

36th Protected Zone Joint Authority Meeting

Meeting Outcomes

Thursday 23 November 2020

Teleconference

Welcome and Apologies

The Chair opened the 36th meeting of the Protected Zone Joint Authority (PZJA) at 3:00pm AEST with an Acknowledgment of Country.

1. Amendment to the Torres Strait Fisheries (*Quotas for Tropical Rock Lobster (Kaiar)*) Management Plan 2018

- 1.1. The PZJA **NOTED** that in line with the decision on 27 August 2020, an exposure draft of the *Torres Strait Fisheries (Quotas for Tropical Rock Lobster (Kaiar)) Management Plan Amendment 2020* (the Plan Amendment) was released for public consultation from 4 September to 15 October 2020, with one submission received.
- 1.2. The PZJA **NOTED** that the purpose of the Plan Amendment is to provide the PZJA with additional time in which to commence a review of the allocation of quota units to the Traditional Inhabitant sector to within 4 years of the *Torres Strait Fisheries (Quotas for Tropical Rock Lobster (Kaiar)) Management Plan 2018* (the Management Plan) commencement.
- 1.3. The PZJA have considered the outcomes of the public consultation and **AGREED** to determine the *Torres Strait Fisheries (Quotas for Tropical Rock Lobster (Kaiar)) Management Plan Amendment 2020* and associated Explanatory Statement.
- 1.4. The PZJA **AGREED** to authorise the Commonwealth Minister to sign the Plan Amendment for and on behalf of the PZJA; and
- 1.5. The PZJA **NOTED** the Plan Amendment will:
 - a. be registered on the Federal Register of Legislation; and
 - b. commence on the day after it is registered.

2. Scientific Permits for trials of a bycatch reduction devices in the Torres Strait Prawn Fishery (TSPF)

- 2.1. The PZJA **AGREED** to grant Permits for Scientific Purposes in accordance with section 12(1) of the *Torres Strait Fisheries Act 1984* (the Act) to enable Torres Strait Prawn Fishery (TSPF) license holders to test bycatch reduction devices in the TSPF in the 2021 and 2022 fishing seasons.
- 2.2. The PZJA **AGREED** for the Chair to sign and date Scientific Permits, upon AFMA's receipt of an application during the fishing season in 2021 and again in 2022.
- 2.3. The PZJA **NOTED** that native title notification has been conducted under section 24HA of the *Native Title Act 1993* (the Native Title Act) with regards to the proposed grant of a Permit for Scientific Purposes. Comment was sought by 9 November 2020. The PZJA **NOTED** two responses in relation to the notification.

3. Other business

The Chair noted that he was looking forward to a face to face PZJA meeting being held in 2021.

Close

The Chair closed the meeting at 3:20pm AEST.