

TORRES STRAIT PRAWN MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE	Meeting No. 16 23-24 June 2015
REPORTS TSSAC Research – TSPF Flow of Benefits project	Agenda Item No. 3.7 For Discussion

RECOMMENDATION

3.7.1 The TSPMAC **NOTES** the draft final report *Improved TSPF profitability and pathways for a sustained flow of TSPF benefits to Torres Strait Island Communities*.

BACKGROUND

Declining participation and profitability for the TSPF in recent years and flow on effects threaten the viability of the TSPF fishery. This also threatens future opportunities for business/infrastructure development and related capacity building that could support more meaningful TS Islander participation, and/or opportunities for a flow of benefits to their communities.

To address these issues the Torres Strait Scientific Advisory Committee (TSSAC) recommended to AFMA that a research project be commissioned to investigate opportunities for a more resilient and profitable TSPF with an ongoing flow of benefits to TS Island communities commensurate with their capacity to sustain TSPF related businesses and infrastructure.

It was envisaged that any planned outcomes should directly benefit the Erub, Masig, Poruma and Ugar communities. This was on the basis that an economically efficient TSPF with defined pathways for more meaningful TS Islander involvement and flow of benefits to Island communities is also likely to be a more valued, stable, and resilient contributor to the region.

DISCUSSION

That the TSPMAC discusses the outcomes of the draft final research report noting the summary of recommendations provided at **Attachment A** and provide comments for consideration by the Principal Investigator.