

<b>TORRES STRAIT PRAWN MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE</b>	<b>Meeting No. 14 17-18 July 2013</b>
<b>REPORTS</b> Compliance report - Season update on activities	Agenda Item No. 3.3

## RECOMMENDATION

3.3.1 The TSPMAC **NOTES** the Domestic Compliance Report for the period November 2012 to June 2013.

## BACKGROUND

The Domestic Compliance Report for the period November 2012 to June 2013 period is provided as Attachment 3.3A.

## DISCUSSION

The District recently underwent a restructure aimed at improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the compliance program. This includes a) a move towards utilising other government resources such as Police vessels and b) the use of contingency resources to accommodate a response when the need arise. This restructure was undertaken in response to concerns raised at TSPMAC #8 (June, 2009) regarding the efficiency and effectiveness of the previous compliance program. This recommendation was progressed to the PZJA Standing Committee on 19 August 2009.

The District currently aims to achieve approximately five days at sea per month to target particular fisheries and complaint response whilst conducting community visits. The District has completed eighty three @ sea days to July 2013. A number of pending and finalised prosecutions occurred during the reporting period. These principally related to offences under the *Transport Operations Marine Safety Act 1994*, one in the Tropical Rock Lobster fishery.

### ATTACHMENT 3.3A.

## **SURVEILLANCE AND ENFORCEMENT**

The Program is delivered by QBFP officers based in Cairns since November 2012. The Program is delivered through at-sea inspections using a Qld Police vessels & community visits.

### *Vessels*

The QBFP also charters a Queensland Police Service vessel to conduct offshore patrols. QPS involvement also addresses a number of workplace health and safety issues particularly those concerning personal safety.

### *Community Visits*

The QBFP also performs extension services through community visits. These visits are done where possible to coincide with projected police patrol model.

Community visits are also conducted to gather intelligence which is used to inform and schedule TSPZ patrols.

The visits also enable Community members to discuss issues relating to commercial, traditional and recreational fishing as well as boating safety issues. Issues arising from community visits included:

- licensing procedures
- unlicensed fishing
- confusion as to the licensing requirements for Traditional Inhabitants who wish to exercise their traditional rights in regards to traditional fishing.

### ***QBFP TSPZ Compliance Priorities***

Key priorities in the TSPZ as determined by the QBFP Compliance Risk Assessment process are set out below:

<b>Fishery</b>	<b>Compliance Priorities</b>
Bêche-de-mer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Unlicensed (PNG nationals taking BDM within TSPZ)</li><li>• Take of no take species</li></ul>
Reef Line/ Spanish Mackerel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Unlicensed</li><li>• Excess tenders</li></ul>
Pearl Shell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Unlicensed</li></ul>

Fishery	Compliance Priorities
Prawn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vessel Monitoring System</li> <li>• Bycatch Reduction Device/Turtle Exclusion Device</li> <li>• Gear restriction</li> <li>• Shark finning</li> <li>• Bycatch (TRL)</li> </ul>
TRL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unlicensed tenders</li> <li>• Size restriction</li> <li>• Closures</li> </ul>
Turtle and Dugong	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non-Traditional Inhabitant take</li> <li>• Gear restriction</li> </ul>

***Compliance Program Outcomes***

QBFP achieved a total of 83 TSPZ patrol days. The table below identifies the vessels used to conduct patrols.

Queensland Police vessel	73
Queensland Police RIB	2
QBFP vessels	8
Total	83

Number of FINs:	0
Number of Briefs:	0
Categorise in terms of above priorities:	)
Number of patrols:	83
Briefs of evidence - number and result:	0
Compliance rate:	99.7%
Total inspections:	205