

Fisheries Consultative Meetings & Key Dates 2019

| Date | Group | Venue | Key Business |
|-------------------------------|--|---------------------------|--|
| 1 Jan 2019 | Hand Collectable Fishery season opens: Beche-de-mer, Trochus, Pearl Shell | | |
| 1 Feb 2019 | Tropical Rock Lobster Fishery opens to hookah fishing, subject to moon-tide hookah closures* | | |
| 25 Feb 2019 | PZJA Meeting | Teleconference | TRL total allowable catch for 2018-19 season. |
| 26 Feb 2019 | TS Scientific Advisory Committee | Teleconference | Assessment of research pre-proposals |
| 12-15 March 2019 | Joint Finfish Resource Assessment Group (#4) & Working Group. | Cairns | Progressing development of Finfish Harvest Strategy. Providing advice to support sustainable catch limits for 2019-20 season. Consider research pre-proposals for next season. |
| 1 April 2019 | PZJA Meeting | Teleconference | TRL & BDM Harvest Strategies |
| 28-30 May 2019 | TS Scientific Advisory Committee | Thursday Island | Assessment of research project full proposals |
| 18 June 2019 | TRL Resource Assessment Group - Data Subgroup | Cairns | Review of data needs. Improvement of data collection and analysis. |
| 27-28 June 2019 | Joint Finfish Working Group & RAG | Cairns | Progressing development of Finfish Harvest Strategy. |
| 1 July 2019 | Torres Strait Finfish Fishery 2019-20 season opens. | | |
| 1-2 August 2019 | Hand Collectables Working Group (#15) | Thursday Island | Catch and effort summary from 2018 season. Consideration of comments on BDM Harvest Strategy and implementation plan. Advice to support black teatfish opening. |
| Mid-late September 2019 (TBC) | TRL Resource Assessment Group | Thursday Island | Data Sub-Group outcomes, draft Harvest Strategy, research plan. |
| Mid-late September 2019 (TBC) | TRL Working Group | Thursday Island | Draft Harvest Strategy, research plan, management arrangements for 2019-20 fishing season, future management priorities. |
| 30 Sep 2019 | Tropical Rock Lobster Fishery 2018-19 season closes. | | |
| 30-31 October 2019 (TBC) | Finfish Resource Assessment Group (#5) | Thursday Island | Review 2018-19 season catch data. Consider completed draft Harvest Strategy framework. |
| Mid Nov 2019 | CSIRO led underwater survey of tropical rock lobster abundance. | | |
| 27-28 November 2019 (TBC) | Finfish Resource Assessment Group (#6) | Torres Strait (venue TBC) | Provide advice on sustainable catch limits for 2020-21 season. |
| 29 November 2019 (TBC) | Finfish Working Group | Thursday Island | Provide advice on Total Allowable Catches for 2020-21 season. Consider draft Harvest Strategy framework ahead of PZJA consideration. |
| 1 Dec 2019 | Tropical Rock Lobster Fishery opens for freediving and lamp fishing only (no hookah gear). | | |
| 10-11 Dec 2019 | TRL Resource Assessment Group (#27) | Thursday Island | Review CSIRO pre-season TRL underwater survey results. |
| 12 Dec 2019 | TRL Working Group | TBC | RAG meeting outcomes, preliminary or final total allowable catch (TAC), future management priorities. |
| 27-28 February 2020 (TBC) | Finfish Resource Assessment Group (#7) | Thursday Island | Additional meeting if required to provide advice to PZJA on sustainable catch limits. |

Notice issued **30 July 2019** – Dates of meetings may be subject to change.

To confirm dates and for more information ring AFMA Torres Strait Office on (07) 4069 1990.

*Contact AFMA for the TRL Moon-Tide Hookah Closures for the 2018-19 fishing season.