

TORRES STRAIT TROPICAL ROCK LOBSTER

WORKING GROUP (TRLWG) MEETING No.3

13th – 14th November, 2013

AFMA Pearls Building, Victoria Parade, Thursday Island

MEETING TIMES: Wednesday 11:30am – 5:00pm; Thursday 8:30am – 5:00pm

AGENDA

1. Preliminaries
 - 1.1. Preliminaries – Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners/Chairs Opening Remarks/Meeting attendance/Declaration of Interests/Apologies
 - 1.2. Review and Adoption of Agenda
 - 1.3. Correspondence (AFMA)
 - 1.4. Ratification of Minutes from TRLWG Meeting No.2
 - 1.5. Action Items from TRLWG Meeting No.2
2. Updates
 - 2.1. PZJA Forums:
 - TSSAC (AFMA)
 - 2.2. Communication Strategy/Community Consultation (TSRA)
3. The Management Plan
 - 3.1. Updated Management Plan Development (AFMA)
 - 3.2. Summation - Qld TRL Fishery Policy and Licencing (QDAFF)
 - 3.3. Unresolved Issues from the Draft Management Plan (AFMA)
4. Increasing Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal Traditional Inhabitant Ownership (TSRA)
5. Other business
 - 5.1. Proposed Management Arrangements for 2014 (TSRA)
 - 5.2. TIB Primary vessel tenders (AFMA)
 - 5.3. TIB Primary ownership (AFMA)
 - 5.4. 2013 TRL Catch and Effort Update (AFMA)
 - 5.5. TRL Research Priorities (AFMA)
6. Next Meeting

Individuals wishing to attend the meeting as an observer are required to contact the Chair, Anne Clarke:
c/o TRLWG Executive Officer – Brendan Rayner (Brendan.rayner@afma.gov.au).

TROPICAL ROCK LOBSTER WORKING GROUP	Meeting 13-14 November 2013
Actions arising from previous Working Group	Agenda Item No. 1.5 FOR NOTING

PURPOSE

That the Tropical Rock Lobster Working Group (TRLWG) NOTE the actions items from the previous working group meeting on 07-08 August 2013.

BACKGROUND

The April meeting of the TRLWG was the first since May 2007. Prior to that the group had maintained a regular schedule of progress against actions items, inline with the development of the Tropical Rock Lobster (TRL) Management Plan. Unfortunately as a result of unforeseen timing with the High Court Native Title Decsion, TRLWG #2 was prematurely adjourned and therefore only limited action items arose.

DISCUSSION

Below are the action items from the last TRLWG meeting. They have been provided to the current working group to provide some history of the issues and progress issues that are still relevant.

Pending action items from the August 2013 meeting:

#	Action Item	Agenda	Champion	Due Date
1)	Consult with communities and return to the next Working Group with proposed areas where traditional inhabitants would seek to have any form of commercial fishing prohibited (i.e. areas provided for traditional fishing only).	2.2	TSRA	June 2013
2)	TSRA as the lead agency for facilitating consultation with Torres Strait Communities to prepare an information package with assistance from AFMA and QDAFF regarding consultation on the development of the TRL Management Plan.	5.2	PZJA	TBC
3)	TSRA Principal Legal Officer to provide the TRLWG a legal interpretation from the recent Torres Strait Native Title High Court decision.		TSRA	October 2013

TROPICAL ROCK LOBSTER WORKING GROUP	Meeting 13-14 November 2013
Updates PZJA Forums - TSSAC	Agenda Item No. 2.1.2 FOR NOTING

PURPOSE

That the Tropical Rock Lobster Working Group (TRLWG) note the outcomes of the recent Torres Strait Scientific Advisory Committee (TSSAC) meetings.

BACKGROUND

The TSSAC last met on 15-16th October 2013 to discuss additional funding for the 2013/14 research year and the pre-proposals for the 2014/15 year. The TSSAC also met on 19th June 2013 to finalise reports for the 2012/13 research year and endorse funding for projects for the 2013/14 research year.

DISCUSSION

Pre-proposals for both 2013/14 and 2014/15 are still in the final stages of consideration, and the TSSAC will be seeking full proposals from the successful pre-proposals. As these are still under-review, below are the finished projects from the 2012/13 research year.

Finished Projects from the 2012/13 Research Year

Empowering Torres Strait Islanders to Have Greater Engagement in the Research, Development and Extension (RD&E) Process

Principal Investigator Chris Calogeras reviewed what opportunities there are for Torres Strait Islanders (TSIs) to be involved in RD&E in the Torres Strait. During the undertaking of this project, there was significant development of the TSRA Land and Sea Management Unit Ranger program and in turn what limited opportunities there were for TSIs in RD&E are now nearly all completed by trained Rangers.

Sustainability Assessment for Trawl Bycatch in the Torres Strait Prawn Fishery

Principal Investigator Roland Pitcher undertook a desktop study in early 2013, updating the 2005 sustainability assessment for the Torres Strait Prawn Fishery titled “*seabed mapping and characterization project*”. This project found that the sustainability risks to non-target species in the 2005 assessment were greatly reduced in the current assessment. This was mainly a result of the low level of effort currently occurring in the TSPF. The project noted that if effort were to increase in the fishery, another assessment could be undertaken to monitor sustainability. The report also found that many common bycatch species have a fast growth rate and high fecundity, which means the sustainability risk to these species is often quite low, even if caught in high numbers.

Targeted Indigenous Community Consultation in the TS: gaining an understanding of Indigenous communities' perceptions regarding boat & gear length in the TSPF

Principal Investigator Anthony De Fries undertook consultation with four Torres Strait Island communities in May 2013. The purpose of the project was to gain an understanding of community views on having larger boats and gear in the Torres Strait Prawn Fishery (TSPF).

The draft report is currently being finalized at which time it will be presented to the TSSAC for consideration.

Torres Strait Research Repository

Principal Investigator Tonya van der Velde updated a searchable research repository database with TSSAC funded projects from 2006 to the present. This CSIRO managed database will allow future Principal Investigators to search the database for gaps in research for future investigation and ensure research is not repeated over time.

Vulnerability of Torres Strait Fisheries and Supporting habitats to Climate Change

Principal Investigator David Welch undertook a desktop study investigating the vulnerability of the Torres Strait to the impacts of climate change. This looked at the susceptibility of key commercial species and habitats. The outcomes of this project will be presented at a seminar held during the week of 13th August for anyone with interest. An advert will be placed in the Torres News closer to the date.

Turtle and Dugong Research Desktop Review

Principal Investigator Nicolas Pilcher investigated Turtle and Dugong research that has taken place in the Torres Strait to determine whether current conclusions of abundance and sustainability are substantiated. It was determined that Dugong research is robust enough, however Turtle research may need further review. The final amendments to the report are currently being made.

Survey, Stock Assessment and MSE for the Torres Strait Rock Lobster fishery

Principal Investigators Eva Plaganyi and Darren Dennis undertook a Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) of the TRL fishery assessing the impacts on the fishery and incomes of Torres Strait Islanders under several conditions such as the removal of CDEP payments and the increasing of the scope and size of traditional Inhabitant fishers. Further, CSIRO researchers undertook the annual TRL survey and stock assessment, providing both the preliminary TAC for 2012 and the forecasted TAC for 2013.

Projects continuing in the 2013/14 Research Year

Characterization of Traditional Subsistence Fisheries in the TS/PNG Treaty Communities

Principal Investigator Sara Busilacchi undertook three trips to Daru during the 2012/13 research year to undertake creel surveys. This project has been approved for the final year of funding for the 2013/14 research year.

Smart phone technology for remote data collection in Torres Strait Traditional Inhabitant Finfish Fisheries

Principal Investigators Klaas Hartmann and Dan French are investigating the use of Smartphone technology in the form of an application to monitor catch data, whereby fishermen enter daily catch records which is stored and sent to AFMA when phone signal is active. The PIs travelled to Erub Island in May 2013 and gained significant understanding of the requirements of the fishermen and contacts to drive the project. This project is funded for 2013/14.

TROPICAL ROCK LOBSTER WORKING GROUP	Meeting 13-14 August 2013
The Management Plan Updated Management Plan Development	Agenda Item No. 3.1 FOR DISCUSSION

PURPOSE

The purpose of this discussion paper is to update the Tropical Rock Lobster Working Group (TRLWG) on the steps required to implement a Tropical Rock Lobster (TRL) Management Plan in time for the start of the 2015 fishing season.

BACKGROUND

The importance of implementing a TRL Management Plan in a timely manner has been highlighted by the traditional inhabitant sector and is acknowledged by all fishery stakeholders. It was agreed by the Protected Zone Joint Authority (PZJA) that following the completion of a structural adjustment in 2012 and removal of the interim management arrangements from the TRL fishery in 2013 that implementation of a Management Plan would be progressed as a priority.

This commitment was reaffirmed by the PZJA Standing Committee during its March 2013 meeting and by the Chair of the PZJA, the Hon Joe Ludwig at the 12 June TRL stakeholder forum. The PZJA is now working toward the implementation of a quota based plan for the 2015 TRL fishing season.

To date there has been two meetings of the TRLWG on 10-11th April and 7th August at which the group was provided an overview of the previous decisions and commitments underpinning the progression toward an output controlled fishery (copies of the PZJA history of decisions from TRLWG #1 are available on request). Acknowledging the High Court Native Title decision, TRLWG #2 was prematurely adjourned and no progression on the management plan was made.

DISCUSSION

The delay, as a result of a lack of progression from TRLWG #2, has put the schedule for implementation of a management plan back three months. This will need to be made up for through other processes. The following draft schedule details the proposed meetings and consultations required prior the Draft TRL Management Plan being provided to the PZJA for consideration and endorsement before commencing the public comment period:

- TRLWG #3 (Late November)
- TRL Community Consultation (commencing early 2014) – TSRA to advise
- TRL Community Consultation (concluding by March 2014) – TSRA to advise
- TRLWG #4 (March 2014)
- Meeting with drafter

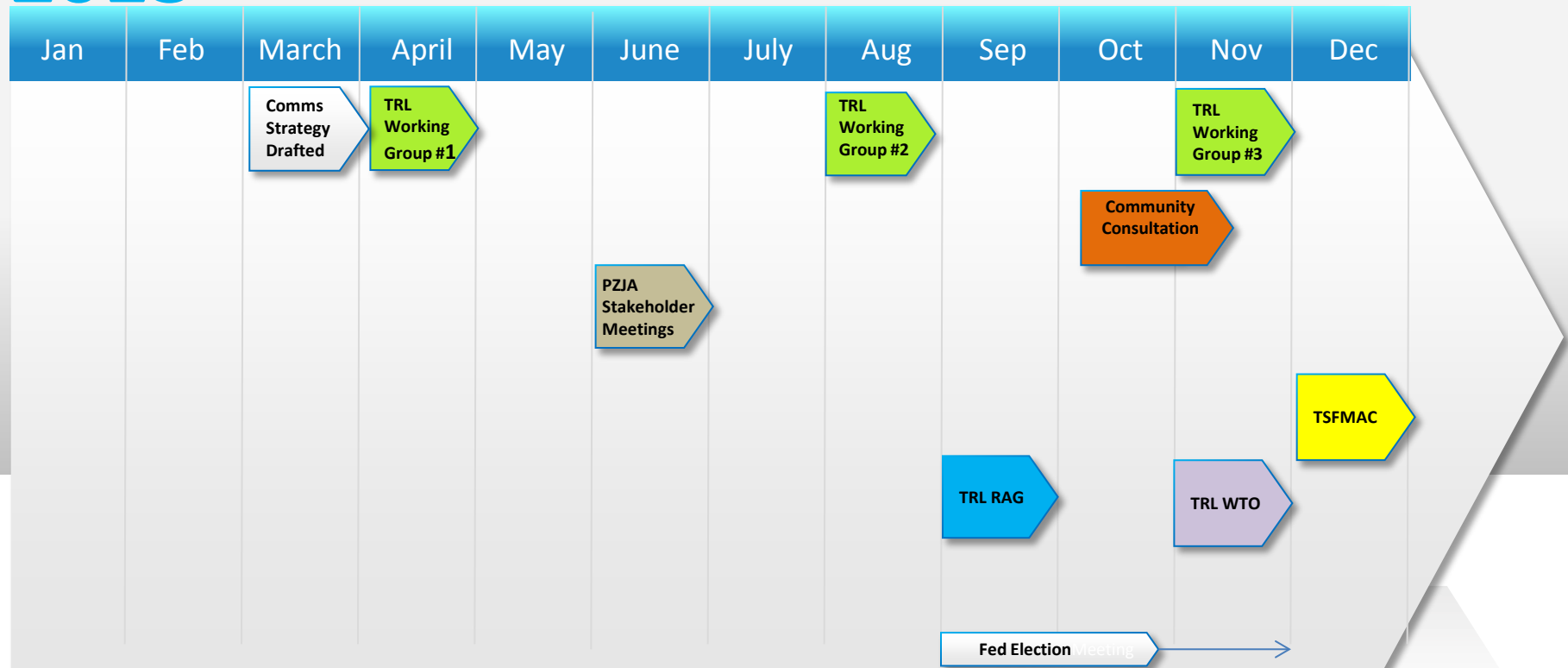
- Torres Strait Fisheries Management Advisory Committee (April 2014)
- Final Draft Management Plan to PZJA for consideration/endorsement for public comment (late May)

Also provided is a longer term schedule (Attachment 1) that details meetings and consultations that are required for the implementation of the TRL Management Plan prior to the start of the 2015 fishing season.

Tropical Rock Lobster Management Plan

Timeline for Management Plan Implementation

2013



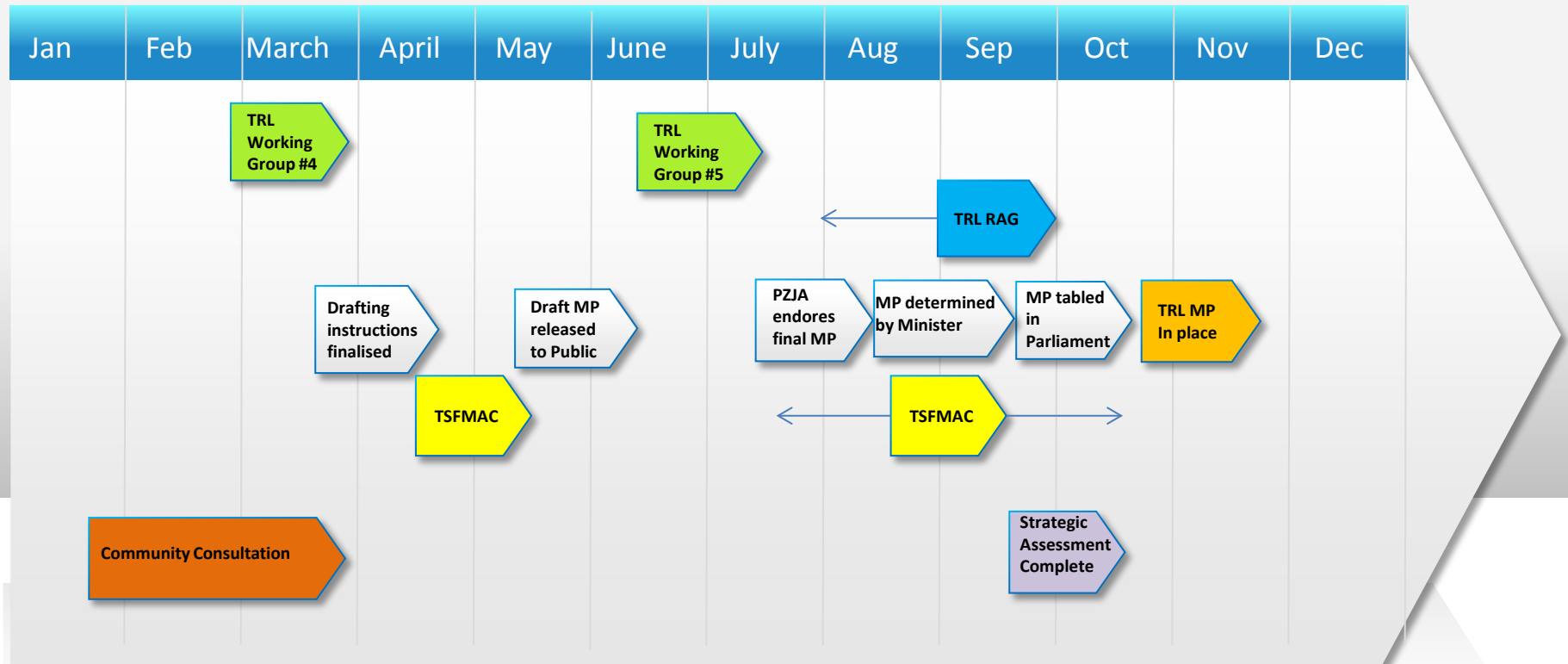
Dependencies

- Agreement from TRL WGs
- Holding a TSFMAC
- Successful stakeholder consultation

Tropical Rock Lobster Management Plan

Timeline for Management Plan Implementation

2014



Dependencies

- Relevant Public comment
- PZJA acceptance of public comments
- Strategic Assessment approval

Item 3.1 Attachment B: Proposed TRL Plan for Discussion

Part 1 Preliminary

1.1 Name of Plan

This Plan is the *Torres Strait Tropical Rock Lobster Fishery Management Plan*.

1.2 Commencement

This Plan commences on the day after it is registered on the Federal Register for Legislative Instruments.

1.3 Interpretation

hookah gear means equipment that is also known as “surface supplied breathing equipment” or “surface supplied breathing apparatus” and is equipment used for breathing underwater where the air is supplied from either a compressor or one or more compressed air cylinders on the surface of the water.

whole weight means the weight of the whole lobster.

lobster tails means the abdomen of a lobster.

Torres Strait Tropical Rock Lobster Fishery or **TSTRLF** means the area described in Schedule 1.

total allowable catch, TAC means the total catch that may be harvested in the fishery in a particular season.

total allowable commercial catch, TACC, for a fishing season, means the total catch that may be harvested commercially in the fishery in that season, determined by the PZJA.

tropical rock lobster, TRL, means lobster of the species *Panulirus ornatus*.

TRL RAG means the tropical rock lobster resource assessment group.

Comment [w1]: Working list of additional definitions needed.

Act means the *Torres Strait Fisheries Act 1984*.

acting for a person means acting with the consent of, and on behalf of, the person.

approved form means a form approved by the PZJA for the section in which the term is used.

by-catch means marine life that is:

- (a) incidentally taken in the fishery and returned to the sea for any reason; or
- (b) incidentally affected by interacting with fishing equipment in the fishery but not taken.

by-product means non-target marine life that:

- (a) is incidentally taken in the fishery; and

- (b) may be taken under the Act or a relevant instrument under the Act; and
- (c) is retained for commercial purposes.

commencement date means the date on which this Plan commences.

competitive TAC means a TAC determined under section 3.2.

competitive TAE means a TAE determined under section 3.4.

developmental permit means a permit granted for developmental purposes in the fishery under section 12 of the Act.

dinghy means a boat, other than a primary boat or a tender:

- (a) to which no tenders are attached; and
- (b) that operates independently; and
- (c) the maximum length of which does not exceed the length determined by the PZJA.

EPBC Act means the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

fisheries jurisdiction line means the Torres Strait fisheries jurisdiction line as described in the Treaty.

fishery means the Torres Strait Finfish Fishery.

fishing apparatus means hand held fishing lines or fishing rod and reel or mechanically operated reels and lines.

fish receiver licence means a licence to receive fish granted under section 19(4B) of the Act.

fishing season has the meaning given by section 2.6.

group means a legal entity that represents traditional inhabitants.

harvest strategy means the management actions necessary to achieve specific biological and economic objectives in a fishery.

holder, for a TSFF licence, a TSFF Treaty endorsement, or a unit, at a particular time, means the person who holds the licence, endorsement or unit at that time because of a grant of the licence or endorsement, transfer of the licence, or allocation or transfer of the unit.

local time means the time of day in the State of Queensland.

observer means a person approved by the PZJA to carry out the functions of an observer.

PNG means Papua New Guinea.

PNG boat means a boat for which a PNG licence is in force and which is endorsed to fish commercially in Australia under section 20 of the Act.

primary boat is a boat that:

- (a) is nominated to a licence for the fishery as the primary commercial fishing boat for the licence, from which any tender boats authorised by the licence may operate; and
- (b) is identified in the register as the primary boat for the licence; and
- (c) meets the requirements for a primary boat as determined by the PZJA.

PZJA means the Protected Zone Joint Authority.

PZJA website means web pages that form the Internet website for the PZJA.

quota species means a species or species group of finfish for which there is a TAC.

reference point means an indicator of the level of some characteristic of the fishery used as a benchmark in assessing the performance of the objectives of this Plan.

Register means the register of licences kept under section 10 of the Act.

Regulations means the Torres Strait Fisheries Regulations 1985.

scientific permit means a permit granted for scientific purposes in the fishery under section 12 of the Act.

tender boat means a boat, other than a primary boat that:

- (a) operates in conjunction with a primary boat; and
- (b) has the same owner as that primary boat; and
- (c) is nominated to a licence for the fishery and identified in the register as a tender boat for the licence; and
- (d) the maximum length of which does not exceed the length determined by the PZJA.

total allowable catch (TAC), for finfish species and a fishing season, means the total commercial catch of the finfish species that may be taken in the fishery in that fishing season, in accordance with a determination of the PZJA under section 3.1.

total allowable effort (TAE), for a fishing season, means the total commercial fishing effort that may be expended in the fishery in that fishing season, determined by the PZJA under section 3.3.

traditional fishing means taking living natural resources of the sea, seabed, estuaries and coastal tidal areas by traditional inhabitants for their own or their dependants' consumption or for use in the course of other traditional activities.

traditional inhabitants means persons who:

- (a) are Torres Strait Islanders who live in the Protected Zone or the adjacent coastal area of Australia; and
- (b) are citizens of Australia; and
- (c) maintain traditional customary associations with areas or features in or in the vicinity of the Protected Zone in relation to their subsistence or livelihood or social, cultural or religious activities.

Treaty means the Torres Strait Treaty.

Treaty endorsement means an endorsement granted under section 20(1)(a) of the Act that allows the boat identified in the Treaty endorsement to be used:

- (a) for commercial fishing for finfish in the fishery; or
- (b) for carrying, or processing and carrying, finfish taken in the fishery by another Treaty endorsement boat.

TSFMAC means the Torres Strait Fisheries Management Advisory Committee or any other management advisory committee established for the fishery.

TSRA means Torres Strait Regional Authority.

unit means a unit of fishing capacity into which the fishing capacity is divided by the PZJA under Part 3.

whole fish means fish that have head, fins and guts intact and have not been processed in any way.

whole weight means weight of a whole fish in kilograms.

NOTES:

1. The following terms used in this Plan are defined in the Act and have the same meaning as in the Act:
commercial fishing, community fishing, fishing, traditional inhabitant.
"Commercial fishing" also includes community fishing.
2. The fishery is also regulated by the Fisheries Management Regulations and by Regulations under the *Torres Strait Fisheries Act 1984*.
3. Sections 44 and 45 of the *Torres Strait Fisheries Act 1984* contain offences relating to the fishery.

1.4 Area of the fishery

The area of the fishery is as described in the *Torres Strait Fisheries Regulations 1985* but are included in this document in Schedule 1.

The geographical coordinates used to describe the area of the fishery here is determined by reference to the Australian Geodetic Datum 1966 (AGD66).

For convenience, the area of the fishery has also been converted to WDA94 (equivalent to WGS84) which is the current datum used offshore in GPS instruments and marine charts. These coordinates have been included in Schedule 2 of this document. Both of these coordinates can be included in a schedule of the Plan.

1.5 Objectives of this Plan

In addition to the objectives in the *Torres Strait Fisheries Act 1984*, the PZJA is to have regard to the following objectives for the Torres Strait TRL Fishery:

Objective 1	To maintain the spawning stock at levels that meet or exceed the level required to produce the maximum sustainable yield.
Objective 2	In accordance with the Torres Strait Treaty, to protect the traditional way of life and livelihood of traditional inhabitants, in particular in relation to their traditional fishing for Tropical Rock Lobster.
Objective 3	To provide for the optimal utilisation, co-operative management with Queensland and Papua New Guinea and for catch sharing to occur with Papua New Guinea.
Objective 4	To monitor interactions between the prawn and lobster fisheries.
Objective 5	To maintain appropriate controls on fishing gear allowed in the fishery so as to minimise impacts on the environment.
Objective 6	To promote economic development in the Torres Strait area with an emphasis on providing the framework for commercial opportunities for traditional inhabitants. To ensure that commercial opportunities available to all stakeholders are socially and culturally appropriate for the Torres Strait and the wider Queensland and Australian community.
Objective 7	Optimise the value of the fishery, ensure cooperative, efficient and cost effective management of the Fishery.

Comment [w2]: May need adjusting

1.6 Measures for achieving the objectives of this Plan, and their performance criteria

The measures by which the objectives of this Plan are to be attained, and the performance criteria against which the measures taken are to be assessed are outlined below.

The PZJA and Torres Strait Fisheries Management Advisory Committee (TSFMAC) will, at least once every 5 years, assess the effectiveness of this Plan, including the measures taken to achieve these objectives, by reference to the performance criteria.

Each year, TSFMAC will assess the extent to which the performance criteria have been met in that year. The PZJA will include in its annual report for a financial year a statement of the extent to which the performance criteria were met in the year. The PZJA will also develop a clear process and timeframe for determining the reason for a performance criteria breach and implement appropriate management measures within specified timeframes.

Objective 1 To maintain the spawning stock at levels that meet or exceed the level required to produce the maximum sustainable yield

Measures by which objectives are to be attained	Performance indicator	Performance measure
Setting the total allowable catch each year in accordance to the harvest strategy for the fishery	Catch levels are consistent with the TAC	Annual lobster population survey (1+/2+) CPUE Fishing mortality Stock biomass
Managing fishing practices to ensure the sustainability of the resources of the fishery	The amount of lobster taken in a fishing year does not exceed the TAC for the year Results from research feeds into management	Fishing mortality Catch records Compliance rates
Implementing a program of research, data collection and monitoring relevant to the assessment and management of the fishery	The accuracy and timeliness of the fishery research and monitoring	
Establishing an effective program for monitoring and surveillance of the fishery to ensure compliance with the Management Plan	Effectiveness of management arrangements in delivering compliance	Compliance risk assessment

Objective 2 In accordance with the Torres Strait Treaty, to protect the traditional way of life and livelihood of traditional inhabitants, in particular in relation to their traditional fishing for Tropical Rock Lobster

Measures by which objectives are to be attained	Performance indicator	Performance measure
Ensure traditional fishing opportunities for Torres Strait traditional inhabitants of Australia and Papua New Guinea are preserved	Traditional fishing opportunities meet cultural needs	Comparison between current and past traditional fishing success
Develop research strategies to gather information on the success of traditional fishing (quantity taken and rate that this quantity is harvestable) to explore ways to improve it	Reference points for traditional fishing are identified Strategies to improve traditional fishing success are develop	
Implement measures that will help improve traditional fishing	Strategies to improve traditional fishing success are adequately implemented	Level of improvement of traditional fishing success

Objective 3 To provide for the optimal utilisation, co-operative management with Queensland and Papua New Guinea and for catch sharing to occur with Papua New Guinea

Measures by which objectives are to be attained	Performance indicator	Performance measure
Facilitating the development of sound, cost-effective and sustainable fisheries management for the fishery by holding joint meetings with Queensland and PNG where information and ideas are exchanged	Degree to which the fishery is cooperatively managed	Jurisdictions satisfied with catch sharing arrangements
Using the results of research from each jurisdiction to ensure fishing is conducted in an ecologically sustainable way while preserving fishing opportunities for Torres Strait traditional inhabitants of Australia and Papua New Guinea	Data and management information are readily available Results from research in all jurisdictions feeds into management	

Objective 4 To monitor interactions between the prawn and lobster fisheries

Measures by which objectives are to be attained	Performance indicator	Performance measure
Implementing a program of research, data collection and monitoring relevant to the assessment and management of the fishery	Degree of responsible fishing practices achieved Measure spatial separation of the two fisheries	No net increase in overlap between two fisheries
Monitor TRL by-catch rate in the prawn fishery through an observer program	Level of bycatch of lobster in the prawn fishery and lobsters' life state when returned to the sea	Bycatch level

Objective 5 To maintain appropriate controls on fishing gear allowed in the fishery so as to minimise impacts on the environment

Measures by which objectives are to be attained	Performance indicator	Performance measure
Apply restrictions on the gear or method that is allowed to be used in the fishery and fishing activities identified as an unacceptable risk to the environment	Monitor impacts of fishing on reef habitats before/after fishing	There is no discernable damage to reef habitat
Education and awareness program used to promote best practice	Responsible fishing practices are maintained	Effectiveness of education and awareness
Implementing a program of research, data collection and monitoring relevant to the assessment and management of the fishery	The accuracy and timeliness of the fishery research and monitoring	
Managing fishing practices to ensure the sustainability of the resources of the fishery	Results from research feeds into management	Compliance rates

Objective 6 To promote economic development in the Torres Strait area with an emphasis on providing the framework for commercial opportunities for traditional inhabitants. To ensure that commercial opportunities available to all stakeholders are socially and culturally appropriate for the Torres Strait and the wider Queensland and Australian community

Measures by which objectives are to be attained	Performance indicator	Performance measure
Develop strategy for traditional inhabitants to acquire larger share of TAC including review and decision rules	Proportion of resource allocation moves to a higher community share	Proportion of TACC held by each sector

Enhance fishing opportunities for Australian Torres Strait traditional inhabitants	Increase in employment of Traditional Inhabitants in TRL sector The Traditional Inhabitant share is fully utilised	Level of employment of traditional inhabitants in the fishery Level of fishing success for traditional inhabitants
Explore other options for business development in the fishery (i.e. lobster grow-out, aquaculture)	New traditional inhabitants business developments in the fishery	Number of new traditional inhabitants business in the fishery
Avoid arrangements that may negatively impact on community tropical rock lobster enterprises	Management obstacles identified	Number of management obstacles met by enterprises

Objective 7 Optimise the value of the fishery, ensure cooperative, efficient and cost effective management of the Fishery

Measures by which objectives are to be attained	Performance indicator	Performance measure
Developing a series of biological, economic and other data that can be used to assess the fishery in relation to its economic performance	Research undertaken at a scale necessary for the confidence to set TACC at higher levels	
Reduce or eliminate illegal fishing		Level of illegal fishing
Maintain flexibility in management arrangements so market demand can be met	No impediments prevent all quota being taken Revenue from fishery maximised	Monitor proportion of the TACC sold live

1.7 Persons to whom this Plan applies

This plan applies to a person who is engaged in, or intends to engage in, any of the following in the area of the fishery:

- (a) commercial fishing for tropical rock lobster; or
- (b) carrying, or processing and carrying, commercially caught tropical rock lobster ; or
- (c) fishing under a scientific or developmental permit.

1.8 Persons to whom this plan does not apply

This plan does not apply to a person who:

- (a) is engaged in recreational fishing (whether from a charter boat or otherwise); or
- (b) is engaged in traditional fishing.

NOTE: Traditional fishers are still subject to instruments made under section 16 of the Act.

Part 2 Fishing in the fishery

2.1 Who may fish in the fishery

- (1) A person may fish commercially for TRL in the area of the fishery only if the person:
 - (a) holds, or is acting on behalf of a person who holds:
 - (i) a TSTRL boat licence, a TSTRL non-boat fishing licence, or a TSTRL TPC licence that has a mackerel or reef line entry; or
 - (ii) a treaty endorsement; and
 - (b) is fishing as authorised by the licence.
 - (2) A person may take fish in the fishery for developmental purposes only if the person:
 - (a) holds a developmental permit; and
 - (b) holds a TSTRL boat licence or TSTRL TPC licence and is fishing from a boat nominated to that licence; or
 - (c) holds a TSTRL non-boat licence.
 - (3) A person may take fish in the fishery for scientific purposes only if the person holds a scientific permit.
 - (4) If the PZJA has determined a TAC or TAE for the fishery, a person who fishes commercially must also hold unused units for the fishery, unless the TAC or TAE is a competitive TAC or competitive TAE.
 - (5) If the PZJA has determined a competitive TAC or TAE for the fishery or part of the fishery, a person who fishes commercially must:
 - (a) hold unused units for the fishery; or
 - (b) be a member of a group to whom the competitive TAC or TAE has been allocated.
 - (6) If a competitive TAC has been determined, the quantity of fish taken must not exceed the TAC.
 - (7) If a competitive TAE has been determined, the amount of effort expended must not exceed the TAE.
 - (8) If a person uses part of a unit, the person is taken to have used a whole unit.
- or
- (9) be a member of a group that holds unused units of fishing capacity and fishes against a competitive quota.

2.2 What fish can be taken

Species that can be taken in the fishery (eg *Panulirus* sp) are listed in FMI No. 9.

2.3 What fish can not be taken

There are currently no *Panulirus* species that are listed as no-take species under FMI No. 9 and it is not envisaged that this will change in the near future.

2.4 Size restrictions

Size restrictions are listed in FMI No. 9 and these are anticipated to remain in place for the foreseeable future.

The PZJA has the ability to change the size restrictions but this would be done through an amendment to FMI No. 9 (as would all other arrangements outlined in FMI No. 9).

2.5 Fishing methods

Allowable fishing methods are listed in FMI No. 9 and these are anticipated to remain in place for the foreseeable future.

The PZJA may however, change the allowable methods of fishing in the fishery (though an amendment to FMI No. 9), or change the times at which a particular method can be used. For example, there is currently a hookah closure implemented to manage the take of lobster by this method.

2.6 Closure of the fishery

The PZJA may close an area of the fishery, or a period of the fishing season to fishing for TRL:

1. to protect fish stocks in the fishery; or
2. to provide for areas to be used for transit or anchorage; or
3. to give effect to the obligations imposed on Australia by the Treaty; or
4. to protect traditional fishing.

2.7 Prohibiting Fishing

- (1) As set out in section 16 of the Act, the PZJA may, before the start of a fishing season, by determination prohibit fishing in the fishery.

- (2) The PZJA may by emergency determination prohibit fishing in the fishery after the start of a fishing season if it is satisfied that:
 - (a) there exists a significant threat to the fishery's resources or to a fish or fish habitat; and
 - (b) urgent action needs to be taken to deal with the threat.
- (3) The PZJA:
 - (a) will consult the TSFMAC before making a determination under subsection (1); and
 - (b) if practicable, consult the TSFMAC before making an emergency determination under subsection (2).
- (4) The PZJA will revoke the emergency determination as soon as practicable after it is satisfied that the emergency no longer exists.

2.8 Instruments under s.16 of the Act

The PZJA may make instruments under section 16 of the Act to give effect to this Plan.

Part 3 Fishing licences

3.1 Grant of licences and endorsements

- (1) As set out in section 19 of the Act, licences may be granted for commercial fishing from a boat in the fishery and for taking, carrying, or for carrying and processing, product in the fishery.
- (2) As set out in section 20 of the Act, endorsements may be granted for PNG boats.

3.2 TSTRL licences

- (1) A TSTRL boat licence granted under section 19(2) of the Act allows the boat nominated to the licence to be used for commercial fishing for TRL in the fishery in accordance with this Plan.
- (2) A TSTRL TPC licence issued under section 19(3) of the Act allows the boat nominated to the licence to be used for carrying, or processing and carrying, TRL that have been taken with another boat in accordance with this Plan.
- (3) A TSTRL licence remains in force for the period specified in the licence.
- (4) A TSTRL licence may only be granted to:
 - (a) a traditional inhabitant; or
 - (b) a group that represents traditional inhabitants.

3.4 Treaty endorsements

- (1) As set out in section 20 of the Act, a treaty endorsement may be granted for commercial fishing for TRL in the fishery in accordance with this Plan.
- (2) A treaty endorsement allows the boat nominated in the endorsement to be used:
 - (a) for commercial fishing for TRL in the fishery; or
 - (b) for carrying, or processing and carrying, TRL taken in the fishery by another treaty endorsed boat.

- (3) A treaty endorsement may only be granted to the holder of a PNG licence that allows the boat identified in the licence to be used for TRL fishing.

3.5 Nomination of a boat

- (1) The holder of a TSTRL boat licence, a TSTRL TPC licence or a sunset licence may nominate a boat for the licence.
- (2) The boat may be a primary boat, a tender or a dinghy.
- (3) As set out in section 25A of the Act, the holder of a TSTRL boat licence, a TSTRL TPC licence or a sunset licence may apply to the PZJA in the approved form for a different boat to be the nominated boat for the licence.
- (4) The PZJA must:
- (a) for each nominated boat, enter in the Register the details required by the Regulations to be shown in the Register; and
 - (b) give the licence holder an extract from the Register that:
 - (i) shows the name and distinguishing number for the boat nominated for the licence; and
 - (ii) states the conditions to which the licence is subject; and
 - (iii) is signed by the PZJA.
- (5) The PZJA must not register a boat as a nominated boat for a TSTRL boat licence, a TSTRL TPC licence or a sunset licence if the boat is a nominated boat for another TSTRL boat licence, a TSTRL TPC licence or a sunset licence.

3.6 Entries for the tropical rock lobster fishery

- (1) Under section 21 of the Act, the PZJA may make entries in licences and endorsements to extend the licence or endorsement to particular fish.
- (2) The PZJA may limit the number of TRL entries for allocation to TSTRL licences and treaty endorsements in the fishery.
- (3) The PZJA will consult with TSFMAC before making a decision limiting the number of mackerel or reef line entries.

3.2. Commercial fishing licences

To fish commercially in the area of the fishery (as per s19), or in the course of community fishing (as per s 17), a person requires a commercial fishing licence being:

- a boat licence,
- a non-boat licence, or
- a Processor Carrier Licence.

3.3 Transfer of fishing boat licences (TVH)

A holder of a Torres Strait commercial fishing licence (the transferor) that has not been issued for community fishing purposes, may transfer the licence to another person (the transferee) under the following conditions:

- (a) The transferee must meet the criteria to hold a Torres Strait fishing boat licence;
- (b) If the transferor holds multiple licences and the licence being transferred is their last licence, the transferor must first transfer all his or her units of fishing capacity.

3.4 Transfer of fishing licence used for community fishing (TIB)

A holder of a Torres Strait community fishing licence (the transferor) may transfer their licence to another person who meets the criteria to hold a community fishing licence (i.e. a Traditional Inhabitant).

3.5 Processor/Carrier boat licence

A processor/carrier boat licence (TPC) may be granted under subsection 19(3) of the Act to carry, or process and carry fish. There are currently three types of TPC licences issued by Fisheries Queensland on behalf of the PZJA:

1. TPC-A – this type of licence allows the boat identified on the licence to be used for carrying, or for processing and carrying fish caught by its own operation, in the area of the Australian jurisdiction.
2. TPC-B – this type of licence allows the boat identified on the licence to be used for carrying fish caught by another boat however the product must remain in the same form (e.g. whole live lobsters must remain in that form and cannot be processed into frozen tails).
3. TPC-C – this type of licence allows the boat identified on the licence to be used for carrying, or for processing and carrying fish caught by another boat.

3.6 Master fisherman's licence

A master fisherman's licence (MFL) is required by a person in charge of a boat used to commercially fish in the Torres Strait.

3.7 Fish receiver licences

It is a condition of a TSFF boat licence and a TSFF non-boat licence that the holder must not sell, or otherwise dispose of (other than solely for transportation or storage purposes

preceding delivery to the holder of a fish receiver licence) finfish that the holder takes except to the holder of a fish receiver licence or a TSFF TPC licence.

3.8 Treaty Endorsement

Under the catch sharing arrangements outlined in Article 23 of the Torres Strait Treaty, PNG is entitled up to 25% of the lobster fishery within the Australian jurisdiction. Through annual negotiations the PZJA may grant PNG operators a cross endorsement (as set out in section 20 of the Act) to fish for lobster in the Australian jurisdiction.

3.9 Scientific and developmental permits

- (1) As set out in section 12 of the Act, permits for scientific or developmental purposes may be granted for the area of the fishery or part of the fishery.
- (2) A developmental permit will only be granted to the holder of a TSTRL boat licence, a TSFF non-boat licence or a TSTRL TPC licence.
- (3) The PZJA may determine guidelines for:
 - (a) the grant of and revocation of scientific and developmental permits; and
 - (b) the imposition, variation and revocation of conditions of those permits.

3.10 Nomination of a boat

More than one vessel being a primary boat and a number of tenders can be nominated to the same licence. Thus removing the current need to have multiple licences for each tender as well as the primary boat, as well as the need to have TPC-A licences.

3.11 Entries for the Tropical Rock Lobster fishery

The PZJA will make entries for the licences and endorsements for Tropical Rock lobster.

The PZJA may limit the number of entries allocated in the fishery and will consult with the TSFMAC before making a decision to do so.

3.12 Other PZJA powers under the Act

Nothing in this Part is to be taken as limiting the powers of the PZJA under the Act.

Part 4 Units of fishing capacity

4.2 Determination of total allowable catch (TAC)

On implementation of the TRL management plan, the PZJA will introduce a quota management system in the form of a Total Allowable Catch (TAC) expressed in whole kilograms of whole lobster. Because of the biology of the lobster, the TAC will change each year. The TAC will need to be amended during the season to allow for the most accurate information to be used to set a Final TAC. It is proposed that a Preliminary TAC

be determined prior to the start of the season, to be amended to a Final TAC during the season as more accurate information becomes available.

A TAC will be set for the fishing season.

- (a) Before determining the TAC, the PZJA will consult the TRL Resource Assessment Group (RAG) and consider their views and may consult and consider the views of interested persons;
- (b) Prior to the start of the next fishing season, a preliminary TAC will be determined to allow for fishers to start the season with unused units of fishing capacity. In determining the preliminary TAC and individual allocations, the PZJA will take all necessary precautions to ensure that when the final TAC is determined, an individual fishers quota will not decrease;
- (c) A final TAC will be determined as soon as practicable following completion of pre-season surveys;
- (d) The PZJA may set aside a percentage of the total allowable catch for traditional fishing. If this happens the catch available for commercial fishing will be termed Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC).

4.3 Changing the total allowable catch (TAC)

- (1) The PZJA may by determination increase the TAC or TAE if:
 - (a) there is evidence that there will be no substantial increase in the impact of fishing on the fishery; and
 - (b) the increase would be consistent with the objectives of the Act and this Plan.
- (2) The PZJA may by determination reduce the TAC or TAE before the fishing season begins if it is satisfied that:
 - (a) there exists a threat to the fishery's resources or to a fish or fish habitat; and
 - (b) urgent action needs to be taken to deal with the threat.
- (3) In changing the TAC or TAE, the PZJA may have regard to the amount of finfish taken in the fishery by non-commercial fishing.
- (4) Before changing the TAC or TAE, the PZJA:
 - (a) will consult the TSFMAC; and
 - (b) may consult other interested persons.
- (5) A determination increasing or reducing the TAC or TAE must:
 - (a) set out the new TAC or TAE, and the period for which it is to be in force; and
 - (b) set out the reasons for the change.

If during the season the PZJA determines that there is a significant threat to the fishery or to a fish or fish habitat, then they may vary the (Preliminary or Final) TAC for TRL during the season via an emergency determination.

4.4 Units of fishing capacity

At the commencement of the Plan, the PZJA will determine the number of units of fishing capacity.

The number of units will be equivalent to the kilograms of the TAC determined for the fishery at the commencement date.

The number of units will be determined by the PZJA and remain constant.

4.7 Allocation of units of fishing capacity

At the commencement of this plan the PZJA must allocate units of fishing capacity to licence holders or groups who represent traditional inhabitants.

25% of the units of fishing capacity will be held aside by the Australian Government to meet obligations to PNG under the Torres Strait Treaty. These will be known as PNG Units.

The remaining units will be known as Australian units.

Allocation of units of fishing capacity will be allocated to individual TVH fishers via a formula recommended by an independent Allocation Advisory Panel (AAP report March 2007).

Allocation of units of fishing capacity will be allocated to TIB fishers either by:

1. allocating pooled units of fishing capacity to an entity that represents Traditional Inhabitant fishers (eg the Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA)).
2. allocating individual fishers units of fishing capacity via a formula agreed to by the PZJA.
3. a combination of 1 and 2 above.

In reaching an agreement on an allocation formula for units of fishing capacity the PZJA may request recommendations from an independent Allocation Advisory Panel, TSFMAC or other sources as required.

4.5 Value of a unit of fishing capacity

Implementing a quota management system will be facilitated by setting a value for each unit of fishing capacity expressed at whole kilograms of whole lobster.

The value of a TRL unit will be expressed in whole kilograms of whole lobster and determined using the following formula:

Unit of fishing capacity value (kg) = TAC(kg) ÷ total number of units of fishing capacity.

4.6 Certificate of allocation

- (1) After the PZJA allocates units to a person or group, the PZJA will give the holder a certificate setting out the person's name and the number of units the person holds.
- (2) If a certificate issued by the PZJA for an allocation is lost, stolen or destroyed or units have been transferred, the PZJA may issue a replacement certificate.

4.11 Transfer of Australian units of fishing capacity

Australian units are those that are allocated to Australian licence holders or groups representing Traditional Inhabitants (eg TSRA).

Units held by a non-Traditional Inhabitant

A non-Traditional Inhabitant holding a commercial fishing licence and units of fishing capacity (**the transferor**) may transfer some or all of his or her units (whole units only) to another person who holds a TRL commercial fishing licence (**the transferee**) being a non-Traditional or Traditional Inhabitant.

The PZJA must not register the transfer of a unit if:

1. a proceeding for an offence under the Act or Regulations has been brought against the transferor or the transferee and has not been decided; or
2. the levy due and payable by the transferor or the transferee has not been paid.

Units held by Traditional Inhabitants or groups representing Traditional Inhabitants.

The holder of a Traditional Inhabitant boat licence (TIB) or a group or entity representing community licence holders (e.g. TSRA), that hold units of fishing capacity may transfer these units to a person holding only a TIB licence for the fishery, or a group or entity representing community licence holders.

A Traditional Inhabitant or a group or entity representing community licence holders (e.g. TSRA) can not permanently transfer units to a non-Traditional Inhabitant (TVH) at any time.

A Traditional Inhabitant or a group or entity representing community licence holders (e.g. TSRA) may TEMPORARILY transfer units to a non-Traditional Inhabitant if they hold a commercial fishing licence. If that licence is a sunset licence, the units transferred to the holder of the sunset licence can only be transferred for the time in which they hold the temporary licence.

The transferor and transferee must apply to the PZJA using the approved form for the transfer to be registered, and pay the prescribed fee.

4.15 Temporary transfer of PNG units of fishing capacity

PNG units are those that are held by the Government to provide for Treaty Obligations to PNG.

In each fishing season, Australia will enter into catch sharing arrangements with PNG to agree on the catch to be allocated to PNG cross endorsed vessels.

The Australian government will temporarily transfer PNG units to TRL Treaty endorsement holders to meet the agreed catch sharing arrangements. PNG units will be temporarily transferred to a PNG licensed boat with a TRL Treaty endorsement for a single season but will return to the Australian government at the end of the season.

The holder of a PNG unit that has been temporarily transferred is not entitled to transfer or temporarily transfer the unit.

Any unallocated PNG units in a fishing season may be transferred to a Traditional Inhabitant holding a fishing licence with a TRL entry, or a group representing Traditional Inhabitants. The allocation method used in this case will be determined by the PZJA.

Part 5 Licence and Treaty endorsement conditions

5.1 Licence and endorsement conditions - general

- (1) It is a condition of a TSTRL licence and an endorsement that the holder must:
 - (a) comply with:
 - (i) this Plan; and
 - (ii) the Regulations that apply to the fishery; and
 - (iii) all applicable provisions of the Act; and
 - (iv) all determinations under Part 3; and
 - (v) any conditions imposed on the licence or endorsement; and
 - (vi) all instruments made under section 16 of the Act that apply to the fishery;

- (b) ensure that each person acting under the holder's directions complies with this Plan and the legislation and other matters mentioned in paragraph (a); and
 - (c) keep a log book, as set out in section 5.2; and
 - (d) if an observer program is implemented in the fishery, carry an observer, and the observer's safety and monitoring equipment, as set out in section 5.5, if the PZJA asks the holder to do so; and
 - (e) carry a vessel monitoring system, as required by section 5.6; and
 - (f) minimise the impact of fishing operations on the marine environment, as set out in section 5.7; and
 - (g) give the PZJA reasonable access to biological, economic or technical information, or biological samples that are available to the holder, if the PZJA asks the holder to do so; and
 - (h) carry on board the primary boat or dinghy the TSTRL licence or endorsement that refers to the boat; and
 - (i) allow a primary boat, a tender boat or a dinghy to be independently measured, as required by the PZJA.
- (2) It is a condition of a TSTRL boat licence and a TSTRL non-boat licence that the holder must not sell, or otherwise dispose of (other than solely for transportation or storage purposes preceding delivery to the holder of a fish receiver licence) finfish that the holder takes except to the holder of a fish receiver licence or a TSTRL TPC licence.

NOTE: It is an offence under section 44 of the *Torres Strait Fisheries Act 1984* to contravene an instrument under section 16 of the Act, and an offence under section 45 of the Act to contravene a condition of a licence.

5.2 Licence and endorsement conditions - Logbooks

- (1) The PZJA may determine a form of Logbook for the fishery, as set out in section 14 of the Act.
- (2) If the PZJA determines a form of Logbook, it is a condition of a TSTRL boat licence, TSFF non-boat licence or Treaty endorsement that the holder must ensure that the information required by the Logbook about fish taken and effort expended in the fishery is accurately and fully recorded in the Logbook, in accordance with the instructions for completing the Logbook.

5.3 Licence conditions – quota monitoring system

- 1. In a fishing season, a holder of units of fishing capacity must ensure that:
 - (a) they adhere to all conditions imposed by the PZJA, and instructions from the PZJA, about the quota monitoring system; and
 - (b) they do not exceed the value of the units which the holder is entitled to; and
 - (c) not retain for sale any species they are not endorsed to take under their licence.

5.4 Licence conditions - other obligations of licence holders

1. It is a condition that the holder of a commercial fishing licence or a PNG endorsement may engage in commercial fishing for lobster in the fishery only:
 - (a) during the designated fishing season; and
 - (b) in accordance with any instruments under section 16 of the Act that apply to the fishery.
2. It is a condition that the holder of a commercial fishing licence or a PNG endorsement does not take, process or carry species that are:
 - (a) prohibited by instrument under section 16 of the Act; or
 - (b) fish other than lobster.

5.5 Licence and endorsement conditions - observers

- (1) If an observer program is in place in the fishery, it is a condition of a licence and endorsement that the holder complies with the requirements of this section.
- (2) If the PZJA directs the holder of a TSTRL boat licence or endorsement to carry an observer on a boat, the holder must ensure that:
 - (a) an observer; and
 - (b) the observer's safety equipment; and
 - (c) the observer's monitoring equipment;are on board the boat when the boat commences the trip to which the direction applies.
- (3) The holder must ensure that the observer is provided with adequate food and accommodation while the observer is on board the boat during a trip.
- (4) The holder must ensure that the observer is carried safely on the boat.
- (5) The holder must ensure that observer:
 - (a) is given assistance by the holder, the master of the boat and crew members of the boat; and
 - (b) is given access to all parts of the boat; to the extent reasonably necessary to permit the performance of the functions of the observer.
- (6) The holder must not interfere with, or obstruct, the observer in the course of collecting data or samples.
- (7) The holder must ensure that:
 - (a) the master of the boat; and
 - (b) crew members of the boat;do not interfere with, or obstruct, the observer in the course of collecting data or samples.

5.6 Licence and endorsement conditions - vessel monitoring systems

- (1) If a vessel monitoring system is in place in the fishery, it is a condition of a licence and endorsement that the holder complies with the requirements of this section.

- (2) The holder of a TSTRL boat licence or endorsement must ensure that the VMS on a boat is operational at all times.
- (3) If the VMS stops operating, the holder must ensure that the PZJA is informed as soon as practicable after the holder becomes aware that the VMS has stopped operating.

5.7 Licence and endorsement conditions - obligations about interactions with certain species and communities

- (1) The holder of a licence or treaty endorsement within the fishery must take all reasonable steps to ensure that the impact of fishing operations on the marine environment is kept to a minimum.
- (2) In particular, the holder must take all reasonable steps to:
 - (a) avoid interaction with the following:
 - (i) cetaceans;
 - (ii) marine species listed for section 248 of the EPBC Act;
 - (iii) migratory species listed for section 209 of the EPBC Act;
 - (iv) threatened species listed for section 178 of the EPBC Act; and
 - (b) ensure that anything that may harm the marine environment is not disposed of at sea.
- (3) If the fishing activities undertaken on the boat result in an interaction with a species or community mentioned in subsection (2), the licence or endorsement holder must:
 - (a) record details of the interaction in a logbook kept for that purpose if they are required to provide information under section 14 of the Act; and
 - (b) if there is an observer on the boat:
 - (i) immediately tell the observer about the interaction, and allow the observer to observe its consequences; and
 - (ii) give whatever assistance is necessary for the observer to collect the data, or make the observations, required by the PZJA; and
 - (c) if the interaction results in an injury to a member of the species or community, do everything that can practicably be done to give aid to it; and
 - (d) if the interaction results in the death of a member of the species or community:
 - (i) discharge its carcass from the boat in a way that does not attract birds or mammals to the boat; or
 - (ii) if directed by the PZJA to retain carcasses for scientific purposes, retain the carcass and deal with it as the PZJA directs; and
 - (e) if the interaction results in the death of, or an injury to, a member of the species or community, report the interaction in accordance with any requirement imposed by regulations made for the purposes of this section.

5.8 Additional conditions for TRL Treaty endorsements

- (a) Does not fish for lobster, carry, or process and carry, lobster in the area described in Part 1(b) of Schedule 1 in this plan (known as the outside-but-near area of the fishery).
- (b) When the boat to which the endorsement relates is in an area of Australian jurisdiction, there is to be no contact with an Australian inhabitant or territory, except as authorised by this Plan.
- (c) For subsection (b), “contact with an Australian inhabitant or territory” includes:
 - i. boarding a boat at sea; and
 - ii. tying up with an Australian boat; and
 - iii. landing on an Australian island; and
 - iv. transferring a person or material from or to an Australian boat or territory.
- (d) Does not fish traditionally while in an area of Australian jurisdiction; and
- (e) Does not dispose of waste, by-product, fishing apparatus or any other material in an area of Australian jurisdiction.

Part 6 Miscellaneous

6.1 Register

- (1) As well as the matters mentioned in section 10 of the Act, the Register must show particulars of:
 - (a) transfers or temporary transfers of TSTRL licences, sunset licences and units of fishing capacity; and
 - (b) boats nominated under section 4.5; and
 - (c) any other information that the PZJA determines.

6.4 Reconsideration of decisions

- (1) In this section, *decision* means a decision of the PZJA:
 - (a) allocating units of fishing capacity under section 3.7; or
 - (b) refusing to register a transfer under section 4.7; or

- (c) nominating a boat under section 4.5.
- (2) A person affected by a decision may in writing request the PZJA to reconsider the decision.
- (3) The person must make the request within 28 days of the date of the decision.
- (4) The PZJA must reconsider the decision within 60 days of receiving the request for review, and must:
 - (a) confirm the decision; or
 - (b) revoke the decision and make another decision in its place.
- (5) The PZJA must notify the person in writing of its decision under subsection (4).

6.6 Transitional

- (1) A TSTRL licence in force immediately before the commencement date remains in force until its expiry date.

Schedule 1 Area of the fishery using AGD66 coordinates

The following boundary coordinates are listed in AGD66. The area of the fishery will also be expressed in WGS84. These coordinates will be provided at a later date.

The area of the tropical rock lobster fishery is the area consisting of:

(a) the area of waters in the Protected Zone to the south of the Fisheries Jurisdiction Line; and

(b) the area of waters (excluding any waters within the limits of Queensland) bounded by a line beginning at the point of latitude $10^{\circ} 48' 00''$ south, longitude $141^{\circ} 20' 00''$ east and running progressively:

- north along the meridian of longitude $141^{\circ} 20' 00''$ east to its intersection with the parallel of latitude $10^{\circ} 28' 00''$ south;
- east along that parallel to its intersection with the meridian of longitude $144^{\circ} 00' 00''$ east;
- south along that meridian to its intersection with the parallel of latitude $10^{\circ} 41' 17''$ south;
- west along that parallel to its intersection with the meridian of longitude $142^{\circ} 31' 49''$ east;
- south along that meridian to its northernmost intersection with the coastline of Cape York Peninsula at low water;
- generally south-westerly along the western coastline of Cape York Peninsula, that is along the low water line on that coast and across any river mouth, to its intersection with the parallel of latitude $10^{\circ} 48' 00''$ south;
- west along that parallel of the point where the line began; and

(c) the territorial sea of Australia north of the Fisheries Jurisdiction Line.

Comment [w3]: To determine if this is really needed

Schedule 2 Area of the fishery using WDA94 coordinates

Area of the fishery expressed using coordinates based on WDA94.

The area of the tropical rock lobster fishery is the area consisting of:

- (a) the area of waters in the Protected Zone to the south of the Fisheries Jurisdiction Line; and
- (b) the area of waters (excluding any waters within the limits of Queensland) bounded by a line beginning at the point of latitude 10° 48' 00" south, longitude 141° 20' 00" east (Point 1) and running progressively:
 - north along the meridian of longitude 141° 20' 00" east to its intersection with the parallel of latitude 10° 28' 00" south (Point B)¹;
 - east along that parallel to its intersection with the meridian of longitude 144° 00' 00" east (Point 2);
 - south along that meridian to its intersection with the parallel of latitude 10° 41' 17" south (Point 3);
 - west along that parallel to its intersection with the meridian of longitude 142° 31' 49" east (Point 4);
 - south along that meridian to its northernmost intersection with the coastline of Cape York Peninsula at low water (Point 5);
 - generally south-westerly along the western coastline of Cape York Peninsula, that is along the low water line on that coast and across any river mouth, to its intersection with the parallel of latitude 10° 48' 00" south (Point 6);
 - west along that parallel of the point where the line began; and
- (c) the territorial sea of Australia north of the Fisheries Jurisdiction Line.

¹ Annex 9 sub-paragraph (b) to the *Treaty between Australia and the Independent State of Papua New Guinea Concerning Sovereignty and Maritime Boundaries in the Area Known as Torres Strait, and Related Matters* – which entered into force 15 February 1985; see .Australian Treaty Series 1985 No 4 AGPS.

TRANSFORMATION OF COORDINATES DEFINING THE TROPICAL ROCK LOBSTER FISHERY IN TORRES STRAIT UNDER *TORRES STRAIT FISHERIES REGULATIONS* 1985

Point	Latitude GDA94	Longitude GDA94	Comments
1	10° 47' 54.68" South	141° 20' 03.99" East	
B	10° 27' 54.69" South	141° 20' 03.99" East	This is point (b) of the Protected Zone under the Torres Strait Treaty
2	10° 27' 54.66" South	144° 00' 03.89" East	
3	10° 41' 11.65" South	144° 00' 03.89" East	
4	10° 41' 11.67" South	142° 31' 52.94" East	
5	10° 41' 14.67" South	142° 31' 52.94" East	See note 2.
6	10° 47' 54.67" South	142° 24' 13.95" East	See note 2.

Note

- Coordinates expressed in terms of the Geodetic Datum of Australia 1994 (GDA94) have been transformed from the Australian Geodetic Datum 1966 (AGD66) using the National 3 dimensional similarity transformation².

AGD66 to GDA94 parameters:

dx: -117.808 m
dy: -51.536 m
dz: 137.784 m
k: -0.29 ppm
rx: -0.303 Arc Seconds
ry: -0.446 Arc Seconds
rz: -0.234 Arc Seconds

- For the purposes of plotting the points defining this Fishery in a geographic information system (GIS), an interpretation of where the specific parallel or meridian crosses the coastline is based on the visible coastline from an orthorectified satellite image.
- For all practical purposes, coordinates expressed in terms of GDA94 are deemed equivalent to coordinates expressed in terms of WGS84.

² Geodetic Datum of Australia Technical Manual, Version 2.3(1), ISBN 0-9579951-0-5, published by the Intergovernmental Committee on Surveying & Mapping (ICSM)

TROPICAL ROCK LOBSTER WORKING GROUP	Meeting 13-14 November 2013
Summation - Qld TRL Fishery Policy and Licencing	Agenda Item No. 3.2 FOR QDAFF

PURPOSE

The purpose of this paper is to provide the Torres Strait Tropical Rock Lobster Working Group with an updated overview of the Queensland Tropical Rock Lobster Fishery including management and operational arrangements.

BACKGROUND

The following notes are extracts from the presentation provided during the meeting.

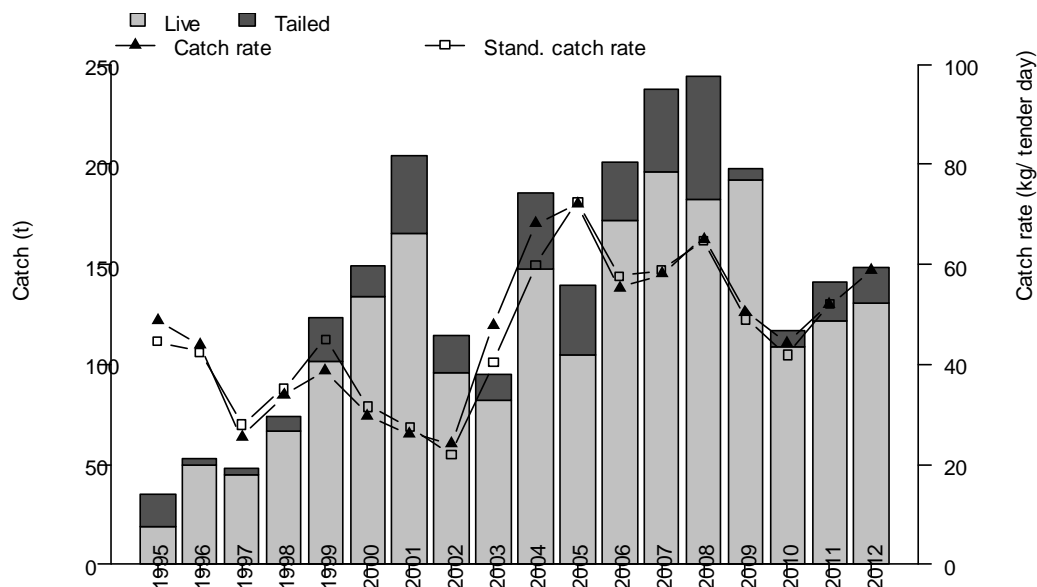
Queensland Tropical Rock Lobster Fishery

“Fishery update and overview of management and operational arrangements”

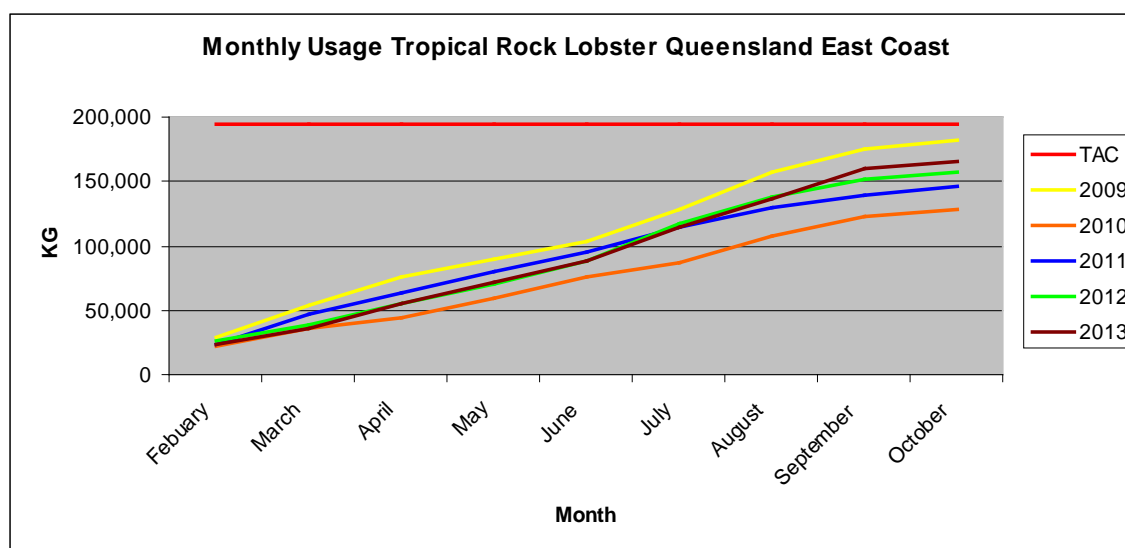
Fishery description

- Dive-based, hand collection fishery Targeting the tropical rocklobster *Panulirus ornatus*.
- All tidal waters east of longitude 142° 31' 49", south of latitude 10° 41' south and north of latitude 14° south (GFP extension to 16° south).
- Fishing season 1 February to 30 September.
- The TRLF is a limited entry fishery with restrictions placed on new primary boat and tender boat licences since 1996.
- Total number of commercial licences = 28 primary licences.
- Commercial licences accessing the fishery in 2012 = 8.
- Total number of tenders = 93. (Maximum tenders to a license = 7).
- Commercial TACC = 195 t (+5t / yr indigenous fishing permits).

Catch statistics



	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total catch (t)	183	129	147	158
Total effort (main vessel days)	980	554	545	561
Total effort (tender days)	3918	2643	2709	2525
Licences (active)	9	8	8	8
GVP (\$A million)	7.6	4.5	5.4	5.7



Regulation

- Licensing, apparatus, regulated waters, closed seasons, Total Allowable Catch (annual specified as units), Quota Unit conversion to weight, tender rules, recreational fishing restrictions.

Policy

- Guide to the administration of licence conditions including, initial allocation, reporting requirements, transshipment requirements, documentation requirements for whole of distribution chain tracking.

Licence condition

- Individual Transferable Quota (ITQ) allocation (permanent holdings recorded as Quota Units), operational specifics eg. Quota reporting requirements prior/unload reports. Some repetition of Regulations such as closed season dates.

Operationally

- Licensed fisher catches TRL, logbook record of catch and effort, provides a prior report (if unloading at port), or a transshipment notice (if unloading to a plane or transport vessel), an unload notice and a catch disposal record. Buyers and fisher must retain record of purchase (for 5 years).
- Quota can be temporarily traded “online” all trades of permanent quota holdings are done on paper and require manually updating licence conditions.
- TAC (and consequently ITQ) is adjusted by updating the Quota Unit weight conversion in the Regulation.

Catch reporting in detail

- Daily catch and effort log book submitted monthly.
- a prior notice required if unloading to land notifying their intent to unload TRL at a specified time and place – made prior to landing;
- amendment prior notice required if anything in the prior notice changes.
- a transshipment notice if unloading TRL to a transport vessel (boat or plane other than a commercial fishing boat operating under a licence held by the quota holder);
- an unload notice given at the point of unloading, declaring the amount of TRL taken which is subsequently deducted from the fishers quota balance.
- a separate catch disposal record (CDR) for each consignment of lobsters sold to a buyer or put into storage.

Compliance

- Unload notice is used to debit ITQ account.
- Unload notice and prior notice are cross referenced with Catch Disposal Records for verification that unload weights and numbers are correct.
- Prior notices allow compliance officers advance warning of intended landings where, time and amount of TRL on board to facilitate inspections.

- Those who buy and sell TRL in Queensland (other than for sale to an end user) including restaurants, hotels and fish shops, will be required to keep a record of wholesale sales for five years. The record will include details such as the origin, name and authority number or address, transaction date, TRL quantities and their processed form.

Discussion

The Queensland and Torres Strait TRL fisheries are in adjacent waters and several fishers operate in both fisheries, QDAFF is also responsible for licensing and compliance in both fisheries.

In planning for the transition to revised management arrangements in the Torres Strait TRL fishery, including a transition to quota management, it is worthwhile exploring the strengths and weaknesses of the current Queensland TRL management arrangements to develop an effective management system for the Torres Strait TRL fishery.

TROPICAL ROCK LOBSTER WORKING GROUP	Meeting 13-14 November 2013
The Management Plan Unresolved issues from the Draft Management Plan	Agenda Item No. 3.3 FOR DISCUSSION

PURPOSE

To seek the Tropical Rock Lobster Working Group's (TRLWG) consideration and recommendations regarding the current unresolved issues in the Tropical Rock Lobster (TRL) Draft Management Plan, including (but not limited to):

- a) Master Fisherman Licences (MFL);
- b) Boat Replacement Policies;
- c) Season Opening for the TRL fishery; and
- d) Landing and unloading places for TVH operators (can be included in discussions regarding catch monitoring).

BACKGROUND

The previous TRLWG was unable to make recommendations on a number of management issues for the TRL Management Plan. Historically opposing views have been expressed by both sectors of the fishery on some of these issues. The progression of the Draft TRL Management Plan to the PZJA was delayed pending the resolution of these issues. In addition some recommendations from the previous TRLWG meeting in May 2007, such as the season opening and landing places, were overturned at the TSFMAC meeting on July 2007.

DISCUSSION

A paper covering these outstanding issues was presented at the TRLWG #1 and there was a brief discussion on potential resolutions to progress the Draft TRL Management Plan. Following this discussion it was decided that members would consider each of the issues and where possible discuss with their broader stakeholder networks prior to engaging in more detailed discussions at TRLWG #2.

Attachment 3.3A contains details of the unresolved issues contained within the draft TRL Management Plan and the history of discussion behind them. The TRLWG should consider these details and their relevance to the current TRL fishing environment.

TROPICAL ROCK LOBSTER WORKING GROUP	Meeting 3 13-14 November 2013
Increasing Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal Traditional Inhabitant Ownership	Agenda Item No 4.0 FOR DISCUSSION

PURPOSE

To seek the endorsement of the TRL Working Group for a proposal to develop a Road map for the allocation of 100% of quota in the Tropical Rock Lobster Fishery to Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal Traditional Inhabitants.

BACKGROUND

The PZJA has previously acknowledged the aspirations of Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal Traditional Inhabitant Communities to increase ownership of quota allocations within the TRL Fishery.

The most recent attempt to support this aspiration was the voluntary buyout process undertaken in 2011. In the invitation to offer the PZJA stated that "before the formal allocation of units of fishing capacity and the start of new management arrangements, the PZJA is seeking to further reallocate commercial fishing capacity in the Tropical Rock Lobster Fishery by moving fishing capacity from the non-traditional inhabitant commercial sector to the traditional inhabitant sector". Despite this commitment the buyout was only able to secure the reallocation of a small proportion of the resources within the fishery to Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal Traditional Inhabitants.

In 2010, a five year business plan for the Tropical Rock Lobster Fishery was developed to identify aspirations and mechanisms to achieve them for all sectors for the fishery. This document relied quite heavily on a different outcome achieved through the 2011 buyout process. Given the actual outcomes that were realised in the 2011 buyout this document will have limited relevance in the future.

DISCUSSION

To develop long term certainty in the TRL Fishery for both the TIB Sector and the TVH sector the progress of the fishery towards 100% quota allocation for Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal Traditional Inhabitants should be guided by a transparent framework. To support this it is proposed that a Road Map be developed that defines how the fishery will transition over time to 100% Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal ownership, measures by which the quota transfer will be achieved and milestones that can monitor progress towards the transfer target.

The proposal is supported by Torres Strait Communities. The development of a road map would enable the PZJA to put in place measures that work towards the objectives of the *Torres Strait Fisheries Act 1984* specifically in relation to "acknowledge and protect the traditional way of life and livelihoods of traditional inhabitants including their rights in relation to traditional fishing".

RECOMMENDATION

That the TRLWG:

- Agrees to support the development of a Road Map to 100% resource allocation to Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal Traditional Inhabitants.

TROPICAL ROCK LOBSTER WORKING GROUP	Meeting 3 13-14 November 2013
TRL Fishery proposed management arrangements for 2014	Agenda Item No 5.1 FOR DISCUSSION

PURPOSE

To seek the endorsement of the Tropical Rock Lobster Working Group (TRLWG) to introduce management arrangements for 2014 that will manage effort in the TRL Fishery until quota can be introduced.

BACKGROUND

The recent TRL Resource Assessment Group has indicated that the Total Allowable Catch (TAC) for 2013 will be significantly lower than the recommended TAC for 2011 and 2012. If fishing effort continues in the fishery at levels observed in recent years there is a significant risk that the Recommended TAC will be exceeded in 2014.

In agreeing to the voluntary buy back in 2011, the PZJA also agreed not to reintroduce the interim management arrangements upon completion of the voluntary buyback of non-Traditional Inhabitant fishing licences in the TRL Fishery. This decision was based on an expectation that the buyout would achieve a transfer of allocation greater than it was able to.

Discussion

Given the outcomes of the 2011 buyout in addition to the removal of the interim management arrangements there is a need to ensure that catches in the fishery do not exceed sustainable levels prior to the introduction of quota. The reduction in the recommended TAC for 2014 will require the capping of catch in the fishery to ensure the TAC is not exceeded prior to the introduction of quota.

Concerns have also been raised in TRLWG meetings previously about spatial concentration of effort made possible with increases in the scale and quantity of primary boat/tender operations in the TRL Fishery. The impacts of these activities have not yet been quantified particularly impacts on free dive and reef top collection activities. Reducing resource availability to free dive and reef top collection will impact on Torres Strait Communities that rely on these methods for income and subsistence.

Representatives in the TIB sector have identified a number of short term management arrangements that would address these issues.

1. To control effort in the Kaiar Fishery a cap on catch should be introduced to the TVH sector immediately
2. Move on provisions should be introduced to control concentration of effort
3. Reintroduce moon tide closures

The TIB Sector has also recommended that a road map to allocation of 100% of quota to Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal Traditional Inhabitants be developed. This proposal was discussed under agenda item 4.

RECOMMENDATION

That the TRLWG:

- Agrees to the proposed management arrangements to be implemented for 2014 including a cap on catch in the TVH sector so that catch does not exceed the TAC and the current allocation to that sector (44.47%)
- Agrees to the introduction of move on provisions to control the concentration of effort
- Agrees to the reintroduction of Moon Tide closures

TROPICAL ROCK LOBSTER WORKING GROUP	Meeting 13-14 November 2013
Other Business TIB Primary Vessel Tenders	Agenda Item No. 5.2 FOR DISCUSSION

PURPOSE

That the Tropical Rock Lobster Working Group (TRLWG) consider options for limiting tender numbers in the Traditional Inhabitant sector of the Tropical Rock Lobster (TRL) fishery.

BACKGROUND

In June 2011, Queensland Fisheries proposed limiting TIB primary vessel licences to three tenders, with the provisions that mandatory catch reporting being implemented. This recommendation was based on possible sustainability concerns in the TRL fishery given that TIB operator numbers are not restricted. There has been growing numbers of applications from TIB operators to operate primary vessels with large numbers of tenders (10).

In September 2011, the Protected Zone Joint Authority (PZJA) Standing Committee, based on the recommendation from Queensland Fisheries, made a decision to limit TIB tender numbers to a maximum of three per primary vessel licence. It was agreed at this time to review applications outside this policy on a case by case basis.

In May 2012, the PZJA Standing Committee met and discussed an application from a TIB operator seeking to utilise more than 3 tenders. At this time the Standing Committee did not make a decision on this application based on a lack of information to determine a suitable maximum number of tenders for this operation, and for the TIB sector in general. The Standing Committee then recommended that the TRL Resource Advisory Group (TRLRAG) were better placed to inform this decision.

In August 2012, the TRLRAG tabled this issue and noted that unlimited numbers of tenders may have sustainability concerns for the fishery, particularly as TIB licence number are uncapped. In determining a possible maximum tender number for TIB operators, the group considered that the TRLRAG was not the forum for such a decision and would recommend it to the TRLWG.

DISCUSSION

The TRLWG is asked to consider and recommend a maximum tender number for TIB primary vessel operators. This consideration should note that there are currently no sustainability concerns surrounding this issue as there are only two TIB primary operations (noting the TIB sector has uncapped licences). The resolution of this issue will aim to improve participation and catch rates from such TIB operators.

RECOMMENDATION

That the TRLWG agreed to a recommendation regarding maximum tender numbers for the TIB sector to progress to the PZJA Standing Committee.

TROPICAL ROCK LOBSTER WORKING GROUP	Meeting 13-14 November 2013
Other Business TIB Primary Vessel Ownership	Agenda Item No. 5.3 FOR DISCUSSION

PURPOSE

That the Tropical Rock Lobster Working Group (TRLWG) consider the option for Traditional Inhabitants to operate non-Traditional Inhabitant owned vessels, provided the vessel is registered in the Traditional Inhabitants name.

BACKGROUND

Recently AFMA has noted concerns from Traditional Inhabitants that some Traditional Inhabitant fishers are operating non-Traditional Inhabitant 'owned' vessels, which are provided to them under a separate arrangement regarding the provision of catch. It is alleged that the vessels are given under the provision that all product is to be supplied to the true vessel owner.

Discussions with Traditional Inhabitant operators has been mixed, with some unhappy that it is providing a non-Traditional Inhabitant the opportunity to 'obtain fish' in the TRL fishery without a licence. While others see this as a source of capacity building for Traditional Inhabitant fishers and the future of the fishery.

Under Queensland Transport legislation, vessels are identified by the registration and therefore in this circumstance this vessel is identifiable to the Traditional Inhabitant which can present a compliance issue.

DISCUSSION

Whether this scenario is found to be true or not, it raises the question of Traditional Inhabitant fishers operating purposely bought vessels by non-traditional Inhabitants in order to 'obtain fish' from the fishery without a licence. On the other hand, this practice provides fishing experience and a source of employment and income for Traditional Inhabitants. Under a quota system, there should not be a sustainability concern either way.

RECOMMENDATION

The TRLWG is asked to discuss this issue, with any suggested recommendations for provisions to prohibit this activity (or not) in the fishery to be progressed to the Torres Strait Fisheries Management Advisory Committee (TSFMAC).

TROPICAL ROCK LOBSTER WORKING GROUP	Meeting 13-14 November 2013
Other Business 2013 Catch and Effort Update	Agenda Item No. 5.4 FOR NOTING

PURPOSE

To inform the Tropical Rock Lobster Working Group (TRLWG) of:

- Provisional catch records from the TRL fishery to date for 2013
- Summarised catch records against records at the same time in 2012
- Summarised catch effort against records at the same time in 2012

BACKGROUND

The Preliminary Total Allowable Catch (TAC) for the Torres Strait Protected Zone for the 2013 fishing season, as recommended by the TRL Resource Advisory Group (TRLRAG), was 871 tonnes.

Australia is entitled to 740 tonnes of the TSPZ resource entitlement, with the TIB sector entitled 314 tonnes and the TVH sector entitled to 244 tonnes.

The 2013 fishing season was another good year with the TVH sector caught 327 tonnes for the 2013 fishing season, noting there may be some outstanding logbooks, and the TIB catch, up to May 2013 is 70 tonnes. Anecdotal evidence suggests this TIB figure will be approximately 240 tonnes.

As docketbooks are still a fair way behind, we are only able to provide effort from the TVH sector. Effort increased in 2013 and in turn Catch Per Unit Effort (CPUE) has decreased, though consistent with 2010.

The Preliminary TAC for the 2014 season, as determined at the recent TRLRAG meeting is 616 tonnes.

DISCUSSION

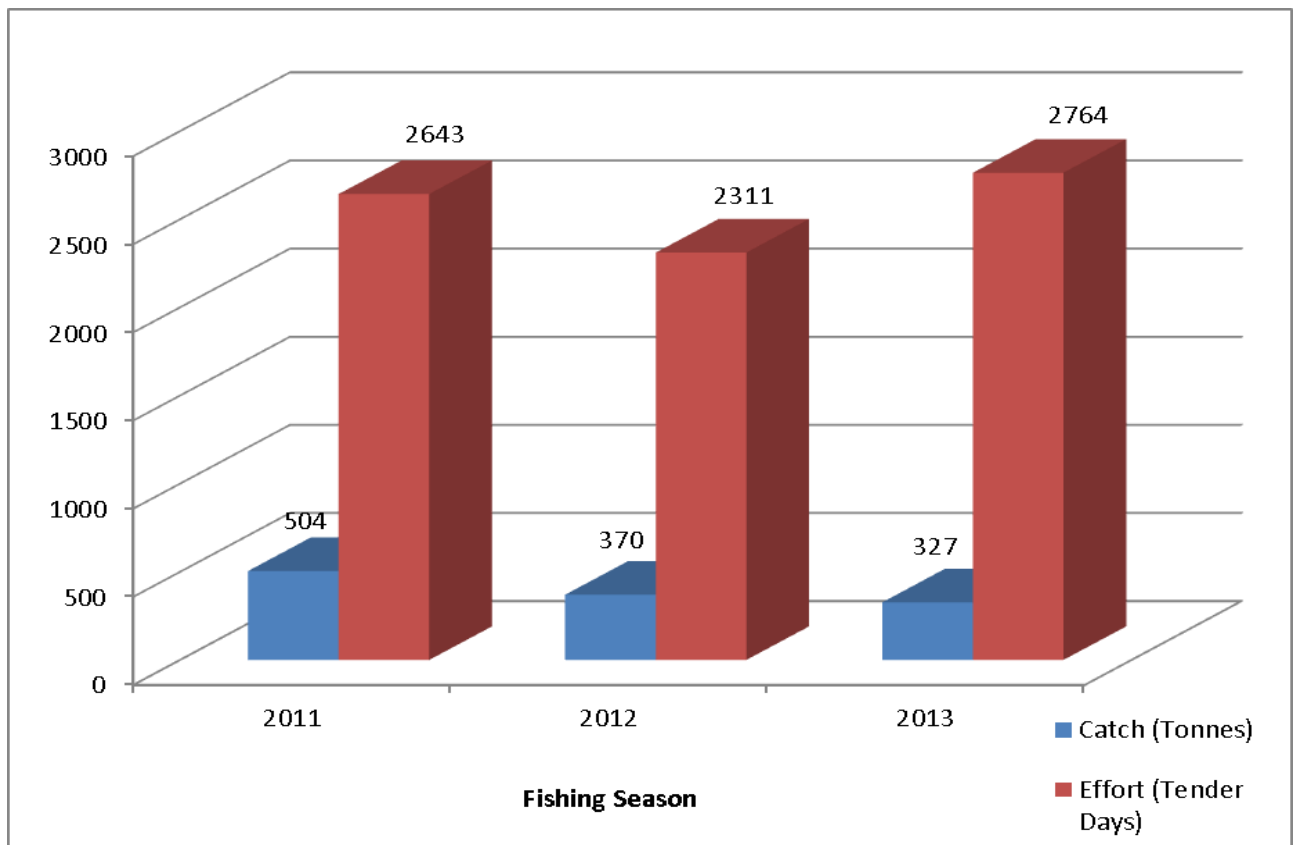


Figure 1: TVH TRL Catch and Effort 2011-2013 Fishing Seasons

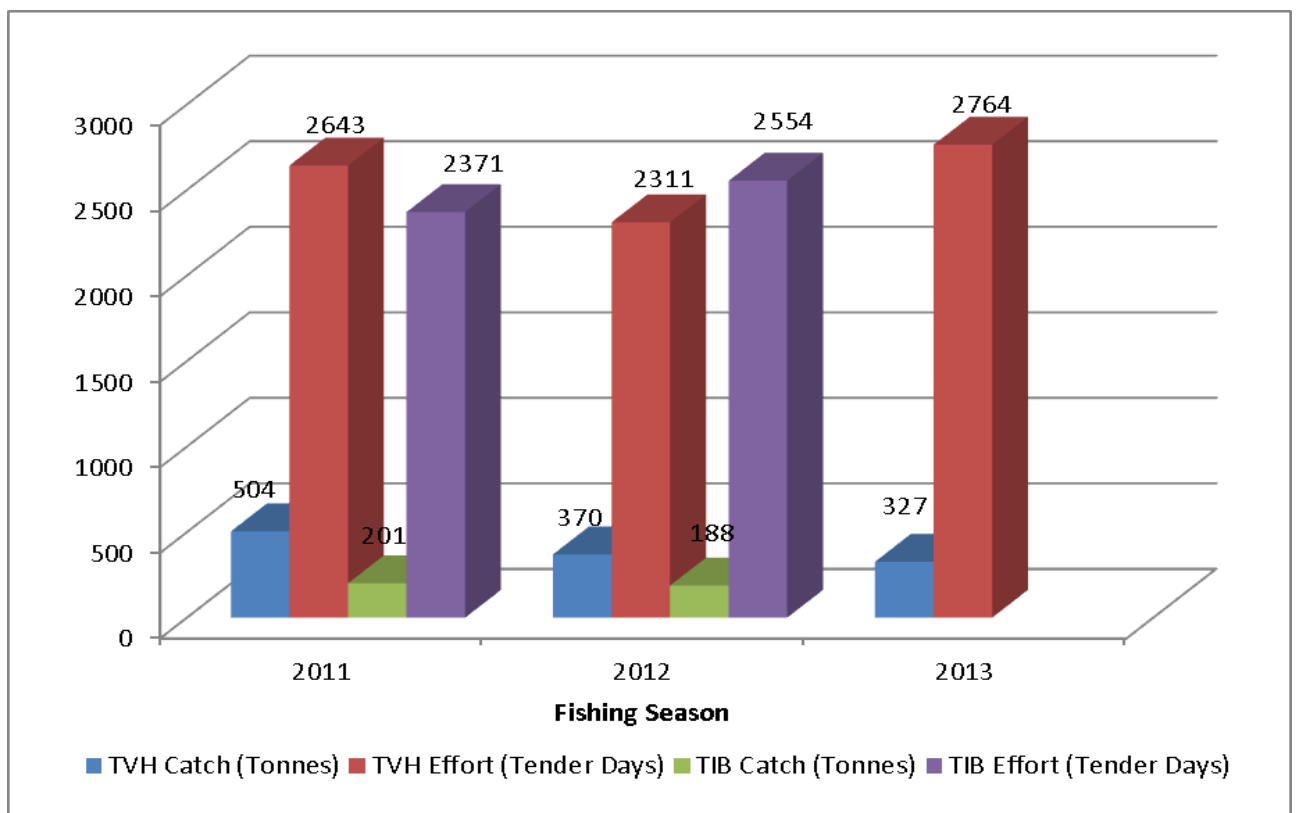


Figure 2: TVH and TIB TRL Catch and Effort 2011-2013 Fishing Seasons

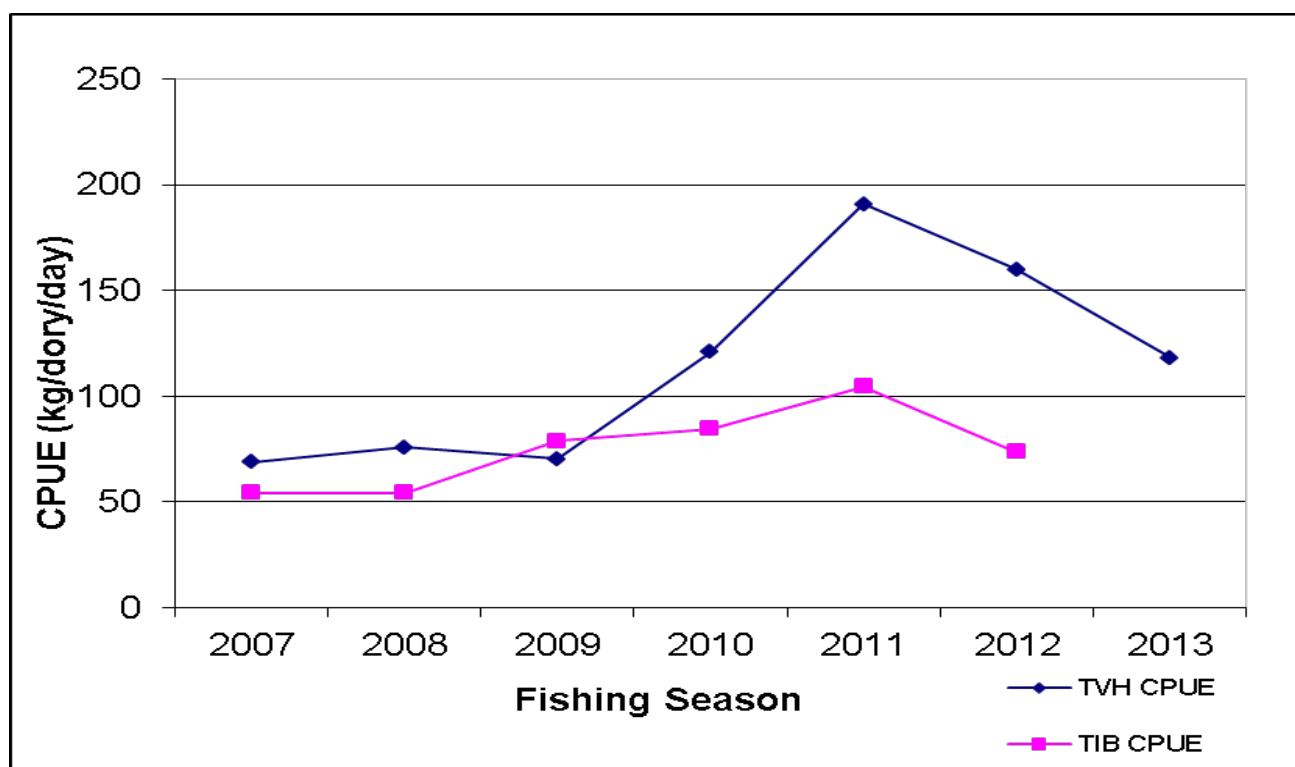


Figure 3: TVH and TIB TRL Catch Per Unit Effort 2007-2013 Fishing Seasons

TROPICAL ROCK LOBSTER WORKING GROUP	Meeting 13-14 November 2013
Other Business Research Priorities	Agenda Item No. 5.5 FOR DISCUSSION

PURPOSE

To provide the Tropical Rock Lobster Working Group (TRLWG) with the opportunity to review and comment on the research priorities listed in the draft 2013 Annual Operational Plan as drafted by the Torres Strait Scientific Advisory Committee (TSSAC).

BACKGROUND

At TSSAC meeting No.48 on 17-18 march 2009, the Committee agreed to develop an Annual Operational Plan (AOP) to provide potential researchers with specific research areas identified by the TSSAC as being of high priority. The TSSAC further agreed to review the AOP annually to ensure that research priorities remained current.

The TSSAC also agreed at meeting No.52 on 16 June 2010 to request relevant PZJA committees and working groups to review the research priorities for individual fisheries and provide feedback to the TSSAC. Feedback would guide the TSSAC on subsequent revisions to the AOP.

The 2013 AOP was discussed at TSSAC No.61 on 19 June. The 2013 AOP will be provided as part of the package distributed to researchers considering applying for funding through the TSSAC in the 2013/2014 research funding round.

Recently at TRLRAG #12, the group agreed that the 2013 AOP needed significant amendments. A draft version is currently out for comment with TRLRAG members (provided below).

DISCUSSION

The TSSAC has requested that the TRLWG review the fisheries research priorities for the TRL fishery identified in the 2013 AOP as outlined in the table below (an extract from the *2013 Annual Operational Plan for Torres Strait Fisheries*) and provide comment to the TSSAC on these priorities. This will allow the TSSAC to further enhance the AOP for 2014.

	RESEARCH AREA	RESEARCH NEED	THEME ¹	NEED ²
B) Rock lobster	1) Fishery assessment	1a) Optimising harvest strategies, Stock assessments, strategic assessments and ERAs.	2, 3	T
		1b) Improved monitoring of catch and effort in all sectors of the fishery.	2, 3, 6	T ³
	2) Efficacy of management arrangements	2a) Alternative monitoring techniques of stock status, for example GPS tracking.	3, 6	S
		2b) Estimate of non-commercial take of rock lobsters	1, 2	S
	3) Impact of fishing behaviour under output controls on market preferences	3a) Understanding of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. the impact of ITQs or competitive quota on the fishery; ii. the extent and impact of discard mortality; iii. the effect of fishing behaviour under output controls on changing market preference; iv. the extent of higher grading e.g. moving to live product, targeting different sizes. 	3, 6	T
	4) Connectivity between stocks in Torres Strait and neighbouring jurisdictions, including QLD and PNG, and associated management implications	4a) Understanding of migration of lobster across different jurisdictions.	2, 5	S
		4b) Impacts of fishing in neighbouring jurisdictions on Torres Strait fishery.	2, 5	S
		4c) Understanding of sink and source connectivity across jurisdictions and associated management implications.	2, 5	S
	5) Environmental impacts	5a) Collect relevant baseline information to assess environmental change impacts on lobster populations	2, 3	S

¹ These themes relate to those detailed in the Strategic Research Plan.

² S = Strategic, T = Tactical. See 'Explanatory Note' above.

Draft Amendments made by the TRLRAG at Meeting #12

	RESEARCH AREA	RESEARCH NEED	THEME ⁴	NEED ⁵	PRIORITY
B) Rock lobster	1) Providing advice for fisheries management	1a) Evaluation of alternative management strategies including harvest control rules and spatial and seasonal management controls.	2, 3	S	1
		1b) Development of simulation operating models of the fishery to be used for the evaluation of management strategies.	2, 3, 6	S ⁶	2
		1c) Regular updates of stock assessments to provides estimates of stock status and reference points.		T	1
	2) Continuation and improvement of data collection	2a) Fishery independent surveys of resource abundance	3, 6	T	1
		2b) Improved monitoring of commercial catch and effort in all sectors of the fishery.	1, 2	T	1
		2c) Estimate of non-commercial take of lobsters.		T	2
		2d) Alternative monitoring techniques of stock status, for example GPS tracking.		S	3

⁴ These themes relate to those detailed in the Strategic Research Plan.

⁵ S = Strategic, T = Tactical. See 'Explanatory Note' above.

	3) Understanding fishing behaviour	<p>3a) Understanding the drivers and incentives in determining fishing behaviour in all sectors.</p> <p>3b) Understanding fishing behaviour under output controls:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> v. the impact of ITQs or competitive quota on the fishery; vi. the extent and impact of discard mortality; vii. the effect of changing market preferences on fishing behaviour under output controls; viii. the extent of value adding eg. moving to live product, targeting different sizes. ix. the extent of high grading under output controls 	3, 6	S	2
				S	2
	4) Movement and recruitment connectivity between areas within Torres Strait and between Torres Strait and neighbouring jurisdictions, including QLD and PNG	<p>4a) Understanding of migration of settled lobster between, and within, jurisdictions. e.g. linkages between deep and shallow and among reefs.</p> <p>4b) Understanding of recruitment connectivity between, and within, jurisdictions.</p> <p>4c) Management implications of movement and recruitment connectivity between, and within, jurisdictions.</p>	2, 5	S	1
			2, 5	S	
			2, 5	S	
	5) Environmental impacts	<p>5a) Collect relevant baseline information to assess environmental change impacts on lobster populations.</p> <p>5b) Analyse the impact of environmental change on the fishery.</p>	2, 3	S	