



Australian Government

Australian Fisheries Management Authority



Bass Strait Central Zone Scallop Fishery



ANNUAL RESEARCH STATEMENT



2017-18

Version 1.0

BSCZSF Annual Research Statement for 2017/18

AFMA funding in 2017/18 (AFMA Research Committee - ARC)

Title	Objectives and component tasks	Evaluation		
		Total cost (approx. only)	Priority/rank	Feasibility
Bass Strait Central Zone Scallop Fishery – 2016 Survey	Coordinate fishery surveys to measure the size distribution and calculate biomass estimates to assess to the potential for commercial catch rates in the Bass Strait Central Zone Scallop Fishery	~\$35,000	Essential	
Review the effectiveness of spatial management measures in the Bass Strait Central Zone Scallop Fishery	To understand the utility and effectiveness of spatial management measures (area closures) as required in the Harvest Strategy. To assist management determine if area closures are necessary and, if so, to what extent given: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The known biomass from surveyed areas of the commercial scallop resource in south-east Australia from surveyed areas (Commonwealth and State); ii. The unknown biomass of scallops in marine reserves, outside known areas and in areas of low (non-commercial) density; and iii. The factors impacting the capacity to harvest and maximise economic returns from the fishery (i.e. fleet size and market implications). 		Medium	

FRDC funding in 2017/18 (Commonwealth Fisheries Research Advisory Body - ComFRAB)

Title	Objectives and component tasks	Evaluation		
		Total cost (approx. only)	Priority/rank	Feasibility
Impact of seismic surveys on scallop larvae	<p>Develop effective experimental protocols and methods for the transport and at sea exposure of larvae to acoustic signals</p> <p>Determine the impact of intense low frequency acoustic signals on larval scallops</p> <p>Outline threshold distances for potential impacts of seismic surveying on commercial scallop larvae</p>	356,383.00	High	
Review the effectiveness of spatial management measures in the Bass Strait Central Zone Scallop Fishery	<p>To understand the utility and effectiveness of spatial management measures (area closures) as required in the Harvest Strategy. To assist management determine if area closures are necessary and, if so, to what extent given:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The known biomass from surveyed areas of the commercial scallop resource in south-east Australia from surveyed areas (Commonwealth and State); ii. The unknown biomass of scallops in marine reserves, outside known areas and in areas of low (non-commercial) density; and iii. The factors impacting the capacity to harvest and maximise economic returns from the fishery (i.e. fleet size and market implications). 		Medium	

Key documents

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