

Torres Strait Regional Authority

# Internal Memo

**To:** Masigalgal Fisheries Association  
**From:** Steve Hall  
**Through:** Lotta Warria  
**Date:** 9/12/2008  
**Re:** TSPF - Proposed anchorage exclusion zones

## Background

The Traditional Owners of the Prescribed Body Corporate – Magani Lagaugal representing the lamalgal Sea Estates have expressed concerns regarding the marine habitat at Warrior and Dungeness reef. The commercial industry has been developing since 1872 when the Pearl Shell and Bec Der Mer were first discovered and events that followed in commercial aspiration.

At TSPMAC #6 CFG representative Mr Simeon Baluz presented a brief paper on proposed anchorage exclusions zones around the Warrior and Dungeness Reefs. These proposals are mainly to protect Tropical Rock Lobster and are being raised as a result of Australian operators possibly entering the PNG area of jurisdiction through the cross jurisdictional access arrangements. The closure would be issued across the board to all vessels above 6m, including TIB vessels. He also stated that the proposal acknowledges the possible need to anchor in these areas in bad weather.

The TSPMAC acknowledged that TSPF industry members are rarely in these areas and there is no history of prawn trawlers anchoring in the area. TSPMAC requested that a full proposal be presented at TSPMAC #7.

## Current Issue

The CFG has developed a proposal that will restrict anchoring of all vessels above 6 metres in the areas of Australian jurisdiction on the Western side of Warrior and Dungeness Reef (Attachment 3.4A). Letters of support are required from the TSRA, Warraberalgal Fisheries Association, Masigalgal Fisheries Association and the Poromalgal Fisheries Association.

## Recommendation

The Masigalgal Fisheries Association support the CFG proposal for anchorage exclusions zones around the Warrior and Dungeness Reefs.

Supported

Lotta Warria (CFG)

10/12/08

Approved

Masigalgal Fisheries Association

10/12/2008