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Torres Strait Prawn Management Advisory Committee (TSPMAC)

**CHAIRS
SUMMARY
TSPMAC NO. 9
8-9 DECEMBER
2009**

NORTHERN FISHERIES CENTRE CAIRNS

CHAIR: Mr. Jim Gillespie



CHAIR'S SUMMARY

TSPMAC No. 9, 8-9 December, 2009

The 9th meeting of the Torres Strait Prawn Management Advisory Committee (TSPMAC) was held at the Northern Fisheries Centre in Cairns on 16-17 June 2009. The key outcomes of the meeting are summarised below. A complete decision record can be found at Attachment A and attendees at attachment B. TSPMAC 9 papers can be found on the PZJA website. For further information, please contact Ms Lisa Cocking, the TSPMAC executive officer on (02) 6225 5451.

Industry report

The MAC discussed the current operating environment in the fishery. There are good catch rates in the fishery this season however there are still minimal license holders operating (6-9 vessels at a time) as costs are too high compared to revenue and there is still a lack of infrastructure to support the industry.

Observer coverage – Crew Member Observer (CMO) program and traditional inhabitant observers

The MAC discussed the current level of observer coverage in the TSPF. AFMA explained a letter was sent to DEWHA on 9 November informing them of AFMA's intention to change the level of observer coverage in the TSPF to be expressed as a percentage of cover rather than 180 nights, so it can be changed with changes to effort. Considering the current operating environment of the fishery, this will release some of the economic pressure through levies, yet still be an appropriate level of coverage to effectively monitor the fishery.

The MAC went on to discuss the possibility of a crew member observer program or traditional inhabitant observers. CMO's and traditional inhabitant observers were discussed to reduce the number of scientific observer days and thus cost in the fishery. Discussion within AFMA has indicated this would not be possible to reduce scientific observer days if these other programs are introduced, and as such, the MAC agreed it is not cost effective to introduce these other programs at this time. The MAC agreed that PZJA agencies should determine if any of the CMO's from the Northern Prawn Fishery (NPF) are also operating on TSPF vessels as they may be able to provide us with additional valuable data. The MAC also discussed that traditional inhabitants are encouraged to apply for the casual observer program if they wish to pursue this work.

Compliance report

The MAC discussed that there are ongoing problems with vessels producing documentation when requested, including master fishermen's licenses, vessel safety manuals and vessel authorities. It often takes vessel operators an hour to find all of the documentation required, which means compliance officers have to be on vessels for a greater period of time, which is problematic for operators and wastes compliance officers time. When operators have all of their documentation in one folder, it takes only a few minutes to do an inspection. The TSPMAC industry members agreed to include a request in their industry MAC summary regarding this issue.

Environment report

The major issue of discussion within the environment report was the need to ensure industry members are aware that sygnathids are a protected species that mandatory reporting is required for in their handbooks. The MAC discussed that protected species fact sheets are available and additional information on these species can be obtained from AFMA.

Recent financial and economic performance in the TSPF

A guest speaker Mr Chris Perks from the Australian Bureau of Resource Economics gave a short presentation on the current economic performance for the TSPF.

The major outcomes of the survey were that overall net economic return for the fishery including management costs has continually declined since until reaching a minimum of -\$4.7 million in 2006/07. However, average boat cash income, which is cash receipts minus cash costs, increased from -\$29 000 in 2006/07 to \$6,000 in 2007/08.

Mr Perks explained that costs in the fishery haven't fallen as fast as revenues have, resulting in the negative economic returns. He explained that some of the drivers of low economic performance are:

- Fuel costs, with increases of ~\$130 000. TSPF fuel costs don't track exactly with increases in diesel costs and 36-42 percent of costs in the fishery are attributed to fuel in the TSPF.
- International competition and exchange rate. Vannamei prawns have a huge impact on the international prawn market. As such a large portion of the market is made up of Vannamei, they really effect the price that people are willing to pay for other prawns.

The report indicated that the main factors effecting the economics of the fishery are external and thus aren't changeable by industry.

Data and preliminary analysis of trends in 2009 catch and effort data

Mr Clive Turnbull presented some data from the preliminary analysis of catch and effort data for the fishery for the 2010 season. Catches were well below historic levels and maximum sustainable yield levels, which is due to low effort levels in the fishery this season. He added that Tiger Prawn catch rates are the on highest record which is again due to very low effort and fishers targeting Tiger Prawns. The fact that catch is greater than MSY and there is a high CPUE suggests a high biomass level of Tiger Prawns.

Mr Turnbull explained that Endeavour Prawn catch is much lower than average due to low effort and fishers focusing on Tiger Prawns rather than Endeavour Prawns. He added that Endeavour Prawn CPUE is slightly lower than average which may be due to increased targeting of Tiger Prawn catch, however Endeavour biomass levels are probably about average.

Research funding

The MAC discussed future research funding for the fishery. It was noted that there are two aspects to the research budget. Funding to pay staff to do the routine data analysis in the fishery for the prawn handbook and funding for stock assessments and research, which is an additional cost to the routine work that is required. General research funding was from a number of sources including QLD Fisheries, DAFF through funding for the spatial management research project and the TS Cooperative Research Centre (CRC). This fund has now ceased and it is necessary to find funding elsewhere to ensure the fishery is properly monitored.

The MAC agreed it is necessary to start by determining what we need in terms of research and how much it costs, and then cases can be put together for funding each aspect, including possible funding through levies, the Seafood CRC, FRDC and the TSSAC.

TSPF Harvest Strategy

The TSPMAC discussed the development of the long term TSPF Harvest Strategy and three options that had been developed by PZJA agencies. The MAC extensively discussed setting a harvest strategy based on maximum economic yield and the pros and cons of this. The MAC discussed the large costs that have been associated with estimating MEY in other fisheries such as the NPF. It was acknowledged that fishery managers will construct a cost effective bio-economic model to determine the biomass associated with MEY in this fishery as large expenditure like that spent in the NPF could not be justified in this fishery considering the lower value of the fishery. The MAC also acknowledged that values used to calculate MEY change often; however sensitivity tests are undertaken in bio-economic models to determine by how much the optimal biomass size (i.e. MEY) changes given changes to parameters such as fish prices and fishing costs.

Option 1. TSPF Harvest Strategy based on maximum economic yield using the proxy of $1.2 B_{MSY}$.

Under this option the long term target for the fishery would be $1.2 B_{MSY}$ (B_{48} if the default for B_{MSY} of B_{40} is used). This is the proxy in the Commonwealth Harvest Strategy Policy which is used when a bio-economic model is not available. In this option, the PZJA would determine a process where by the annual TAE will be reduced by increments annually until the target biomass level is achieved. The length of time to reach the target and the reduction each year would be decided with advice from the HSWG and TSPMAC.

Benefits

Choosing this option will ensure the TSPF Harvest Strategy adheres to the Commonwealth Harvest Strategy Policy.

Risks/issues

The long term TAE and catch associated with a biomass target of $1.2 B_{MSY}$ is lower than the current effort cap and catch. Therefore, regardless of the length of time taken to reach the target a reduction in the long term TAE will occur. This will inevitably result in a reduction of individuals' effort allocations. Operators have the option to enter the market to lease effort units. While this is a cost to the individual leasing in the effort, this is balanced by the revenue received by the entitlement holder leasing effort units.

In the current season, fishing effort is very low (approximately 2,600 days as of 2 December per VMS data). Effort was also relatively low in 2008 and 2007. Associated with these lower levels of effort have been significantly higher catch rates. Despite these higher catch rates there is a significant amount of unused effort. Therefore given the current economic circumstances facing the fishery and the biology of the stock B_{MEY} is likely to be higher than the current biomass level. Consequently under option 1 (where the target biomass is less than the current biomass level) there is a risk that economic returns will not be improved.

Option 2. TSPF Harvest Strategy based on an estimated maximum economic yield

As outlined above, it is likely that based on the current economic circumstances facing the fishery and the biology of the stock, B_{MEY} is likely to be higher than the current biomass level. Without an updated stock assessment it is currently not possible to determine this level. However, the current biomass is estimated to be at around 70 per cent of virgin biomass. Therefore the harvest strategy could target a biomass level somewhere between B_{70} and B_{100} in order to improve catch rates further.

Benefits

This option adheres to the Commonwealth Harvest Strategy Policy and provides the highest chance that net economic returns will be maximised.

Risks/issues

This option will involve a significant reduction in the TAE for the fishery (that is, lower than the long term TAE under option 1). This will inevitably result in a reduction of individuals' effort allocations. Operators have the option to enter the market to lease effort units. While this is a cost to the individual leasing in

the effort, this is balanced by the revenue received by the entitlement holder leasing effort units.

Given the high current biomass and catch rates in the fishery, further improvements to catch rates are limited. Therefore there is a risk that based on current economic circumstances and the biology of the fishery, that significant net economic returns are simply not available even at higher biomass and catch rates.

Option 3. TSPF Harvest Strategy based on maximum economic yield using a proxy but updated if a trigger point(s) is reached

This option has a long term target of reaching B_{MEY} . However, this option proposes that the fishery continue to operate within a TAE of 9,200 days until a trigger is reached (e.g. effort level, catch level or catch rate or some combination) that will activate further research to estimate B_{MEY} . The trigger should be discussed by the HSWG and MAC (e.g. reaching 4000 days of effort for two consecutive years) and monitoring of logbooks etc. will need to continue to monitor any changes to the stock which may occur due to environmental circumstances etc.

Benefits

Using this option, the increased level of effort can justify an increase in levies to support and fund further research. This research will be primarily to conduct an updated stock assessment and calculate B_{MEY} .

Setting a longer term target of B_{MEY} but continuing to operate at the present time with a TAE of 9,200 and using triggers before making changes provides the fishing industry with some certainty for the foreseeable future and minimises changes in the current economic climate. It provides a path to get to B_{MEY} but recognises that the fishery needs to improve its catch rates before implementing further changes. It also allows for a reassessment of the path at the trigger points.

Risks/issues

The main risk of this option is that the stock is fished down to levels lower than the actual B_{MEY} level that is eventually estimated. If this occurred, larger reductions in the TAE would be required to rebuild the stock to B_{MEY} . To provide some mitigation of this risk will require appropriate and sensitive trigger points.

The MAC discussed that there were caveats associated with recommending option 3 in that it will not improve the economic situation for the fishery in the short to medium term. As such, a recommendation for option three would include a caveat that PZJA agencies also commit to addressing ways of improving the profitability of the fishery. Ways this may be done could be through external leasing, relaxing the 20m boat rule or allow bigger nets etc. These changes to management arrangements would also encourage investment in the fishing through becoming more profitable. The MAC noted that these examples are not decided as the avenues that should be taken, but simply possible options that could be considered. They acknowledged that

extensive consultation would need to be undertaken with industry and non traditional inhabitant industry members before an changes to management arrangements were considered by the PZJA.

The TSPMAC MAC concluded that option three should be recommended with the caveat that PZJA agencies undertake work to change management arrangements to help to improve the profitability of the fishery.

External Leasing

The TSPMAC discussed the results of the survey that was distributed to all TSPMAC license holders requesting comments on the current leasing arrangements and questioning if they would like formal external leasing arrangements to be put in place. 15 responses were received, with 66 percent supporting external leasing. The MAC discussed the default position that non responses would be a vote for external leasing which was required due to the lack of responses from people in the past. It was acknowledged that this was the only option considering the large lack of response in the past, and that industry members were alerted to this survey by TSPMAC industry before it was distributed by PZJA agencies.

The MAC acknowledged that it would have been ideal to have more responses on the survey, however the survey can be considered to be representative with 15 responses being received from a possible 43 (35percent), as a 30percent sample is actually considered representative in scientific data analysis terms. Further, the MAC agreed at the last meeting that a decision would be made based on these survey results and we can't keep putting off decision making due to lack of response from industry when we are doing our best to engage in consultation broadly.

The MAC agreed that based on survey results, PZJA agencies determine a process for formalising external leasing in the TSPF and implement it.

Ghost Nets and Marine Debris

The TSRA informed the MAC that TSRA and QLD Fisheries Northern Fisheries Centre have sourced funding for doing a survey of the rubbish in the area around Kodall and Masig. The survey will be undertaken in January and February 2010 and then a proposal for removal of rubbish put together by May 2010.

The MAC also discussed the draft code of conduct for the fishery and agreed that AFMA should make a second draft of the code, with major changes including specifying the need to respect the indigenous way of life and the Torres Strait Islands and one for the responsible disposal of marine debris and including QLD legislation in the laws and conventions section of the document.

Torres Strait Sponge Farm

The MAC discussed the sponge farm present in the Torres Straits and the marine incidents that have occurred with the farm since its introduction.

The area adjacent to the sponge farm is regularly used by commercial fishing vessels, predominantly as a transit zone to reach the crab pot anchorage area. Marker buoys are present around the sponge farm to alert operators to its presence, however there are still collisions occurring, which is putting the aquaculture investment at risk and causing potential risk for divers on the farm.

Community Fisher Group representatives reiterated the desire for TSPF operators to simply be aware of the investment they have put into this sponge farm, and its importance in providing a source of income and allowing the island communities to continue to become more economically self sufficient. They asked that TSPMAC industry members help to encourage other industry members to be aware of this. Industry representatives acknowledged that there are a number of hazards in this area such as outlying coral clusters that vessels need to avoid as well as the sponge farm which makes navigation difficult.

The MAC acknowledged the importance of the crab pot area for both commercial fishing vessels and the traditional inhabitants and the need to find a balance between the multiple demands on this area. It was agreed that PZJA agencies should determine the process required for putting channel markers in to guide vessels through to the crab pot as a first step to mitigate risks to the sponge farm.

Marine Safety Queensland – sunken vessels

The MAC discussed the issue of sunken vessels in the Torres Strait. Traditional inhabitants have concerns with sunken vessels pose threats to their local communities food source due to risk of fuel leakage or trapping animals in nets attached to sunken vessels. Marine Safety Queensland (MSQ) explained that everything possible is done to retrieve vessels however some are unsafe to remove due to depth or location. It was agreed that TSRA would liaise with MSQ to try to obtain a list of vessels that have gone down over the years, how many vessels have been recovered and how many are still under water.

DECISION RECORD - TSPMAC 9

1.1.1 The TSPMAC **AGREED** to adopt the minutes from the TSPMAC 8 meeting held on June 16-17, 2009.

1.2.1 The TSPMAC **AGREED** to adopt the minutes and decision records of the out of session TSPMAC teleconference's held on 10 August and 26 August 2009 (Attachment 1.2A).

1.3.1 The TSPMAC **NOTED** the information updates provided regarding the action items from previous TSPMAC meetings.

2.1.1 The TSPMAC **NOTED** the Industry report provided verbally in respect of the 2009 Torres Strait Prawn Fishery, both the season to date and an outlook.

2.2.1 The TSPMAC **NOTED** the activity in the observer program in the fishery for the 2009 season.

2.3.1 The TSPMAC **NOTED**

(a) the letter which was sent to DEWHA noting AFMAs intention to change the way observer coverage in the TSPF is described to a percentage of effort instead of a number of days.

(b) the information provided on CMO and traditional inhabitant observer programs.

(c) that it is not considered cost effective or practical to implement a CMO or traditional inhabitant observer program at this time in lieu of the reducing the existing program.

(d) that traditional inhabitants are encouraged to apply for the AFMA observer or casual observer program.

2.4.1 The TSPMAC **NOTED**:

(a) the Domestic Compliance Report for the period February 2009 to October 2009.

2.5.1 That TSPMAC **NOTED**:

a) The environment update provided at Attachment 2.5A detailing the environment related issues the fishery will need to focus on over the coming months

b) the recommendations of the strategic assessment report;

c) the current status of the Ecological Risk Assessment Process for the TSPF;

d) the protected species interactions for the 2009 season and that it is not an offence to interact with a protected species in the TSPF however is an offence not to report these interactions;

e) information about Marine Bioregional Planning (MBP) in the regions adjacent to the TSPF noting the MBPs are not applicable to Torres Strait Fisheries;

f) other information on projects conduct by AFMA's Environment Section.

2.6.1 The TSPMAC **NOTED** the draft outcomes of the 2009 Australia-PNG bilateral fisheries meeting.

2.7.1 The TSPMAC **NOTED** the summary within TSPMAC paper 2.7 of results from ABARE's most recent survey of the Torres Strait prawn fishery.

2.8.1 That the TSPMAC **NOTED** the preliminary information presented on the trends in the 2009 catch and effort data compared with earlier years.

3.1.1 The TSPMAC **NOTED**:

- (a) the current status and arrangements for funding Torres Strait Prawn Fishery (TSPF) research;
- (b) comments provided by the Torres Strait Scientific Advisory Committee regarding TSPF research; and
- (c) the Strategic Research Plan for Torres Strait Fisheries research.

3.1.2 The TSPMAC **DISCUSSED**:

- (a) research priorities for the TSPF.
- (b) the viability of previously identified funding sources and new research funding avenues for the TSPF.

3.1.3 The TSPMAC **RECOMMENDED** we put a business case together for the funding of routine scientific work that considers using savings from reducing observer coverage or the 25percent management costs attributed to the PNG allocation.

4.1a The TSPMAC **NOTED** the progress on finalising the Torres Strait Prawn Fishery 2010 Total Allowable Effort.

4.2 The TSPMAC **NOTED** the progress on amending the Torres Strait Management Plan 2008 and the implementation of the five Fisheries Management Instruments.

4.3.1 The TSPMAC **NOTED**

- (a) the progress on the development of the TSPF Harvest Strategy.
- (b) the three possible options presented in this paper from which the TSPF Harvest Strategy can be developed.

4.3.2 The TSPMAC **DISCUSSED** the three possible options presented in this paper from which the TSPF Harvest Strategy can be developed.

4.3.3 The TSPMAC **RECOMMENDED** that the TSPF Harvest Strategy background section includes explicit information explaining that although the harvest strategy is set with an MEY target, it is still set to ensure that the fishery is sustainable and there is no sustainability risk to the stock.

4.3.4 The TSPMAC **RECOMMENDED** that PZJA agencies will report on the Harvest Strategy annually to the TSPMAC and PZJA when the updated data

for the prawn handbook is provided by Fisheries Queensland assessment and monitoring unit.

4.3.5 The TSPMAC **RECOMMENDED** that the TAE for the fishery continues to be set at 9200 days for the maximum period allowable under the management plan (currently 3 years) unless research triggered under the Harvest Strategy identifies the need for alternate arrangements or the PZJA has concern about the status of the stock.

4.3.6 The TSPMAC **RECOMMENDED** that option 3 as presented in TSPMAC 9 paper 4.3 be used to develop the Harvest Strategy for the fishery, which includes:

- a) A Target reference point (B_{TARG}) of B_{34} (which is $1.2 B_{MSY}$ of B_{28})
- b) A limit reference point (B_{LIM}) of B_{20} as defined in the stock assessment model
- c) a trigger point for commencing research where if **≥ 4000 days** of TAE has been utilised or **680 tonnes of Tiger Prawns** are caught or **620 tonnes of Endeavour Prawns are caught** within a season, for two consecutive years (note: the same trigger must be triggered for the two consecutive years)
- d) if the trigger is reached then commence;
 - i. research which will entail an update of the stock assessment and bioeconomic modelling by the PZJA agencies;
 - ii. reconvene Harvest Strategy Working Group to oversee the research and further development of the Harvest Strategy;
 - iii. Estimate B_{MEY} using the additional research
 - iv. Revisit target and limit reference points and trigger points and develop decision rules for setting the TAE using the new research outputs and current status of the fishery and social environment in which it operates (including decisions rules around what we do when stock assessments are undertaken and when they aren't undertaken)
- e) If less than **1000 days** of the TAE has been utilised during any one season then consult industry about the possibility of suspending the fishery for a number of years which will reduce levies and have less financial pressure on industry to request advice on the future management arrangements of the fishery.

4.3.7 The TSPMAC **RECOMMENDED** that option three only be undertaken under the proviso that PZJA agencies undertake actions to determine potential ways to improve profitability in the fishery.

4.3.8 The TSPMAC **RECOMMENDED** that PZJA agencies will determine which mid year trigger points are used in other fisheries to monitor the stock status and determine if one is suitable of the TSPF.

4.3.9 The TSPMAC **AGREED** that assessment of whether the trigger has been reached should be undertaken using VMS data at the end of each fishing season on 1 December and this data be presented to the MAC regardless of its outcome.

4.4.1 The TSPMAC **NOTED**:

(a) that previous correspondence indicated industry support for the introduction of external leasing in the Torres Strait Prawn Fishery (TSPF) was divided;

(b) that a survey was sent out to TSPF licence holders on 4 September 2009 requesting input on a proposal to formalise external leasing arrangements in the TSPF (Attachment 4.4A);

(c) that TSPF licence holders were advised that all non-responses to the survey will be viewed as being in support of formal external leasing arrangements for the TSPF;

(d) the summary report from the external leasing survey including stakeholder comments (Attachment 4.4B);

4.4.2 The TSPMAC **DISCUSSED** the results obtained from the survey and the role external leasing will have (if any) in the TSPF; and

4.4.3 The TSPMAC **RECOMMENDS** based on survey results, that PZJA agencies should determine a process for formalising external leasing in the TSPF and implement it.

4.5.1 The TSPMAC **NOTED** the progress in addressing the issue of marine debris on the seabed adjacent to Kodall Island.

4.5.2 The TSPMAC **NOTED** the progress on the development of the industry code of conduct for responsible disposal of marine debris.

4.5.3 The TSPMAC **DISCUSSED** the content of the draft code of conduct for responsible disposal of marine debris in the TSPF and made recommendations of changes for the next draft.

4.6.1 The TSPMAC **NOTED** advice provided by AQIS about considerations to be addressed as part of writing an informal draft submission to AQIS to commence gaining approval to import prawns caught in the PNG Area of jurisdiction of the Torres Strait Protected Zone.

4.6.2 The TSPMAC **AGREED** that TSPMAC industry members will address the questions outlined in TSPMAC paper 6.2 working with AFMA as part of gaining approval from AQIS to import prawns caught in the PNG Area of jurisdiction of the Torres Strait Protected Zone.

4.6.3 The TSPMAC **AGREED** that this issue is of less priority than other issues in the fishery and will be addressed as soon as possible when other higher priority issues such as the Harvest Strategy have been completed.

4.7.1 The TSPMAC **NOTED** Kailag Enterprise sponge aquaculture farm at Massig Island; and its proximity to areas of shipping activity.

4.8.1 The TSPMAC **NOTED**:

- a) The report on the marine incident that occurred adjacent to the sponge farm; and
- b) The offences and penalties as set out in the Queensland Fisheries Act 1994, and the Penalties and Sentences Act 1992, in relation to interference with aquaculture activities.

4.8.2 The TSPMAC **DISCUSSED** the available options to formally protect the safety of employees and infrastructure of the Kailag Enterprises sponge aquaculture farm and prevent further incidents involving Torres Strait Prawn fishery vessels including the following suggestions:

1. Development of a fisheries management notice (FMN) for areas set aside as sponge farm leases which could include:
 - i. requirements for stowing gear in; and/or
 - ii. prohibiting the cartage of all TS prawn species
2. Establishment of an alternative anchorage zone for prawn trawlers that frequently utilise the Kodall area (crabpot) for anchorage.
3. Establishment of fishing and anchorage exclusion zones in areas around Masig and Kodall islands.

4.8.3 The TSPMAC **RECOMMENDED** that AFMA and TSRA liaise with MSQ to determine the process that would be required for placing channel markers to guide vessels into the crab pot.

The TSPMAC **AGREED** look at the process required to place channel markers in the area adjacent to the sponge farm to safely guide vessels to the crab pot to help prevent further incidents involving Torres Strait Prawn fishery vessels on the sponge farm.

4.9.1 The TSPMAC **NOTED**:

- (a) how the Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) is used in the Torres Strait Prawn Fishery (TSPF), including how fishing days are defined;
- (b) the operational role and limitations of VMS, including data usage and availability;
- (c) that VMS may assist in marine emergency situations but cannot be relied on for use as marine safety device;
- (d) that in line with the Commonwealth Privacy Act 1988 VMS data cannot be distributed beyond the managing authority if it can be used to identify individual trawl tracks and/or individual vessel movements if they are complying with enforceable legislation;
- (e) the beneficial nature of VMS data when used as an aid for assisting in QB+FP breaches;
- (f) that VMS data cannot be used to enforce or monitor any voluntary agreements or closures that are not legally enforceable.

5.1.1 The TSPMAC **NOTED**:

(a) The final combined AFMA and QPIF budget for the TSPF has been calculated using the cost recovery impact statement 2004.

(b) A minor change in the draft levies from what was presented at the TSPMAC OOS teleconference on 26 August 2009 from \$4189.45 to \$4229.06 per licence cost and a change of \$27.58 to \$27.23 per unit cost.

(c) That a minimal change in the total TSPF cost recovered budget that was presented at the TSPMAC OOS teleconference on 26 August 2009 from \$502,038 to \$502,040 for the 2010 fishing season.

5.1.2 The TSPMAC **NOTED** the progress on finalising the 2010 fishing levies for the Torres Strait Prawn Fishery.

6.1.1 The TSPMAC **RECOMMENDED** that AFMA and TSRA liaise with MSQ to determine the process that would be required for placing channel markers to guide vessels into the crab pot.

Attachment B

Members	Permanent observers
Chair – Mr Jim Gillespie	PNG – Mr Lester Baule (day 2 only)
AFMA and EO – Ms Lisa Cocking	
QPIF – Mr Ian Jacobsen	
QPIF – Mr Eddie Jebreen	
AFMA – Mr Stan Lui	
Scientific member – Mr Clive Turnbull	
QPIF	
Industry – Ms Kylie Paulsen	
Industry – Mr Marshall Betzel	Observers
Industry – Mr Chris Bourke	Industry – Mr Rusty
Industry – Mr Ron Earle	ABARE - Mr Chris Perks
CFG – Mr Gavin Morsby	MSQ – Kevin Schindler
CFG – Mr Francis Pearson	
TSRA – Mr Neville Nakata	