

TORRES STRAIT PRAWN MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE	Meeting No. 17 20 April 2016
REPORTS Domestic Compliance Report	Agenda Item No. 3.5 For Noting

RECOMMENDATION

The TSPMAC **NOTES** the domestic compliance arrangements and achievements in the Torres Strait Protected Zone (TSPZ) for the 2015/16 financial year.

BACKGROUND

The Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (QDAF) through the Queensland Boating and Fisheries Patrol (QB&FP) carry out the domestic compliance program for the Torres Strait.

In December 2012 the QB&FP Thursday Island office closed and compliance activity for Torres Strait is now carried out by the Cairns QB&FP office. The Cairns office is resourced with 9 staff members comprising of a District Manager, an Administration Officer and 7 Field Officers.

This financial year (as of the 7/04/16) a total of 61 patrol days (across the whole of the PZJA managed fisheries) have been completed made up of 33 at sea days, 8 investigation/education days within the TSPZ and 20 days conducting investigations in other centers. This is part of the 60 programmed patrol days utilizing joint operations with the local police & police vessel.

Two VMS investigations were also conducted as well as one at sea inspection of a trawler during this period. The inspection were for the following:

- Licenses
- freezer inspections
- TEDs, BRDs and Nets
- VMS compliance and compliance with National Law for Commercial Vessels on behalf of AMSA.

No compliance issues were found.

DISCUSSION

Patrol target days of sixty (across all of the PZJA) have already been passed this year. Joint operations utilizing the Queensland Police vessel has worked and is subject to a review and fine tuning of the arrangements.