



# West Coast Demersal Scalefish Resource (WCDSR) Harvest Strategy Reference Group

## Meeting 2 Outcomes

Wednesday, 1 December 2021

### Attendees:

#### Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

Patrick Cavalli (Chair), Clinton Syers, Shane Walters and, David Fairclough  
Executive support: Maddie Watt and Amie Steele

#### Commercial sector

Matt Pember, Neil MacGuffie, Bruce Cockman and Phil Clark

#### Recreational sector

Andrew Rowland, Leyland Campbell, Matt Howard and Sam Russell

### Meeting Outcomes:

The WCDSR Harvest Strategy Reference Group (HSRG) agreed to the following principles:


- Acceptance of the science contained in *2021 Assessment of the Status of the WCDSR* (Fisheries Research Report No. 316) and the application of the *WCDSR Harvest Strategy 2021-2025* (Fisheries Management Paper No. 305).
- Committed to sustainability of the WCDSR, consistent with the objects of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and ecological objectives of the harvest strategy.
- HSRG recommendations are based on science and the application of the harvest strategy at a whole of resource level. HSRG were not in a position to be able to consider the sector specific impacts of these recommendations.
- Implementation of management changes to recover the WCDSR by 2030 should consider a range of options to achieve the best economic and social outcomes for each sector.


The Harvest Strategy Reference Group recommendations:


1. Following consideration of the science and the application of the harvest strategy control rules, a 50% reduction in the current recovery benchmark (750 tonnes) is required.
2. In addition to Recommendation 1, investigate and prioritise the following measures to support recovery, reduce total fishing mortality and improve management and research of the resource:
  - a) Support recovery:
    - i. Targeted protection for spawning activity;
    - ii. Stock enhancement opportunities;
    - iii. Consider regional or species-specific management options to achieve additional reductions in fishing mortality; and


- iv. Management arrangements that provide adequate protection of recruitment pulses.
- b) Reduce total fishing mortality:
- i. Increase education of post-release mortality;
  - ii. Investigate the extent of shark depredation and support mitigation measures where possible; and
  - iii. Management arrangements that reduce the need to release fish.
- c) Improve management and research of the resource:
- i. Additional management, monitoring and compliance resources that facilitate annual performance reviews.
  - ii. There is a need for more real time catch data for all sectors.
  - iii. Investigate the impact of climate change on key indicator species.
  - iv. Consider how management arrangements can be designed to deliver social and economic outcomes.


I agree that these meeting outcomes and recommendations reflect the agreed position of the Harvest Strategy Reference Group:


  
 Patrick Cavalli (chair),  
 DPIRD  
 9 / 12 / 2021

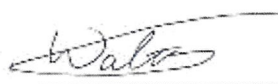
  
 Matt Pember  
 Commercial sector  
 10 / 12 / 2021


  
 Andrew Rowland  
 Recreational sector  
 9 / 12 / 21


  
 Clinton Syers  
 DPIRD  
 9 / 12 / 2021


  
 Neil MacGuffie  
 Commercial sector  
 10 / 12 / 2021


  
 Leyland Campbell  
 Recreational sector  
 9 / 12 / 21

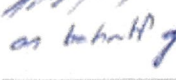
  
 Shane Walters  
 DPIRD  
 9 / 12 / 2021

  
 Bruce Cockman  
 Commercial sector  
 7 / 12 / 2021

  
 Matt Howard  
 Recreational sector  
 11 / 12 / 2021

  
 David Fairclough  
 DPIRD  
 13 / 12 / 2021

  
 Phil Clarke  
 Commercial sector  
 10 / 12 / 21

  
 (Leyland Campbell)  
 as behalf of  
 Sam Russell  
 Recreational sector  
 9 / 12 / 21