246	0.323	0.141
2011	243	21	27	252	40	236	92	221	1.066	0.437	0.182
2012	283	38	18	291	48	188	124	313	1.546	0.385	0.152
2013	170	45	21	169	67	162	118	313	1.042	0.568	0.214
2014	340	41	51	347	85	264	133	320	1.314	0.639	0.266
2015	264	85	37	262	124	240	152	445	1.092	0.816	0.279

Table 24: Melville

Year	Catch (tonnes)					Effort (days)			CPUE (tonnes/day)		
	Banana	Tiger	Endeavour	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery (nominal)	Tiger Fishery (effective)	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery (nominal)	Tiger Fishery (effective)
1994	168	14	12	169	26	453	131	138	0.373	0.196	0.187
1995	493	20	56	502	67	628	186	205	0.799	0.361	0.327
1996	289	7	27	294	29	557	126	146	0.529	0.228	0.197
1997	554	41	111	574	132	842	312	379	0.682	0.424	0.349
1998	235	46	49	237	93	519	312	398	0.457	0.298	0.233
1999	527	8	14	531	17	667	76	102	0.796	0.229	0.171
2000	189	2	2	191	2	380	13	18	0.502	0.126	0.089
2001	351	5	18	358	17	439	63	93	0.816	0.273	0.185
2002	286	29	18	295	38	468	118	183	0.630	0.321	0.207
2003	253	14	13	267	13	432	51	83	0.618	0.249	0.153
2004	455	0	0	455	0	500	1	2	0.911	0.077	0.045
2005	306	0	0	306	0	530	44	79	0.577	0.000	0.000
2006	160	1	1	160	0	230	1	2	0.696	0.000	0.000
2007	134	0	0	134	0	141	3	6	0.947	0.000	0.000
2008	528	3	2	532	1	435	6	12	1.223	0.203	0.097
2009	302	7	12	309	12	208	34	74	1.488	0.358	0.164
2010	343	4	3	349	1	294	7	16	1.186	0.173	0.075
2011	356	2	13	359	13	259	19	46	1.384	0.660	0.274
2012	370	41	22	377	56	312	147	371	1.209	0.381	0.151
2013	252	73	51	263	113	227	154	409	1.160	0.731	0.275
2014	322	72	65	330	130	265	194	467	1.245	0.670	0.278
2015	416	112	64	425	167	329	206	603	1.292	0.811	0.277

Table 25: Fog Bay

Year	Catch (tonnes)					Effort (days)			CPUE (tonnes/day)		
	Banana	Tiger	Endeavour	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery (nominal)	Tiger Fishery (effective)	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery (nominal)	Tiger Fishery (effective)
1994	210	6	2	211	8	393	76	80	0.536	0.101	0.096
1995	251	5	1	251	6	346	40	44	0.726	0.144	0.130
1996	147	4	0	147	4	227	43	50	0.648	0.096	0.083
1997	448	10	3	452	10	464	61	74	0.974	0.158	0.130
1998	307	11	10	308	22	420	118	151	0.733	0.184	0.144
1999	254	1	1	254	2	308	17	23	0.824	0.137	0.103
2000	221	1	0	221	1	271	15	21	0.817	0.074	0.053
2001	307	0	0	308	0	271	1	1	1.136	0.202	0.137
2002	208	0	0	208	1	295	9	14	0.704	0.135	0.087
2003	259	0	0	259	1	324	2	3	0.798	0.255	0.157
2004	332	0	0	332	0	261	1	2	1.271	0.270	0.158
2005	123	0	0	123	0	181	1	2	0.679	0.110	0.061
2006	258	1	0	258	1	270	2	4	0.956	0.250	0.133
2007	237	1	0	237	1	172	3	6	1.375	0.183	0.093
2008	316	0	0	316	0	200	1	2	1.580	0.494	0.238
2009	287	0	0	287	0	107	1	2	2.682	0.225	0.103
2010	318	0	0	318	0	180	0	0	1.765	0.000	0.000
2011	286	0	0	286	0	169	0	0	1.692	0.000	0.000
2012	233	0	0	233	0	144	0	0	1.621	0.000	0.000
2013	197	0	0	197	0	117	0	0	1.685	0.000	0.000
2014	191	0	0	191	0	102	1	2	1.873	0.000	0.000
2015	156	0	0	156	0	110	0	0	1.418	0.000	0.000

Table 26: Bonaparte

Year	Catch (tonnes)					Effort (days)			CPUE (tonnes/day)		
	Banana	Tiger	Endeavour	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery (nominal)	Tiger Fishery (effective)	Banana Fishery	Tiger Fishery (nominal)	Tiger Fishery (effective)
1994	590	4	21	610	5	1125	28	29	0.542	0.182	0.173
1995	736	11	64	763	49	900	129	142	0.848	0.380	0.345
1996	546	10	36	569	23	1284	93	108	0.443	0.242	0.209
1997	1000	30	623	1010	643	1502	1147	1394	0.673	0.561	0.461
1998	262	25	7	265	29	846	125	160	0.313	0.230	0.180
1999	619	16	50	630	54	1235	246	330	0.511	0.221	0.165
2000	397	1	19	404	14	554	32	45	0.729	0.423	0.300
2001	292	25	29	303	49	358	187	276	0.847	0.259	0.176
2002	435	28	10	441	32	610	164	254	0.723	0.196	0.126
2003	411	103	12	422	105	732	566	922	0.576	0.185	0.113
2004	477	33	38	495	53	720	198	339	0.688	0.266	0.155
2005	318	15	5	318	15	445	64	115	0.715	0.230	0.128
2006	231	0	1	231	0	254	0	0	0.909	0.000	0.000
2007	151	4	4	151	4	206	20	40	0.732	0.220	0.111
2008	185	1	3	189	0	183	2	4	1.031	0.179	0.086
2009	612	4	17	628	5	444	13	28	1.415	0.397	0.182
2010	254	2	9	261	4	218	10	23	1.199	0.353	0.154
2011	463	6	85	472	81	345	100	241	1.369	0.815	0.338
2012	195	1	2	198		132	0	0	1.499	0.000	0.000
2013	380	3	4	387	0	325	1	3	1.191	0.025	0.009
2014	883	2	9	891	3	604	4	10	1.475	0.750	0.312
2015	30	0	0	30	0	57	1	3	0.526	0.429	0.147