

Black teatfish Industry workshop 8-10 February 2021 Mer

PZJA TI industry members Michael Passi, Maluwap Nona
and Rocky Stephen

AFMA: Selina Stoute, Danait Ghebregabhier , John Jones



Australian Government

Australian Fisheries Management Authority





Who we are

- Maluwap Nona - Malu Lamar Chairperson and PZJA HCWG Traditional Inhabitant member
- Michael Passi - PZJA HCWG Traditional Inhabitant member
- Rocky Stephen - PZJA FFWG Traditional Inhabitant member and previous observer on the HCWG
- Selina Stoute, Senior Manager Torres Fisheries, AFMA
- Tim Skewes, PZJA HCWG Scientific Member
- John Jones, Compliance Manager, AFMA
- Danait Ghebregabhier, Senior Management Officer Hand Collectable Fisheries, AFMA



Agenda

Day 2: Tuesday 9 February 2021 - Mer Community Hall

08:30 am – 08:45am	Welcome address Mer PBC Chair Welcome by Mr Doug Passi (TBC) and/or Councillor Aven Noah Opening Prayer (TBA)
09:00 am – 09:30 am	Introduction to the workshop by Mr Michael Passi PZJA HCWG TI Member – <u>Kemer Kemer Meriam</u> Address by Malu Lamar Chairperson, Mr Maluwap Nona
09:30 am – 10:30 am	PART 1: How did we get here? <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Overview of the BDM Fishery▪ Development and implementation of the new BDM Harvest Strategy▪ Implementation of the Fish Receiver System and progress to date



Agenda

10:30 am – 10:45 am

Morning Tea

10:45 am – 11:45 am

Outcome of the scientific survey 2019/2020
Mr Tim Skewes, CSIRO

1130 am – 12:00 pm

Industry feedback received to date on timing of the reopening – PZJA HCWG TI Members and AFMA

Update on new management arrangements in the fishery CITES listing, licence conditions - AFMA

12:00 am – 1:00 pm

Lunch

Part 2: Timing of black teatfish reopening

1:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Break-out group session: Industry discussion on the timing of the reopening

3:30 pm – 3:45 pm

Afternoon Tea

3:45 pm – 4:30 pm

Break-out group session: Industry discussion on protocols

4:30 pm – 4:50 pm

recap and close – Malu Lamar, PBC Chair, PZJA Members, AFMA

4:50 pm – 5:00 pm

Close in Prayer (TBA)



Why are we here?

- Get your advice on timing
(Feb, April, Oct/Nov, Oct-Jan, ?)
- Explain - daily landing and reporting
- Update - scientific stock survey



How did we get here?

2014 and 2015 Black teatfish openings – overcatch

2016-2019 Harvest Strategy

Dec 2017 Fish Receiver System

Dec 19/Jan 20 Scientific stock survey

28 August 2020 PZJA agree 20 t, daily reporting AND black
and white teatfish CITES listing



Stocks are healthy – what else?

Harvest strategy

- We can't overcatch the TAC (20 tonnes)
- We need good catch reporting

Export limits

Black Teatfish and White teatfish are CITES Appendix II listed

Export limits apply 20t for Black teatfish and 15t for White teatfish




Daily landing and reporting of catch

NEW Fish Receiver licence conditions for black teatfish opening


- All **fishers** to land **daily** to a fish receiver
- All **fish receivers** to submit CDRs **daily** to AFMA
 - SMS, Email, fax
 - Need to have reception

(no fishing / stock piling before opening)



Daily landing and reporting of catch – TIB licence conditions

- Daily landing of black teatfish catches to a licenced fish receiver
- No possession or use of hookah gear while fishing for black teatfish



Daily landing and reporting of catch – fish receiver licence conditions

- Daily reporting of landed catches of black teatfish to AFMA via SMS, email or fax - need reception
- Take a photo of the first page of the CDR and send it to AFMA.



Preferred timing – industry feedback so far

Feb

April

Oct/Nov 2021

Dec/Jan 2022

Preferred timing – industry feedback so far

Island	Feedback on timing for black teatfish reopening	Date of AFMA visit
Erub	February 2021	27-28 Oct 2020
Ugar	Oct/Nov 2021	30-Oct-20
Mer	April 2021	2-Nov-20
Warraber	Feb/Apr 2021	3-Nov-20
Poruma	Oct/Nov 2021	4-Nov-20
Iama	Oct-Jan but happy to give KKM priority in nominating the timing	5-Nov-20
Masig	April	11-12 Jan 2021
Badu	April (Majority participant view, recognition that Easter cluster should get priority for nominating a suitable opening timing)	18-Nov-20
Kubin (Moa)	Dec-Jan but advised that Eastern cluster should have a greater say on the timing of the reopening	19-Nov-20
St Paul (Moa)	take lead from KKM Islands	20-Nov-20
Mabuiag	TBA	
Thursday Is and surrounds	Oct/Nov	3-Dec-20
Saibai	TBA	
Boigu	TBA	
Duaun	TBA	
NPA	TBA	



After black teatfish reopening

- Resource Assessment Group
- Analyse any additional data
- HCWG consider advice for a further opening



Role of cultural protocols in the reopening of black teatfish

- Kemer Kemer Meriam and Kulkalgal Nations have proposed to meet and develop their plans in anticipation of the reopening of black teatfish.



QUESTIONS?



Torres Strait BDM Fishery overview

Species/Basket	TAC (wet weight of gutted fish)
Prickly redfish (<i>Theleonata ananas</i>)	15 tonnes
White teatfish (<i>Holothuria fuscogilva</i>)	15 tonnes
Deepwater redfish (<i>Actinopyga echinites</i>)	5 tonnes
Hairy blackfish (<i>Actinopyga miliaris</i>)	5 tonnes
Greenfish (<i>Stichopus chloronatus</i>)	40 tonnes
Curryfish species (<i>Stichopus herrmanni</i> , <i>Svastus</i> and <i>S. ocellatus</i>)	60 tonnes combined TAC (basket)
Black teatfish (<i>Holothuria whitmaei</i>)	0 tonnes (CLOSED)
Surf redfish (<i>Actinopyga mauritania</i>)	0 tonnes (CLOSED)
Sandfish (<i>Holothuria scabra</i>)	0 tonnes (CLOSED)
All other BDM species (inc. those in the families <i>Holothuridae</i> and <i>Stichopidae</i>)	50 tonnes combined TAC (basket)

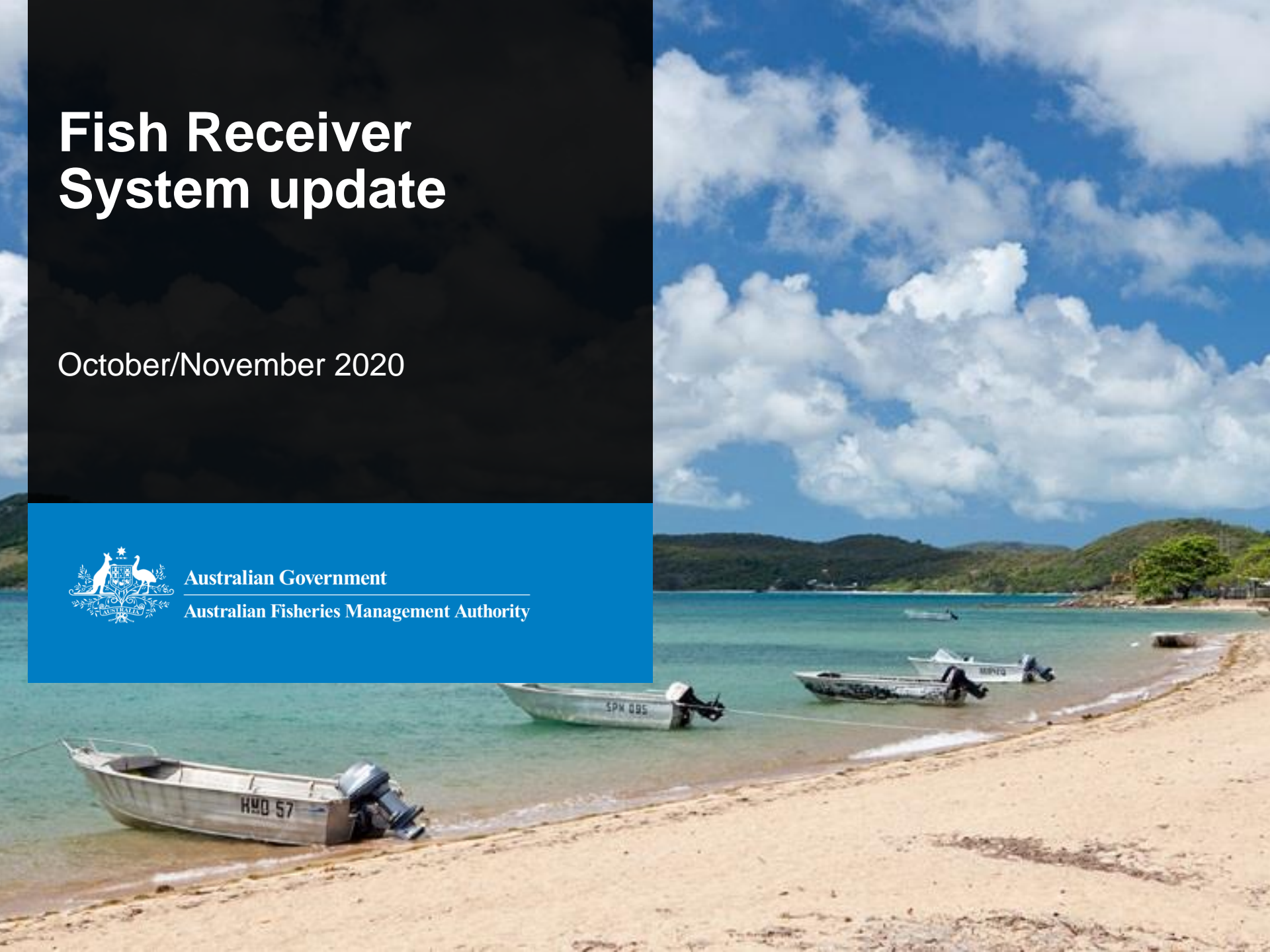
Fish Receiver System update

October/November 2020



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What is the Fish Receiver System?

- A catch reporting system – accurate and timely records how much fish is being taken out of the water
- All commercial catch must be weighed and recorded
- For people who go commercial fishing
- For people who receive commercial catch



How does it work?

If you catch fish commercially:

- your catch must be weighed and recorded on a CATCH DISPOSAL RECORD (CDR)

When?

- At the end of each fishing trip, when you bring your catch to land or a carrier boat

Where?

- To a licenced FISH RECEIVER



What's your role as a **Fisher**?

- ✓ Must hold a current Traditional Inhabitant Boat (TIB) licence
- ✓ Ensure your catch is landed to a licenced FISH RECEIVER

Filling out the form:

PART A MANDATORY – FISHER DETAILS

Provide details about you in the Fisher Details section:

- Name
- Fishing Licence Number
- Boat Mark

You (or your agent) **MUST SIGN**



What's your role as a **Fish Receiver**?

- ✓ Only receive catch from a licenced fisher
- ✓ Ensure all landed catch is weighed and recorded on a CDR

Filling out the form:

PART A MANDATORY – RECEIVER DETAILS

Details about you in the Receiver Details section:

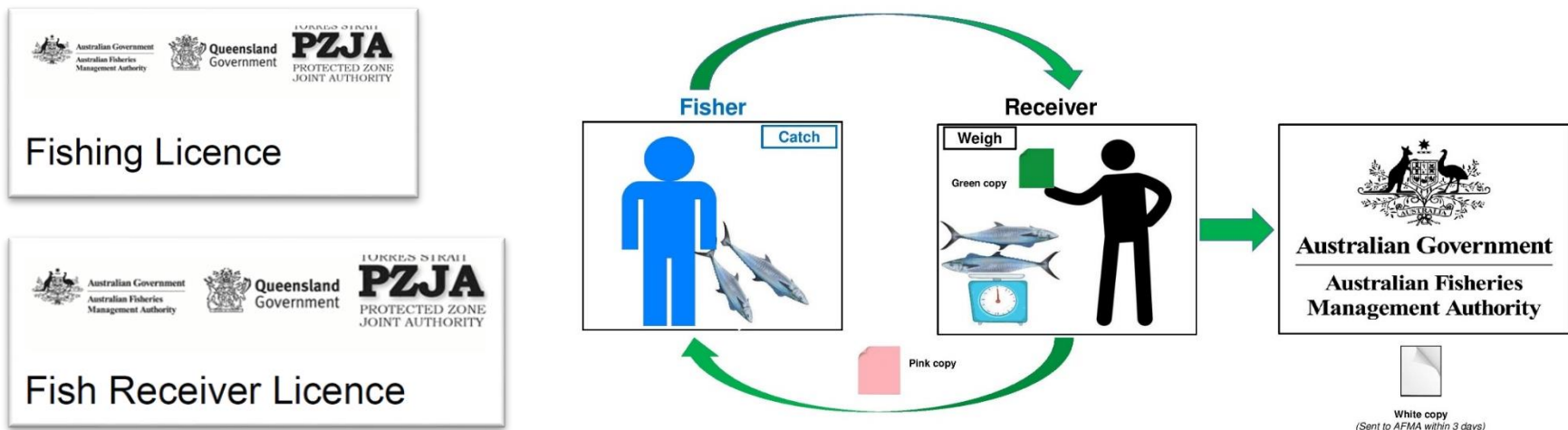
- Name
- Address
- Fish Receiver Licence Number

Details about the catch:

- catch in kilograms
 - catch per species
 - how the catch was processed (e.g. tailed/whole/salted)
- ✓ You (or your agent) **MUST SIGN**
 - × You can't receive your own catch

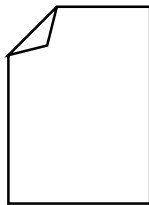
How does the FRS work?

- ✓ Must be licenced – TIB and/or Fish Receiver
- ✓ Catch must weighed and CDR completed when first brought to land
- ✓ Catch reports must be sent to AFMA within 3 business days by the Fish Receiver

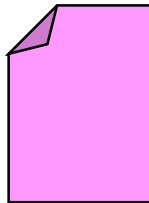




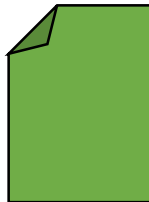
What do you do once you've filled out a CDR?



White Copy – send to AFMA within 3 business days (free envelopes available)

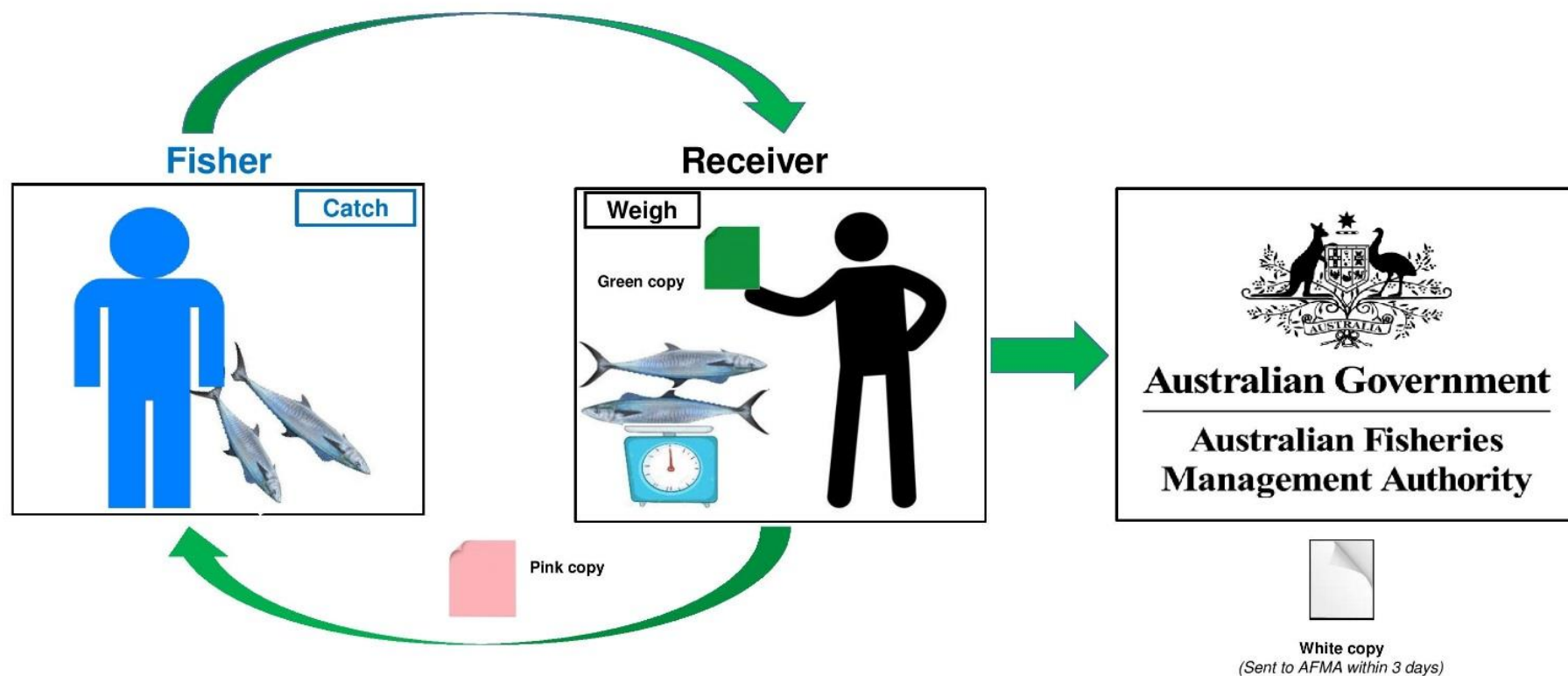


Pink Copy – for the FISHER to keep



Green Copy – for the RECEIVER to keep

These instructions are on the bottom of every CDR page






Part B – Voluntary

FISHING EFFORT and AREA

- Number of fishers
- Number of days fished
- Area fished
- Dates fished
- Was a daily fishing logbook also filled in?

FISHING METHOD

- Did you free dive, use hookah
- Other fishing methods?



What happens to the information/data you give AFMA?

- All data is sent to Canberra office to be entered in to a secure database
- Original paper is stored securely and safely
- We share the data with scientists (like CSIRO) who use it to measure how healthy Torres Strait fisheries are
- Working Groups and Resources Assessment Groups



What is the data used for?

- Helps scientists and managers to measure what fishers are experiencing
- Helps scientists, managers, fishers and the community understand the health of fish stocks
- Track catches against the TAC, or monitor catch shares and confirm how much is being caught
- This helps scientists, managers, fishers and the community understand how much we need to leave behind for future generations



If you suspect illegal fishing

Call 1800 CRIMFISH

or

AFMA TI Office 07 4069 1990