



Government of Western Australia
Department of Fisheries

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES ANNUAL REPORT TO THE PARLIAMENT

2010/11

Fish for the future



Norman Moore,
Minister for Fisheries

**TO THE HON. NORMAN
FREDERICK MOORE
MLC BA DIP ED
MINISTER FOR FISHERIES**

Sir

In accordance with Section 61 of the *Financial Management Act 2006* (FMA) and Section 263 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* (FRMA), I submit for your information the Annual Report to Parliament of the Department of Fisheries of Western Australia for the financial year ending 30 June 2011.

The Department also produces a companion *State of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Report*, as required by Section 263 of the FRMA. This Annual Report also includes a table on stock status and catch ranges for major commercial fisheries, derived from the *State of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Report*.

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The Department of Fisheries is the lead agency for WA's marine environment, in addition to managing our fisheries and aquaculture. 6,800 ships enter WA ports annually and can bring with them invasive marine pests on their hulls or in ballast water. In 2010/11, funding was announced to enable the Department to raise awareness of biosecurity issues and carry out associated research. Pictured: (centre) blue striped sea perch (*Lutjanus kasmira*) at the Rowley Shoals. Photo: Shannon Conway

SUMMARY OF THE YEAR

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Stuart Smith, Chief Executive Officer
of the Department of Fisheries

From the Chief Executive Officer

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Western Australians are fortunate that after nearly two centuries of rural, urban and industrial development in the State, the vast majority of its marine environment remains in excellent shape supporting healthy fisheries. Similarly, Western Australia's major river systems, while affected by this development, still provide quality fishing opportunities throughout the year.
.....

However, these marine and riverine ecosystems have been placed under stress in recent decades owing to a growing population. During the last 30 years, the State's population has increased by almost one million people to 2.25 million. This growth has put significant pressures on the State's fish resources and their environments from related factors including increasing coastal residential development, discarded plastics, the emergence of new industries, increased shipping, new port development, offshore energy production, growing boat ownership and the proliferation of affordable fish-finding technology such as echo sounders and global positioning systems.

As a result, the management of the State's wildstock fisheries has become a more complex

task. With Western Australia's population projected to nearly double again over the next 40 years, the complexity of this challenge is expected to increase even more. This growth will lead to even greater competition among users of the marine environment for oil and gas production, port development and expansion, marine reserves and aquaculture. The environmental impacts of global population growth and the related increasing consumption of renewable and non-renewable resources are also likely to result in increased local environmental pressures.

Against this background of accelerated social, economic and environmental change, the year in review was both challenging and rewarding, as the Department worked with the community to ensure the continuing sustainability of Western Australia's fish resources and their habitats.

Overall, the State's fisheries remain in healthy condition, with stock assessments undertaken during the course of the year showing that 32 of the 36 managed fisheries have breeding stocks considered to be satisfactory. Of the other managed fisheries, the Department is taking action in the West Coast Demersal Gillnet and Demersal Longline

Fishery (commonly known as the West Coast shark fishery), the West Coast Demersal Scalefish Fishery (targeting dhufish, pink snapper, breaksea cod) and the Northern Shark Fishery to address sustainability issues. The Department is also undertaking further research to determine the sustainability status of the commercial herring fishery on WA's south coast.

The highest priority for the Department in 2010/11 was the progression of measures to secure the long-term sustainability of the western rock lobster fishery, following the dramatic decline



The West Coast rock lobster fishery will operate under a fully Individual Transferable Quota system in the 2013/14 fishing year.
Photo: Henrique Kwong

in observed recruitment of juveniles to the fishery three years ago. The measures included a reduction in the total allowable commercial catch to 5,500 tonnes (roughly half of the long-term average annual catch) and the introduction of a catch limit (or quota) for each pot (or unit) permitted to be used in the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery.

The introduction of a unit catch limit was a significant milestone in transitioning the fishery from an input-controlled fishery (based on the number of allowable pots, as it operated prior to the 2009/10 season), to a full Individual Transferable Quota system (based on the weight of rock lobster that may be taken by authorisation holders) as will apply in the 2013/14 fishing year.

The move to pot catch limits created a number of challenges and obligations on both the industry and the Department of Fisheries. The Department needed to design a robust management and compliance strategy that was also capable of accommodating the practicalities of an industry that requires some licensees to continue to land their catch in remote locations. This strategy involved considerable effort from all areas of the Department and industry in determining new rules for the fishery, the design and printing of new catch and disposal records for use by industry, the drafting of substantial amendments to the fishery management plan and running a number of workshops to inform industry about the new rules prior to the start of the 2010/11 fishing season.

From an industry perspective, fishers were required to rapidly understand the new management settings, adjust their fishing gear and the containers used to transport lobster, and adhere to strict fishing activity and catch landing, disposal and receiving reporting requirements. However, the new management arrangements have provided western rock lobster fishers with the opportunity to maximise the prices they receive for their product by redirecting fishing effort from the high-volume, low-price 'white' lobsters at the start of the season to a more even fishing spread throughout the year.

The commercial season for western rock lobster was also extended by two months until 31 August 2011, with fishing permitted seven-days-a-week during the final months to provide fishers with ample opportunity to catch their full quota. The educative and cooperative approach adopted by fishers and the Department during this transition to quota has been the key to the successful progress already made.

Significantly, the Department's strategies for increasing the breeding stock and recruitment of juveniles into the fishery have passed the annual audit of the independent Marine Stewardship Council. The Department and the Western Rock Lobster Council have completed all the requirements for re-certification of the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery as a sustainably managed fishery for the next five years, subject to it meeting annual audit requirements. For more

information on the management of this fishery, please see the 'Rock Lobster in Focus' section of this Annual Report.

Another major achievement during the year was the commencement of new management arrangements for the Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Fishery to provide an integrated fisheries management framework for demersal (living at or near the bottom of the water) scalefish in the southern Gascoyne. The new fishery incorporates the pre-existing Shark Bay Snapper Fishery, the offshore demersal scalefish stocks and 27 nautical miles of previously open access fishery adjacent to Coral Bay. In addition to existing pink snapper quota entitlement, licence holders will also now receive non-pink snapper demersal scalefish entitlement, providing increased economic value and flexibility for operators.

The aquaculture industry has had a number of exciting developments during the year. After obtaining the necessary environmental approval, Marine Produce Australia increased its production to 1,000 tonnes of barramundi per annum from its farm in Cone Bay in the Kimberley and is now seeking approval to gradually expand its production capability to 5,000 tonnes per annum. The company produces high-quality barramundi that command a premium price in Australian markets.

In the Pilbara Region, Aurora Algae has started a demonstration project culturing marine micro-algae near Karratha. Aurora selected the

site following a global search for the ideal location to commercialise its technology, which uses marine algae to convert waste carbon dioxide from industrial processes into three products: biofuel for use in the mining sector; protein-rich biomass for use in manufactured animal feeds; and omega-3 oils for human nutrition. The company is planning for significant increases in scale and production capability in the future.

In the Mid-West Region, Cognis Australia is developing the commercial production of artemia (commonly known as brine shrimp) at Hutt Lagoon, Port Gregory. Research staff from the Department of Fisheries helped develop and build sophisticated filtration, aeration and harvesting systems to suit the high volume of water passing through the facility, which is a world-first in the commercial tank production of artemia. The project won the 'Developing the Economy' category of the 2010 Premier's Awards.

Apart from managing the State's fisheries and aquaculture, the Department is also the lead agency for the management of the State's marine environment. During the year the Department received additional funding of \$9.4 million over two years (2011/12 and 2012/13) that will enable it to better protect the State's marine environment from the threat of invasive marine species that can enter WA in the ballast water or on the hulls of the 6,800 ships entering WA ports annually. The funding will enable the Department to raise awareness of



In 2010/11 it was announced the Department of Fisheries would receive \$9.4 million to better protect WA from invasive marine species, which can enter WA on ship hulls or in ballast water.

marine biosecurity issues, carry out research to identify better methods of in-water inspection and hull cleaning, and increase the number of vessel and port inspections carried out.

Significant resources of the Department have been applied to the marine reserves planning process being undertaken by government at both the State and Commonwealth level, with the aim of achieving balanced environmental, social and economic outcomes for the Department's stakeholders.

An estimated 80 per cent of Western Australian state waters would now meet

International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) criteria for classification as marine protected areas under the *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984* and the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*. In State waters additional marine reserves are being planned for the Kimberley and in the South West 'Capes' area. At the same time the Commonwealth is in the process of implementing a system of marine reserves beyond the State three-nautical-mile-limit in waters stretching from the Northern Territory to the South Australian border.

A very strong Leeuwin Current and unusually high water temperatures – in some places the highest-ever recorded – contributed to a number of marine 'fish kills' over the 2010/11 summer, with abalone deaths reported near the Greenough River mouth and in the waters north of Kalbarri. Fish kills were also recorded in Jurien Bay and Leeman and coral bleaching was observed at the Arolhos Islands. The strength of the Leeuwin Current also saw many tropical species extend their range as far south as Albany over the summer months.

To help us better understand the likely causes and significance of this unusual event the Department convened a workshop of more than 80 marine scientists and managers from organisations including the Department of Environment and Conservation, the CSIRO, the Australian Institute of Marine Science and the Department of Fisheries.

In addition, a joint Department of Fisheries/CSIRO project to closely examine climate change effects on Western Australia's marine environment was commenced.

Implementation of a new fee-setting model applying a royalty-like access fee of 5.75 per cent of the gross value of production (GVP) for each commercial fishery commenced on 1 July 2010. This new approach removes the inequity evident under the old model where some licence fees were as high as 20 per cent of the GVP of the fishery, while others were as low as one per cent.

Importantly, the new model moves away from cost recovery, where the bulk of the Department's revenue was tied to the level of service provision in the State's major fisheries – West Coast Rock Lobster, Shark Bay Scallop, Shark Bay Prawn, Exmouth Gulf Prawn, pearling and, to a lesser extent, abalone – with limited funding available to address sustainability issues of other fisheries.

In future, all revenue raised through commercial access fees will be able to be directed to commercial fisheries research, management and compliance projects of the greatest need, with the exception of funds allocated to the Commonwealth's Fisheries Research and Development Corporation (0.25 per cent of GVP) for fisheries research and to the WA Fishing Industry Council (0.5 per cent of GVP).

In 2010/11 the commercial fishing industry contributed \$19.8 million in access fees.

The year also saw the first full year's implementation of changes to recreational fishing management arrangements, including a new fee applicable when fishing from a powered recreational vessel. All State funding and fees received for recreational fishing licences flowing from the revised arrangements is spent on research, management and compliance in the State's recreational fisheries. The new funding has so far been used to improve compliance with recreational fishing rules by purchasing and deploying six new mobile fisheries patrol vehicles, increasing support for Recfishwest as the peak body representing recreational fishers, exploring the potential of artificial reefs, progressing fish stocking programs in the Kimberley, and delivering recreational fishing guides and information to a broad network of tackle shops and other retail outlets.

In 2010/11 the recreational fishing sector contributed \$6.1 million to the cost of managing the State's recreational fisheries.

The Government's legislative reform agenda was also progressed, with two acts clarifying the scope of the Department's fee-setting powers being passed by the Parliament. A further bill proposing a number of amendments to the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* was introduced into the Parliament. The bill provides an improved administrative and legislative framework for the sustainable management of aquaculture and the State's fish resources. Work also continued on the

development of new legislation to replace the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and the *Pearling Act 1990*.

I would like to acknowledge the full range of stakeholders that have worked with the Department and contributed to positive initiatives throughout the course of 2010/11. I would also like to acknowledge the professionalism and dedication of the staff and executive team in their efforts to ensure the sustainability of our fisheries and the aquatic environment. My thanks also go to the Minister for Fisheries, the Hon. Norman Moore MLC and his staff for the guidance and support provided during the year.



Stuart Smith
Chief Executive Officer

Highlights At-a-Glance 2010/11

Key achievements for the Department of Fisheries in 2010/11 included:

- Successful implementation of a total allowable commercial catch for the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery and the start of the transition to an Individual Transferrable Quota system of catch management commencing in the 2013/14 fishing season.
- New management arrangements commenced for the Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Fishery, which incorporates the Shark Bay Snapper Fishery, offshore demersal scalefish stocks and 27 nautical miles of previously open access fishery adjacent to Coral Bay.
- A number of new recreational fishing initiatives were started using funds derived from the new Recreational Fishing from Boat Licence, including increased research, progressing fish restocking and artificial reefs, and the most comprehensive recreational fishing survey ever conducted in WA.
- The Department's state-wide education program won the Science Outreach Initiative

prize at the *2010 Western Australian Science Awards*. The education program delivers marine science education to teachers, school students and the community and operates from the Naturaliste Marine Discovery Centre (NMDC) at Hillarys and in regional locations including Broome, Carnarvon, Geraldton, Busselton, Bunbury, Albany and Esperance, and Christmas Island and Cocos-Keeling Islands.

- Investment, innovation and growth was achieved in the State's aquaculture industry through an establishment of the brine shrimp aquaculture project at Hutt Lagoon north of Geraldton, increased barramundi production at Cone Bay in the Kimberley and the establishment of a demonstration project that cultures marine micro-algae near Karratha.
- Marine biosecurity funding was boosted, enabling the Department to better protect the State's marine environment from the threat of invasive marine species entering WA in the ballast water or on the hulls of the 6,800 ships that visit WA ports annually.

- Research by the Department of Fisheries during 2010/11 has shown that new rules to protect iconic demersal scalefish species such as dhufish, pink snapper and baldchin groper have been successful, with the desired 50 per cent catch reduction almost being achieved.
- Sea lion pups at the Abrolhos Islands are better protected under new rules requiring the use of Sea Lion Exclusion Devices (SLEDs) for western rock lobster fishers operating in the Abrolhos' Easter and Pelsaert groups. Mandatory SLEDs for rock lobster pots were first introduced in 2006 to protect sea lion breeding colonies between Lancelin and Dongara.
- Deployment of six satellite-linked drifters between Cape Leeuwin and Cape Naturaliste will help the Department to learn more about the important Capes Current, which is believed to be vital in carrying and dispersing eggs and larvae of summer-spawning fish, such as the popular Western Australian dhufish. The project is funded by the Western Australian Marine Science Institution.
- A Memorandum of Understanding signed by Western Australia and China provides access for the Department of Fisheries to China's vast experience in artificial reef technology while China will benefit from the Department's expertise in the policy development, monitoring and compliance components of fisheries management.



Satellite-linked drifting buoys are being used to learn more about the Capes Current, which appears vital in dispersing the eggs and larvae of the WA dhufish (pictured). Photo: Henrique Kwong

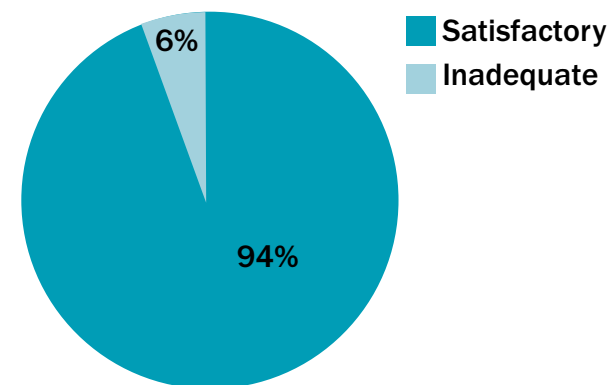
Stock Status and Catch Ranges for Major Commercial Fisheries

The information in this table is derived from more detailed data presented in the companion report, *State of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources*.

The fisheries referred to in the table are the management units that are either fully managed fisheries or are in the process of having dedicated management plans developed for them.

Full information on the current management status and future directions of commercial fisheries, recreational fisheries and aquaculture industries is given in the *State of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources* report.

Figure 1. Summary of major commercial fisheries in regard to an assessment of their breeding stocks during 2010/11.



Note: The 'Satisfactory' category (34 fisheries) includes those fisheries where the breeding stocks are adequate and three major commercial fisheries whose breeding stocks are recovering, while the 'Inadequate' category includes two fisheries where additional actions need to be taken to ensure the breeding stocks are either adequate or recovering.

Table 1. Stock Status and Catch Ranges for Major Commercial Fisheries

Fishery	Stock assessment complete	Breeding stock assessment	Target catch (and effort) range in tonnes (days)	Catch (tonnes) for season reported ¹	Season reported ¹	Catch (or effort) level acceptable	Comments on performance in reported season
West Coast Bioregion							
West coast rock lobster	Yes	Adequate	5,500 ± 10% catch limit for season	5,899 (includes Windy Harbour and Augusta)	2009/10	Yes	Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC) of 5,500 tonnes ± 10% set for the 2009/10 season to accommodate the recent series of low puerulus settlements.
Roe's abalone	Yes	Adequate	101.8 (Quota management) (530 – 640 days)	91.4 (567 days)	2010	Yes	Effort range adjusted downward by 15% from previous range (620 – 750 days) to account for increased efficiency in the fishery.
Octopus	Yes	Adequate	50 – 250	174	2010	Yes	Fishery in developing phase. Target range to be reviewed when additional information is available.
Abrolhos Islands and mid-west trawl	Yes	Adequate	95 – 1,830	806	2010	Yes	Total landings were well within the acceptable range. There were areas of high scallop abundance but, due to some areas of small-size scallop meat, the stock was not fished to its full potential catch.
Cockburn Sound crab	Yes	Recovering	NA	56	2009/10	NA	The fishery re-opened for the first time in three years, due to continuing recovery of the breeding stock and improving recruitment.
Deep sea crab	Yes	Adequate	154 (Quota management)	145	2010	Yes	Total Allowable Commercial Catch began in 2008 so an acceptable effort range is yet to be determined.
Estuarine finfish (west coast)	No	NA	75 – 220 (Peel-Harvey only)	125 (PH)	2010	Yes	Catches of west coast estuarine finfish have been stable since 2000.
West coast beach bait	Yes	Adequate	60 – 275 (whitebait only)	101 (whitebait only)	2010	Yes	Yearly fluctuations in whitebait catch still match environmental variations.
West coast purse seine	Yes	Adequate	0 – 3,000 (Quota management)	10	2010	NA	Continued low catches due to market competition, irregular availability of fish and low fishing effort levels.
West coast demersal scalefish	Yes	Recovering	< 449 – 469 (All Demersal Scalefish) < 450 (Demersal Suite)	421 340 – West Coast Demersal Scalefish (Interim) Managed Fishery 81 – Other fisheries, including West Coast Demersal Gillnet and Longline (Interim) Managed Fishery	2010 (WCDSF), 2009/10 (Other)	Yes	Total catches of demersal scalefish have now been reduced by at least 50% of those of 2005/06. This level of reduction is expected to sufficiently decrease fishing mortality to allow rebuilding of the resource, so the stock is deemed to be recovering. The next stock assessment (in 2012/13) will determine whether this expected recovery has translated into a longer term likelihood of the resource being at, or rebuilding to, an adequate level.

¹ Catch figures supplied for latest year/season available. **NA** Not assessed.

Fishery	Stock assessment complete	Breeding stock assessment	Target catch (and effort) range in tonnes (days)	Catch (tonnes) for season reported ¹	Season reported ¹	Catch (or effort) level acceptable	Comments on performance in reported season
Gascoyne Coast Bioregion							
Shark Bay prawn	Yes	Adequate	1,501 – 2,330	1,545	2010	Yes	King and tiger prawns were within the historical target range.
Exmouth Gulf prawn	Yes	Adequate	771 – 1,276	779	2010	Yes	The total catch was in the target range but catches of king prawns were below their individual target level.
Shark Bay scallop	Yes	Adequate	1,250 – 3,000	1,592	2010	Yes	The scallop catch was within the target range.
Shark Bay crabs	Yes	Adequate	Under development	852	2009/10	NA	Catch comes from a dedicated trap fishery and by-product from prawn trawling. Due to recent increases in total catches, a more detailed assessment is being undertaken.
Shark Bay beach seine and mesh net	Yes	Adequate	235 – 335	249	2010	Yes	Total catch was similar to 2009 while total effort declined slightly. Catch rates of key species were generally maintained.
Shark Bay snapper	Yes	Recovering	277 (Quota management) (380 – 540 days)	263 (432 days) plus 63 recreational catch	2010	Yes	At current Total Allowable Commercial Catch levels, the spawning biomass is projected to recover to the target level by around 2014. The next assessment is currently scheduled for 2012.
North Coast Bioregion							
Onslow prawn	Yes	Adequate	60 – 180	29	2010	Yes	Tiger prawn landings were within the target catch range but king and endeavour prawn landings were extremely low and below the target catch range. The low catch was associated with low fishing effort.
Nickol Bay prawn	Yes	Adequate	90 – 300	40	2010	Yes	Catch of banana prawns were low but within the projected catch range and at the lower end of the species target catch range. King and tiger prawn landings were very low due to limited targeting and low abundance.
Broome prawn	Yes	Adequate	55 – 260	3	2010	NA	Very low level of effort this year.
Kimberley prawn	Yes	Adequate	240 – 500	256	2010	Yes	Banana prawn catch was within target and projected range. Tiger and endeavour prawns were slightly below target ranges due to low effort.
Kimberley gillnet and barramundi	Yes	Adequate	25 – 40 (barramundi)	57	2010	No	The 2009 and 2010 catches of barramundi were both above the catch range, due to increased effort levels. A more detailed assessment of these stocks may be required.

¹ Catch figures supplied for latest year/season available. **NA** Not assessed.

Fishery	Stock assessment complete	Breeding stock assessment	Target catch (and effort) range in tonnes (days)	Catch (tonnes) for season reported ¹	Season reported ¹	Catch (or effort) level acceptable	Comments on performance in reported season
Northern demersal scalefish	Yes	Adequate	Total 600 – 1,000 (goldband < 501) (red emperor < 201)	Total 1,116 (goldband 522) (red emperor 141)	2010	Yes	Total catch was above the upper limit by ~10%, which is acceptable. The catches of goldband snapper were ~5% above the target while red emperor was ~30% below target. Catch ranges for this fishery need revision. A stock assessment due in 2012/2013 will inform this revision.
Pilbara fish trawl	Yes	Adequate	2,000 – 2,800	1,259	2010	No	Reduced catch may partly be due to 20% reduction in effort in Areas 1 and 2 in 2009 and new net designs that deal with bycatch issues. Cause is yet to be fully determined.
Pilbara demersal trap and line	Yes	Adequate	400 – 600 (trap) 50 – 115 (line)	489 (trap) 117 (line)	2010	Yes	The trap catch was within the acceptable range. The line catch is similar to 2009 however the catch of ruby snapper has increased for two consecutive years. A stock assessment will be undertaken in 2011.
Mackerel	Yes	Adequate	410 (Quota management) 246 – 410 (all except grey mackerel)	284	2010	Yes	Catch rates are increasing in the Gascoyne/West Coast and Pilbara and stable in the Kimberley. As the quota is accumulated over three zones, a catch range will continue to be used to assess acceptability.
Northern shark	Yes	Sandbar shark: Inadequate Blacktip shark: Uncertain	< 20 (sandbar)	No catch reported.	2009/10	NA	Previous management intervention reduced fishing effort to below target level, but catches of sandbar sharks in recent years far exceeded their sustainable annual limit so the breeding stock remains inadequate. No effort occurred this year.
Pearl oyster	Yes	Adequate	1,555,000 oysters (Quota management) (14,071 – 20,551 dive hours)	394,947 oysters (4,447 dive hours)	2010	Yes	Pearl oyster catches are up from the previous year's historical low, but still only 25% of Total Allowable Catch (TAC) due to exceptional abundance and market uncertainty.
Beche-de-mer	Yes	Adequate	Sandfish 20 – 100 Redfish 40 – 150	Sandfish 35 Redfish 86	2010	Yes	Species-specific indicators introduced for the first time in this fishery.

¹ Catch figures supplied for latest year/season available. **NA** Not assessed.

Fishery	Stock assessment complete	Breeding stock assessment	Target catch (and effort) range in tonnes (days)	Catch (tonnes) for season reported ¹	Season reported ¹	Catch (or effort) level acceptable	Comments on performance in reported season
South Coast Bioregion							
South coast crustacean	No	NA	50 – 80 (southern rock lobster)	72.7 (southern rock lobster and deep sea crab combined)	2009/10	Yes	The management arrangements, including the acceptable catch range, are currently being reviewed.
Abalone (greenlip/ brownlip)	Yes	Adequate	213 (Quota management) (907 – 1,339 days)	205 (1,196 days)	2010	Yes	No issues.
Estuarine finfish (south coast)	Yes	Adequate	200 – 500	223 + 9 crab	2010	Yes	Stock levels of key species are considered adequate.
WA salmon	Yes	Adequate	1,200 – 2,800	360	2010	Yes	Recent catches continue to be low relative to historic levels, due to low effort from limited market demand. A review of the target catch range is to be undertaken.
Australian herring	Yes	Uncertain	475 – 1,200 (south coast only)	183 (south coast only)	2010	Yes	Commercial catch continues to be low relative to historic levels, due to poor recruitment and low effort levels resulting from poor markets. A review of the target catch range is to be undertaken.
Albany/King George Sound purse seine	Yes	Adequate	2,683 (Quota management)	1,796	2009/10	Yes	Catches increased more than 30% from 2008/09 levels. Stock levels are considered adequate and catch levels are acceptable.
Bremer Bay purse seine	Yes	Adequate	1,500 (Quota management)	422	2009/10	Yes	Decline in effort and catch from 2008/09 but stock considered to be recovering.
Esperance purse seine	Yes	Adequate	1,500 (Quota management)	429	2009/10	Yes	Stock levels are considered adequate and catch levels are acceptable. Catches more than double that of 2008/09 but remains well below Total Allowable Catch.
Southern and west coast demersal gillnet and longline	Yes	Gummy and whiskery sharks: Adequate. Dusky sharks are anticipated to now be recovering. Sandbar shark: Inadequate	725 – 1,095 (key species only)	996 (key species only)	2009/10	Yes	Previous management limited overall fishing effort to acceptable levels. Gummy shark catch exceeds their historical target range due to increasing catch rates; dusky shark catches are within target range; whiskery catch slightly below acceptable range due to seasonal closure and effort reductions; catches of sandbar in the southern part of their distribution are acceptable.

¹ Catch figures supplied for latest year/season available. **NA** Not assessed.

Fishery	Stock assessment complete	Breeding stock assessment	Target catch (and effort) range in tonnes (days)	Catch (tonnes) for season reported ¹	Season reported ¹	Catch (or effort) level acceptable	Comments on performance in reported season
Northern Inland Bioregion							
Lake Argyle catfish	Yes	Adequate	95 – 155	Less than three licences operated	2010	Yes	Catch has declined due to reduced effort.

¹ Catch figures supplied for latest year/season available. **NA** Not assessed.

Financial Overview

The financial overview examines the trends in financial information from 2006/07 through to 2010/11. The analysis is based on the information provided in the Department of Fisheries' audited statement of comprehensive income and statement of financial position.

The overview is provided to assist readers in understanding the financial impact of decisions taken over that period to address emerging issues in the fisheries sector. These issues include:

- Significant government funding to increase compliance and research and compliance activity relating to recreational fishing, commercial fishing and marine park compliance.
- Significant government support to increase the financial sustainability for commercial fisheries in Exmouth Gulf, Shark Bay and the Abrolhos Islands through the establishment and financing of Fisheries Adjustment Schemes.
- Management of the recreational fishing sector through the introduction of revised management arrangements including the introduction of a Recreational Fishing from Boat Licence.

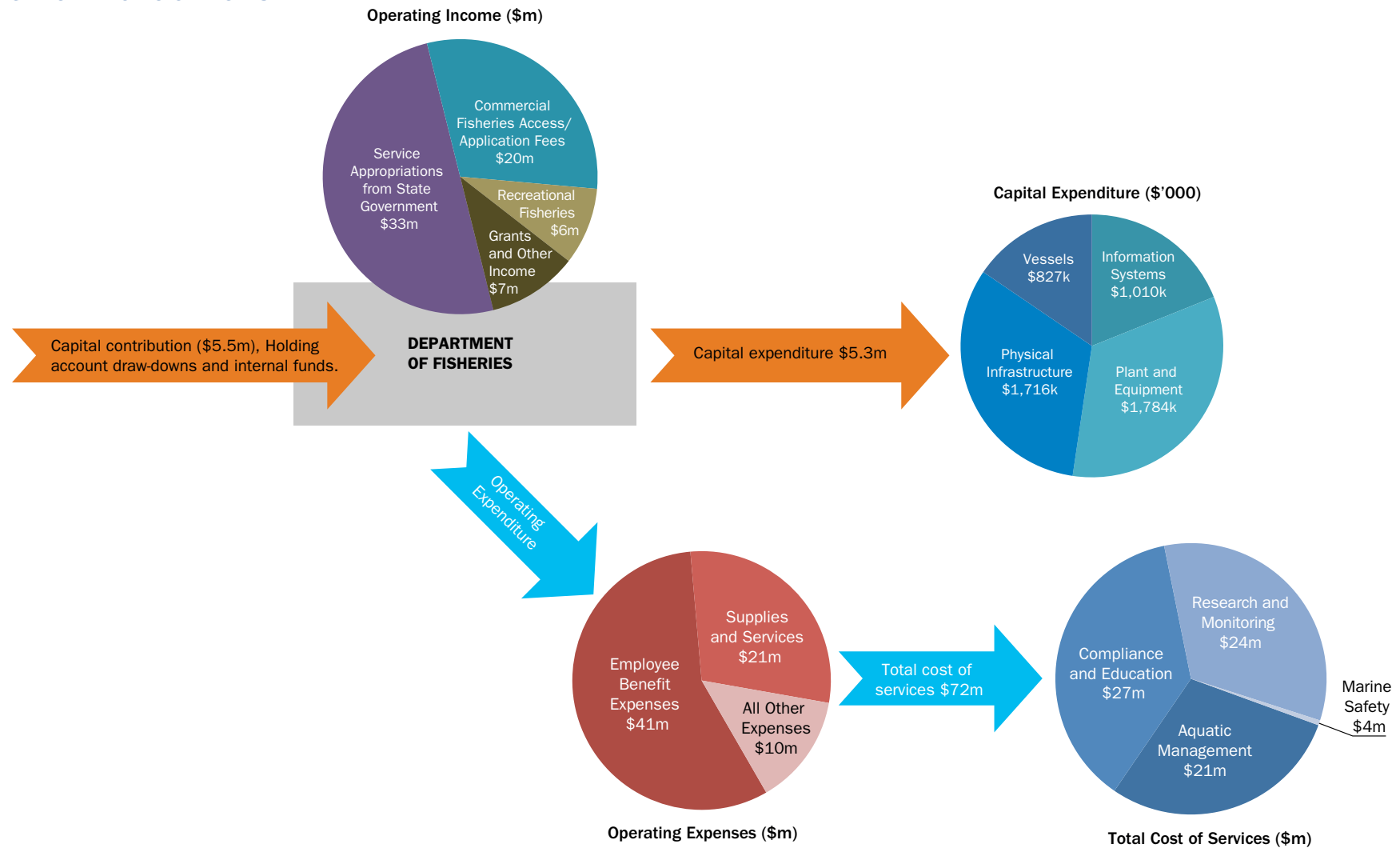
- Significant government funding to invest in new assets or replace ageing assets to support the delivery of the Department's services.
- Increasing levels of employee leave liabilities.

The 'Overview of Financial Flows' figure below represents the various types of operating and capital funds received by the Department during the 2010/11 financial year, excluding any carry-overs and internal funds brought forward from 2009/10. The major elements of the Department's operating expenditure (i.e. day-to-day activity) and capital expenditure for the 2010/11 year can also be seen next to the 'Total Cost of Services' chart.

Note that \$m is used as an abbreviation for \$million.

Financial Summary 2010/11

Overview of financial flows



Financial Performance

Financial performance can be identified by comparing 'what' and 'where' the Department spent against its income sources. The cost to the Government of the Department over the years can also be compared against the total cost of services and outcomes that the Department has delivered.

The following is a summary of the financial performance and position of the Department for the year ended 30 June 2011:

- Total income excluding resources received free of charge decreased by three per cent (\$65.7m in 2010/11; \$67.5m in 2009/10), and operating expenses increased by three per cent (\$71.8m in 2010/11; \$69.5m in 2009/10). The agency's net cost of services has therefore increased by two per cent (\$38.8m in 2010/11; \$38.05m in 2009/10).

Total cost of services

Total cost of services facilitates an assessment of performance by showing the full cost of resources consumed in operations. It shows the total cost of operations to the State prior to recovery of costs through licence fees, user charges and independent sources of revenues.

The trend in the Department's total cost of services since 2007 is shown in Figure 2a.

The Department's total cost of services has increased by 34 per cent (\$18m) since 2006/07.

Figure 2a. Total cost of services – five-year trend

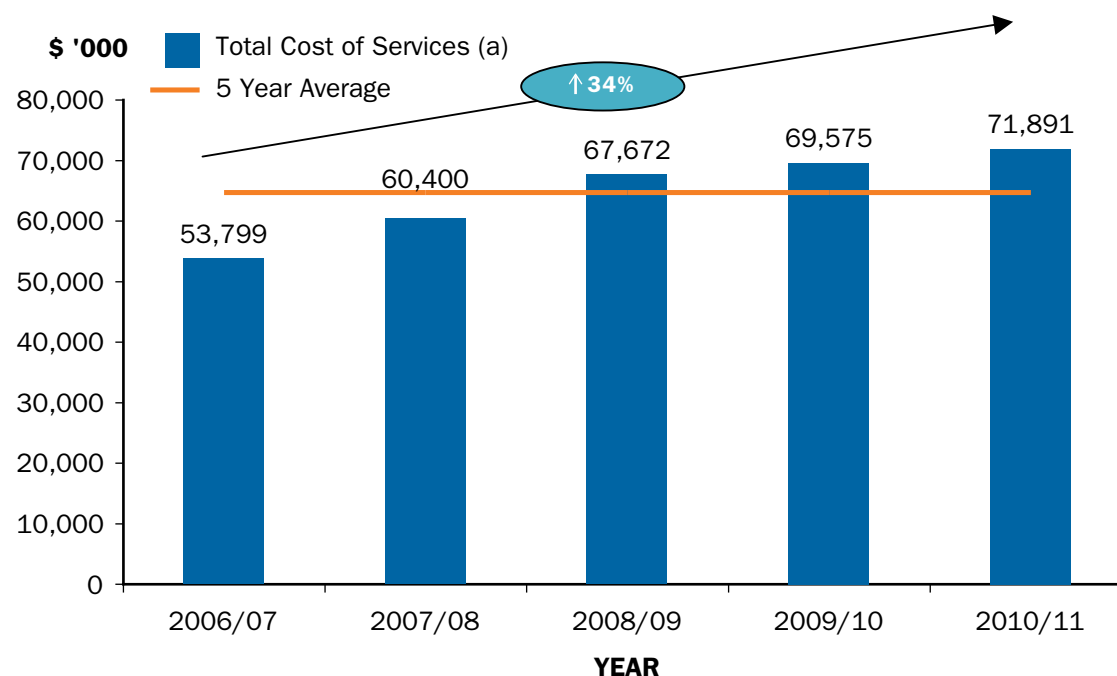


Table 2a.

TOTAL COST OF SERVICES – 5 YEAR TREND	2006/07 \$'000	2007/08 \$'000	2008/09 \$'000	2009/10 \$'000	2010/11 \$'000	5-year change \$'000
Total Cost of Services (a)	53,799	60,400	67,672	69,575	71,891	18,092

(a) Capital user charge removed from 2006/07 total cost of services for comparative purposes.

The cost of services is three per cent more than last year (\$71.8m in 2010/11; \$69.5m in 2009/10). This cost includes depreciation and non cash items consumed in delivering services.

The \$18m increase in the Department's total cost of services over the last five years (\$71.9m in 2010/11; \$53.8m in 2006/07) has been significantly impacted by major financial movements illustrated in Figure 2b.

The figure shows the total cost of services in 2006/07 and the major financial movements that have contributed to the cumulative increase in the total cost of services ending in 2010/11.

Major policy decisions, an increase on demand for services, and cost escalations from Consumer Price Index-related increases and award adjustments are the largest contributors to the overall change in total cost of services.

The introduction of the Recreational Fishing from Boat Licence in 2010 has resulted in additional activity in the area of recreational fishing. This has further contributed to the increase in the total cost of services for 2010/11 under major financial movement 'Major policy decisions' (see Figure 2b and Table 2b) although recreational licence fees help recover a proportion of the increase in costs for the related activities.

See also Figure 2c and Table 2c for the list of major policy decisions that have impacted on total cost of services since 2006/07.

Figure 2b. Summary of major financial movements between total cost of services in 2006/07 and 2010/11

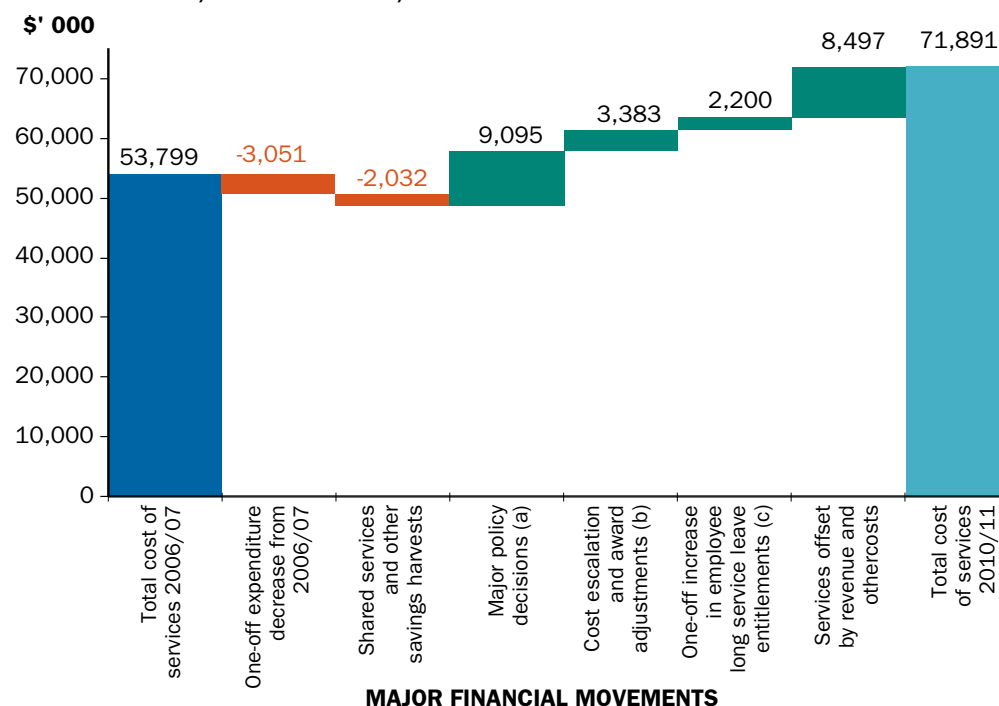


Table 2b.

SUMMARY OF MAJOR FINANCIAL MOVEMENTS BETWEEN TOTAL COST OF SERVICES IN 2006/07 AND 2010/11	\$'000
Major policy decisions (a)	9,095
Cost escalation and award adjustments (b)	3,383
One-off increase in employee long service leave entitlements (c)	2,200
Services offset by revenue and other costs	8,497
Less	
One-off expenditure decrease from 2006/07	(3,051)
Shared services and other savings harvests	(2,032)
TOTAL	18,092

- (a) See Table 1C for a list of policy decisions implemented over the last five years.
 (b) Cost escalations are mainly due to non salary related costs whilst award adjustments have increased salary costs.
 (c) See also notes with respect to Figure 21 'Employee Benefits Provision Ratio'.

Figure 2c. Major activity-based policy decisions – impact on total cost of services

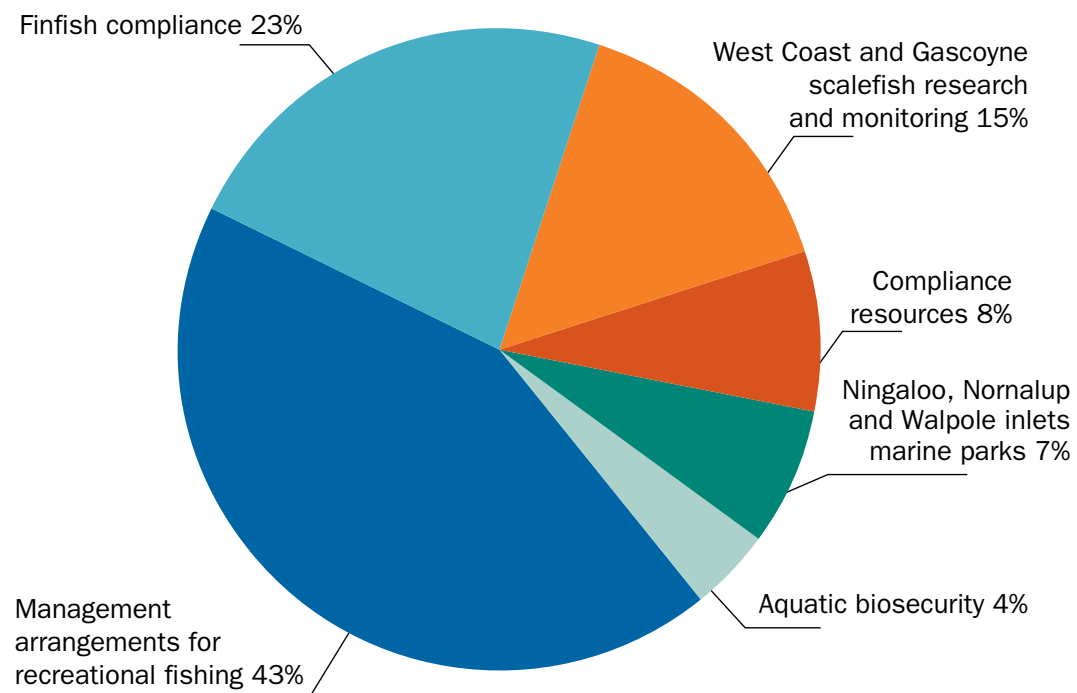


Table 2c.

MAJOR ACTIVITY-BASED POLICY DECISIONS	\$'000
Management arrangements for recreational fishing	3,900
Finfish compliance	2,082
West Coast and Gascoyne scalefish research and monitoring	1,330
Compliance resources	742
Ningaloo, Nornalup and Walpole inlets marine parks	658
Aquatic biosecurity	383
TOTAL	9,095

Net cost of services

Net cost of services facilitates an assessment of performance by showing the net cost of resources consumed in operations. It shows the extent to which these costs were recovered through licence fees, user charges and independent sources of revenues, and the net cost of operations to the State.

The trend in the Department's net cost of services since 2007 is shown in Figure 3.

The increase in the Department's net cost of services, (\$38.8m in 2010/11; \$28.3m in 2006/07) is funded from Consolidated Account service appropriations and has been significantly impacted by the major financial movements as described at 'Total Cost of Services' (see Figure 2a and Table 2a).

Figure 3. Net cost of services – five-year trend

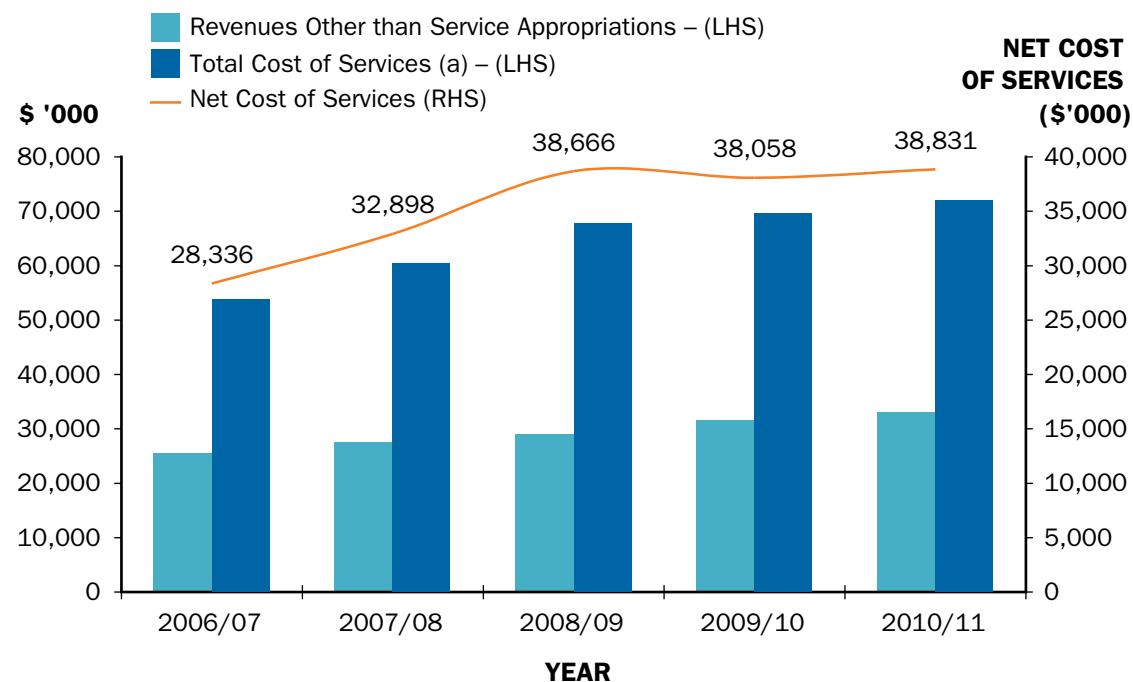


Table 3.

NET COST OF SERVICES – 5-YEAR TREND	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Total Cost of Services (a) – (LHS)	53,799	60,400	67,672	69,575	71,891
Revenues Other than Service Appropriations (LHS)	25,463	27,502	29,006	31,517	33,060
Net Cost of Services (RHS)	28,336	32,898	38,666	38,058	38,831

(a) Capital user charge removed from 2006/07 total cost of services for comparative purposes.

Income sources – 2010/11

Service appropriations from State Government fund 50 per cent of the Department’s recurrent day-to-day activity or operational costs as shown in Figure 4.

Figure 4. Income sources – 2010/11

2010/11 (\$65.83 MILLION)

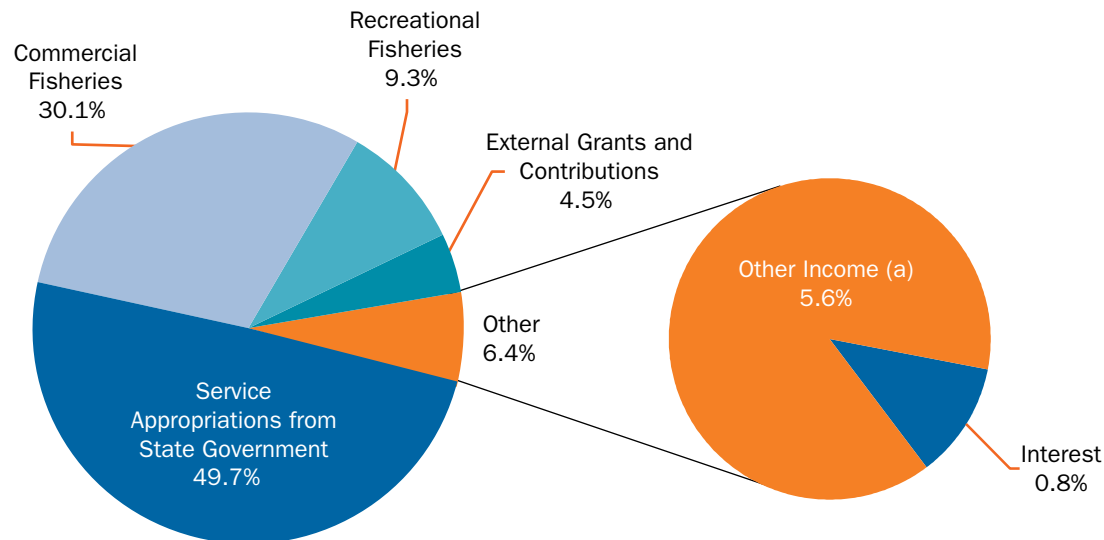


Table 4.

INCOME SOURCES 2010/11	2010/11	2010/11
	\$'000	%
Service Appropriations from State Government	32,770	49.7%
Commercial Fisheries	19,769	30.1%
Recreational Fisheries	6,123	9.3%
External Grants and Contributions	2,987	4.5%
Interest	491	0.8%
Other Income (a)	3,690	5.6%
TOTAL	65,830	100%

(a) Resources received free of charge are excluded from Income Sources.

Income sources – five-year trend

Total income excluding resources received free of charge decreased by three per cent (\$65.7m in 2010/11; \$67.5m in 2009/10) due mainly to a reduction in appropriation funding from the State Government.

Revenues from other sources come from the commercial fishing industry through access fees, recreational fishers, external funding for research and management from the Commonwealth Government, and 'Other Income' (which includes interest from revenue). The amount of revenue received from independent sources has increased by five per cent (\$33m in 2010/11; \$31.5m in 2009/10).

Figure 5 presents an overview of the total revenue received over the last five financial years highlighting that, with the exception of fees paid by recreational fishers, contributions from other sources has remained constant in the past five years.

Figure 6 shows how non appropriation funding compared to total income received each year since 2006/07.

The increase in revenue from recreational fishers results from the revised recreational fishing arrangements introduced in 2010.

Figure 5. Income sources – five-year trend

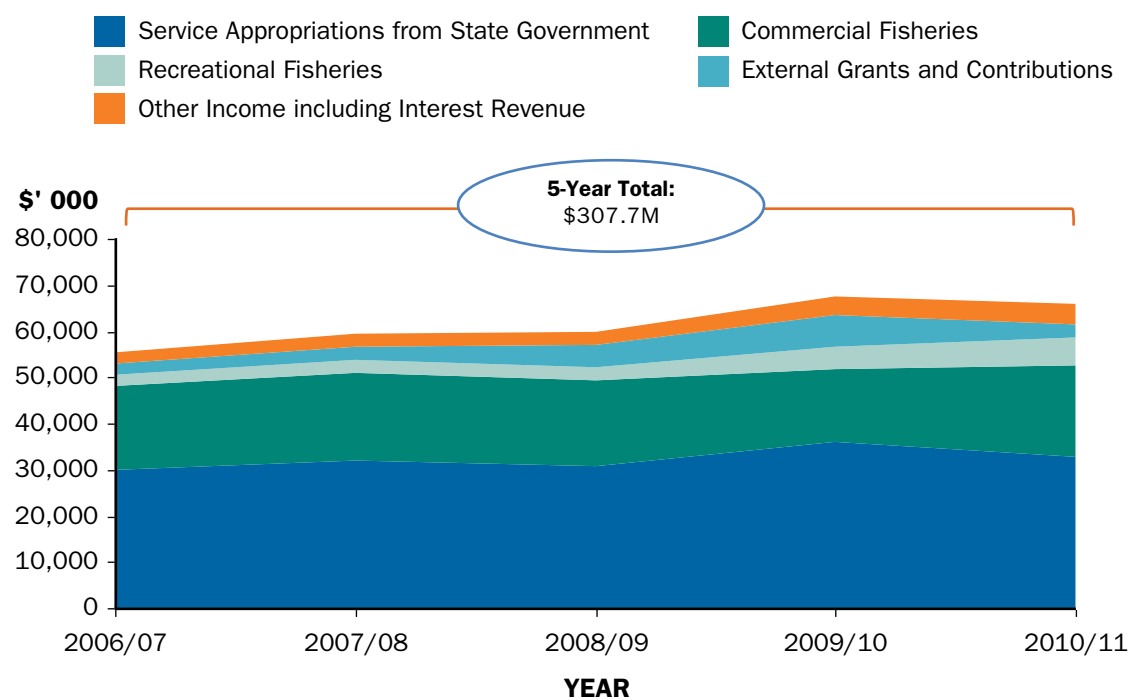


Table 5.

INCOME SOURCES – 5-YEAR TREND	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Service Appropriations from State Government	29,876	31,812	30,770	36,029	32,676
Commercial Fisheries	18,265	19,289	18,687	15,662	19,769
Recreational Fisheries	2,379	2,680	2,746	4,986	6,123
External Grants and Contributions	2,355	2,601	4,681	6,633	2,987
Other Income including Interest Revenue	2,464	2,932	2,892	4,236	4,181
TOTAL	55,339	59,314	59,776	67,546	65,736

Figure 6. State Government funding – five-year trend

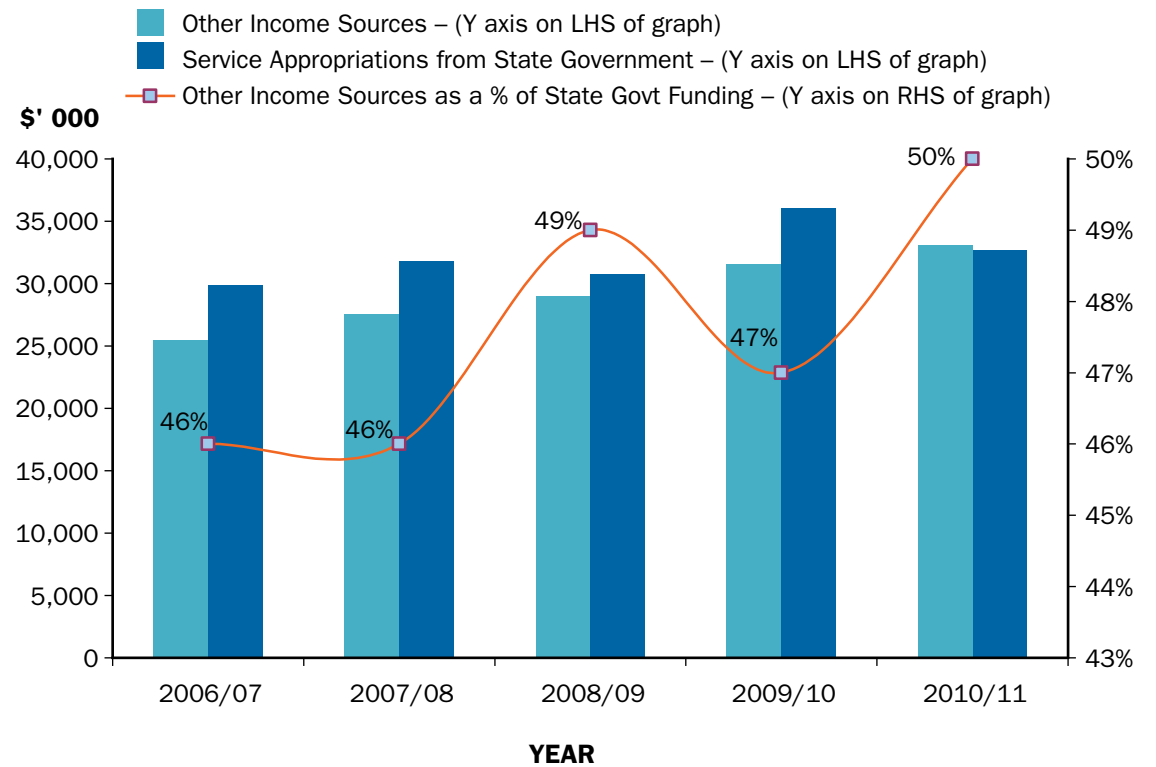


Table 6.

STATE GOVERNMENT FUNDING – 5-YEAR TREND	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Service Appropriations from State Government – (LHS)	29,876	31,812	30,770	36,029	32,676
Other Income Sources – (LHS)	25,463	27,502	29,006	31,517	33,060
Total Annual Funding	55,339	59,314	59,776	67,546	65,736
Other Income Sources as a % of State Govt Funding – (RHS)	46%	46%	49%	47%	50%

User fees and charges

The amount of revenue received from fees and charges and other income (excluding grants and contributions and interest revenue) has increased by 19 per cent (\$29.5m in 2010/11; \$24.7m in 2009/10). The categories of user fees and charges which comprise these non-State Government funding sources are displayed against comparative figures for the 2010/11 financial year in Figure 7.

The increase in recreational licence fees is a result of the full-year impact of the introduction of a Recreational Fishing from Boat Licence. The increase in commercial access fees is the result of the fees returning to a usual level following adjustments made in the 2009/10 year to offset impacts of the 'Global Financial Crisis', particularly in the West Coast rock lobster and pearling sectors.

Figure 7. User fees and charges

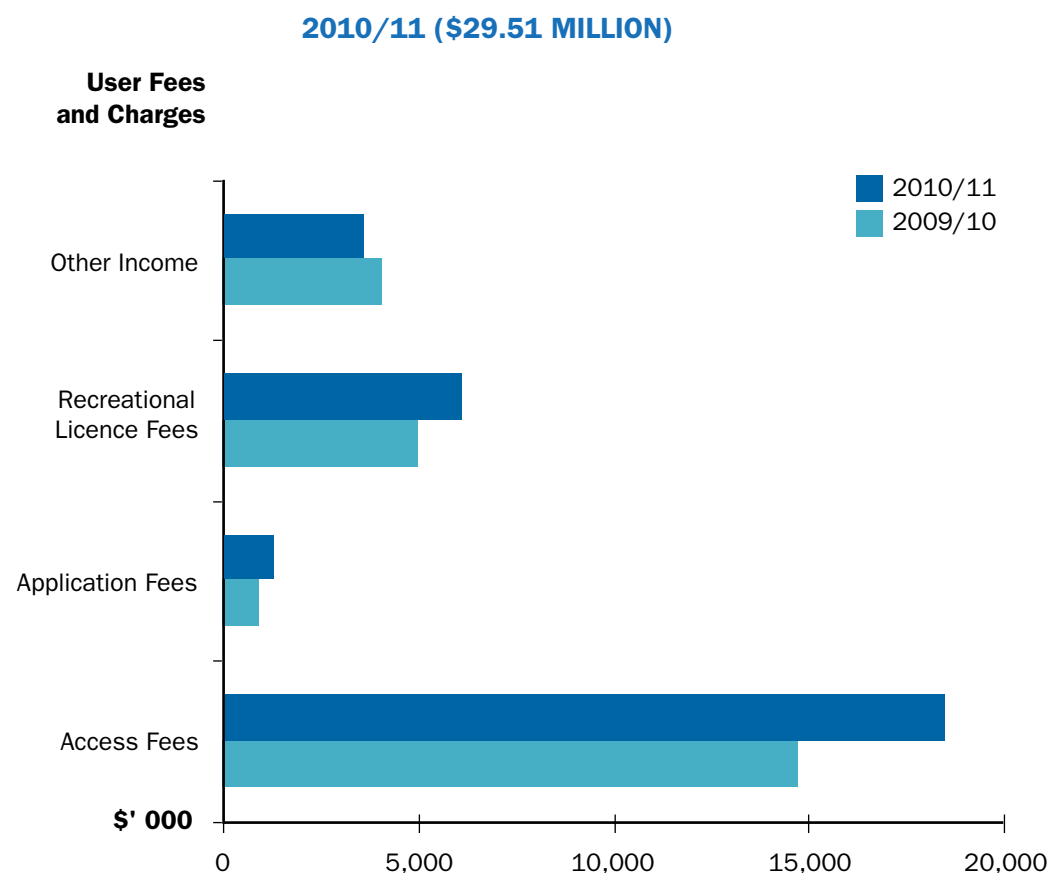


Table 7.

USER FEES AND CHARGES	2009/10	2010/11
	\$'000	\$'000
Access Fees	14,741	18,466
Application Fees	921	1,303
Recreational Licence Fees	4,986	6,123
Other Income	4,099	3,622
TOTAL	24,747	29,514

Total cost of service

The Department has four services:

- Aquatic Management;
- Compliance and Education;
- Research and Monitoring; and
- Marine Safety.

Figure 8 shows how much was expended on each service in 2010/11, against comparative figures for the 2009/10 financial year.

Figure 8. Services – total cost of service

2010/11 (\$71.89 MILLION)

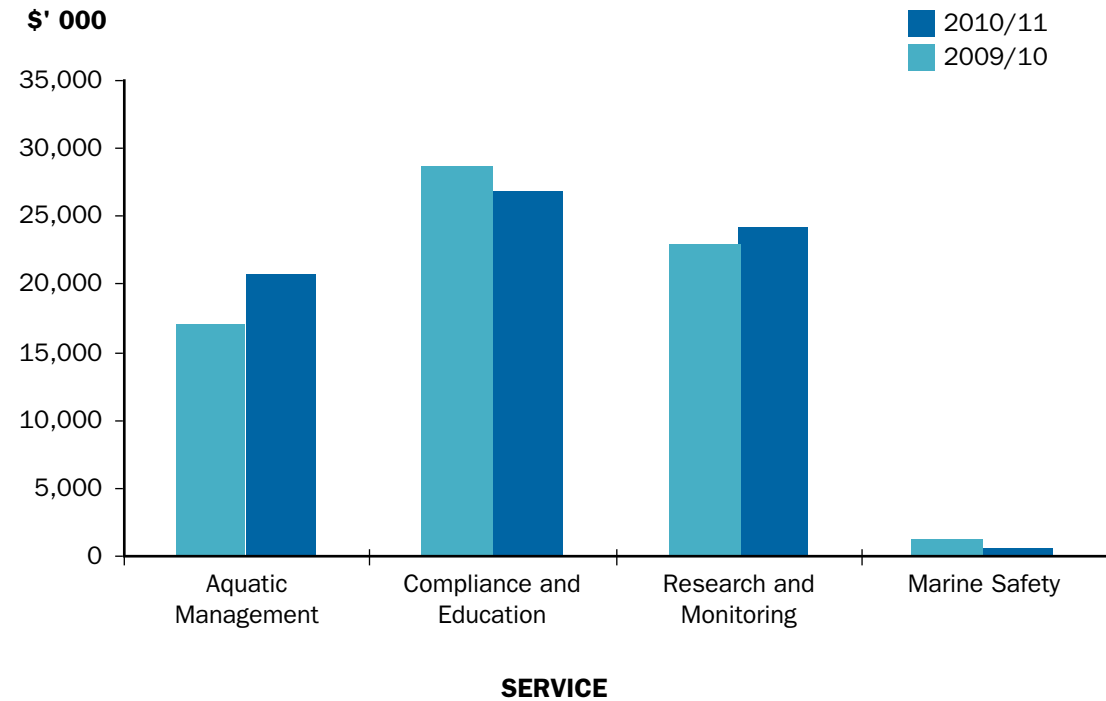


Table 8.

SERVICES – TOTAL COST OF SERVICE	2009/10	2010/11
	\$'000	\$'000
Aquatic Management	16,932	20,715
Compliance and Education	28,603	26,704
Research and Monitoring	22,909	24,040
Marine Safety	1,131	432
TOTAL	69,575	71,891

Expenditure – five-year trend

Figure 9a presents an overview of the day-to-day activity (recurrent) expenditure over the last five years highlighting that expenditure has increased since 2006/07.

Figure 9a. Expenditure – five-year trend

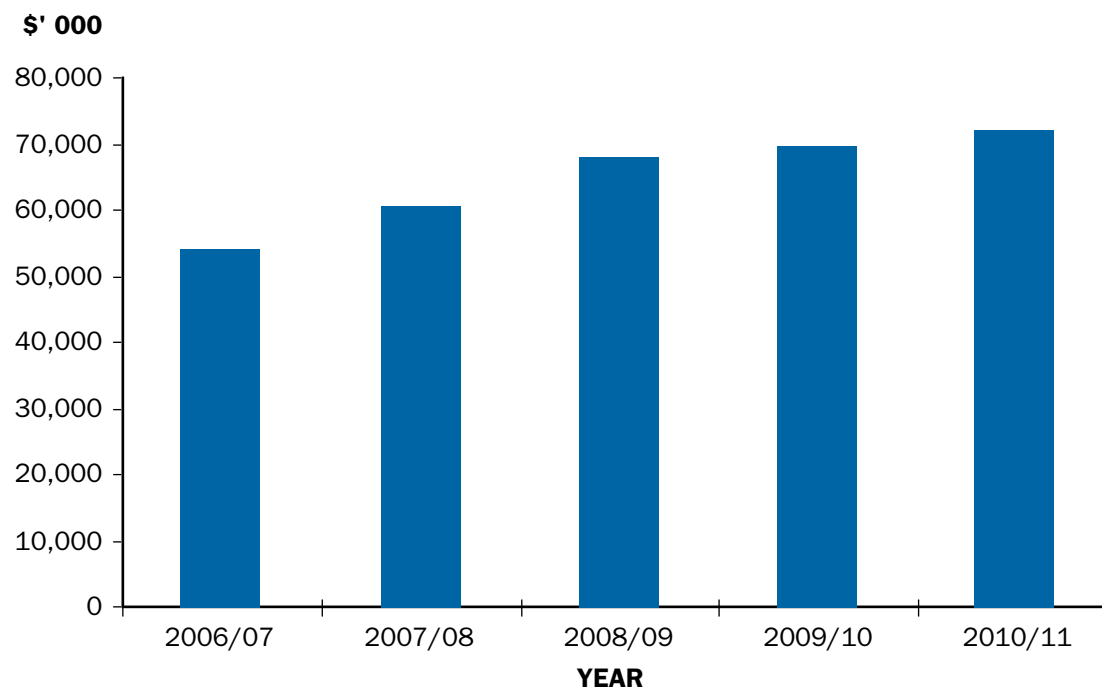


Table 9a.

EXPENDITURE - 5-YEAR TREND	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Employee Benefit Expenses	29,686	31,578	36,071	38,027	40,516
Supplies and Services	15,271	17,216	17,378	17,750	21,352
Depreciation and Amortisation	2,018	3,211	4,356	3,262	3,790
Finance Costs	89	76	59	140	253
Accommodation Expenses	1,273	1,867	1,996	2,092	2,071
Grants and Subsidies	3,992	3,752	4,172	5,099	3,476
FAS Buy-backs	345	1,491	3,176	2,566	170
Other Expenses	1,125	1,209	464	639	263
EXPENDITURE	53,799	60,400	67,672	69,575	71,891

Expenses by type

Figure 9b shows Departmental operating expenditure by type against comparative figures for the 2009/10 and 2010/11 years.

Figure 9b. Expenses by type

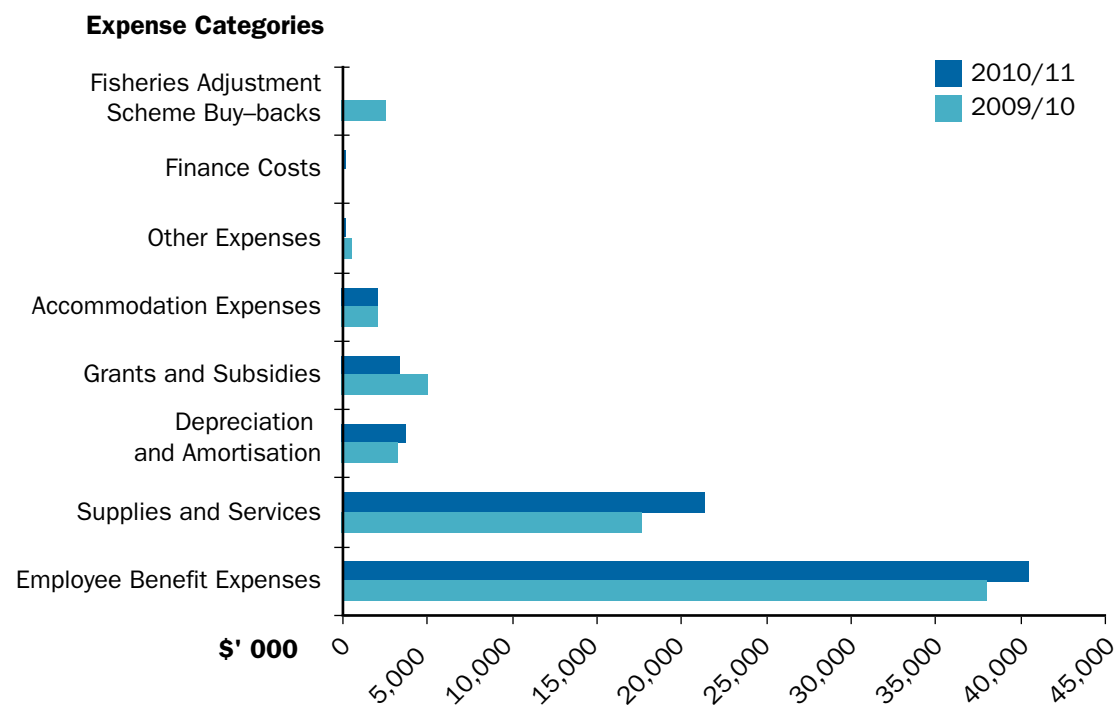


Table 9b.

EXPENSES BY CATEGORY	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Employee Benefit Expenses	29,686	31,578	36,071	38,027	40,516
Supplies and Services	15,271	17,216	17,378	17,750	21,352
Depreciation and Amortisation	2,018	3,211	4,356	3,262	3,790
Grants and Subsidies	3,992	3,752	4,172	5,099	3,476
Accommodation Expenses	1,273	1,867	1,996	2,092	2,071
Other Expenses	1,125	1,209	464	639	263
Finance Costs	89	76	59	140	253
Flisheries Adjustment Scheme Buy-backs	345	1,491	3,176	2,566	170
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	53,799	60,400	67,672	69,575	71,891

Employee benefit expenses – wages and salaries

Figure 10 presents an overview of the wages and salaries expenditure over the last five years highlighting that expenditure has increased by 30 per cent since 2007.

Figure 10. Employee benefit expenses – wages and salaries five-year trend

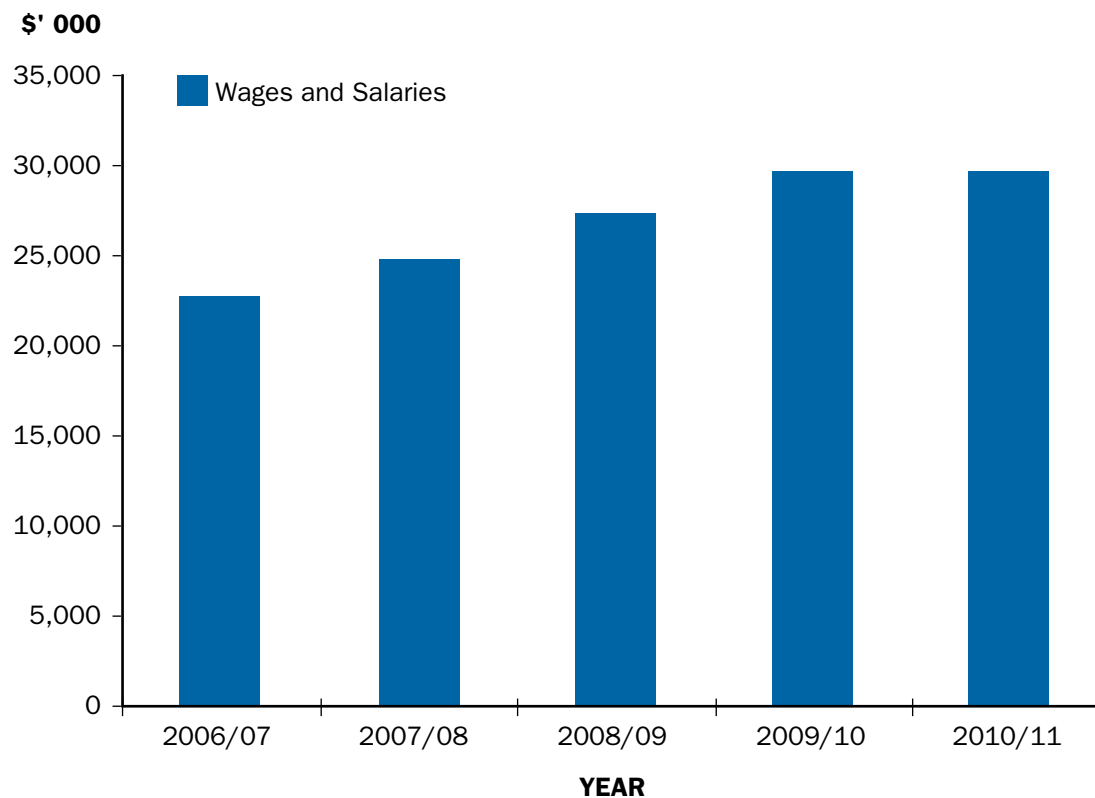


Table 10.

EMPLOYEE BENEFIT EXPENSES – WAGES AND SALARIES 5-YEAR TREND	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Wages and Salaries	22,668	24,784	27,306	29,582	29,609

Employee benefit expenses – annual leave, long service leave and superannuation

Figure 11 presents an overview of the other employee benefit expenditure over the last five years, highlighting that long service leave expense has increased by two and a half times the amount in 2009/10.

This increase in long service leave is due to an actuarial assessment that:

- Employees working for three years are likely to continue to a point where they earn long service leave, compared to five years in the previous assessment.
- Employees who have worked for 16 or more years in the WA public service are likely to remain employed in the public service.
- The future cost of leave when paid out or taken will be higher, due to award adjustments and inflation factors.

The increase in long service leave expense resulting from a change in long service leave recognition criteria should only be a once-off impact for 2010/11.

Figure 11. Employee benefit expenses – annual leave, long service leave and superannuation

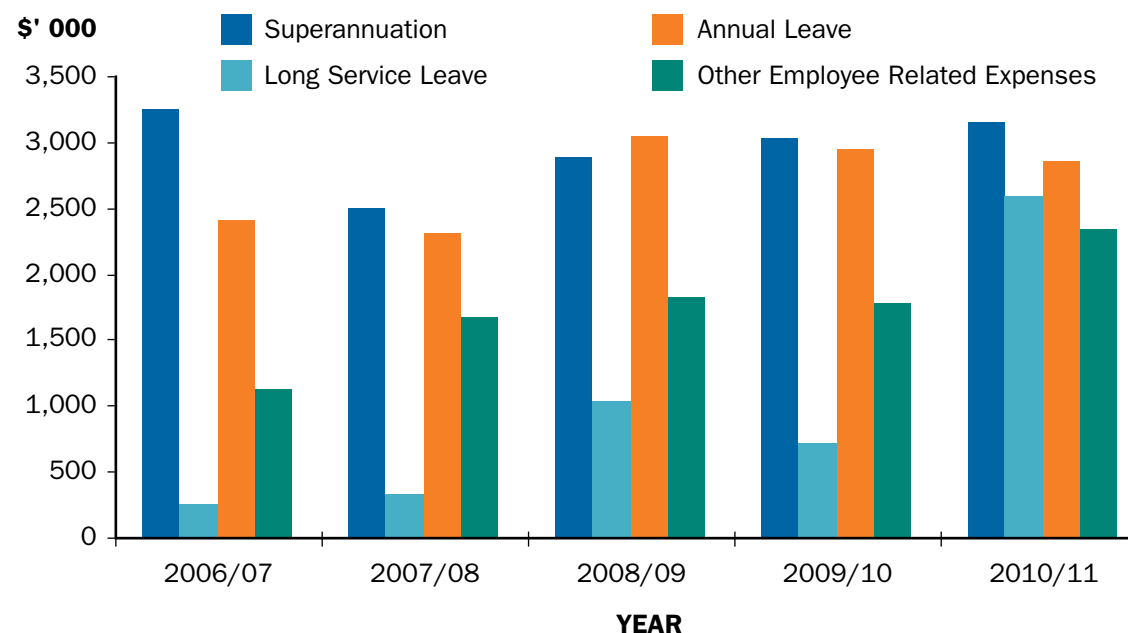


Table 11.

EMPLOYEE BENEFIT EXPENSES – ANNUAL LEAVE, LONG SERVICE LEAVE AND SUPERANNUATION	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Superannuation	3,244	2,494	2,877	3,028	3,149
Long Service Leave	249	332	1,035	710	2,578
Annual Leave	2,404	2,298	3,035	2,932	2,846
Other Employee-Related Expenses	1,121	1,670	1,818	1,775	2,334
TOTAL OTHER EMPLOYEE BENEFIT EXPENSES	29,686	31,578	36,071	38,027	40,516

Capital expenditure

Figure 12 presents an overview of capital expenditure over the last five years highlighting that capital expenditure fell by 39 per cent (\$3.45m) compared to 2009/10. The decreased expenditure is mainly due to some 2010/11 financial year expenditure, namely construction of the Denham building being deferred to 2011/12.

Figure 12. Capital expenditure – five-year trend

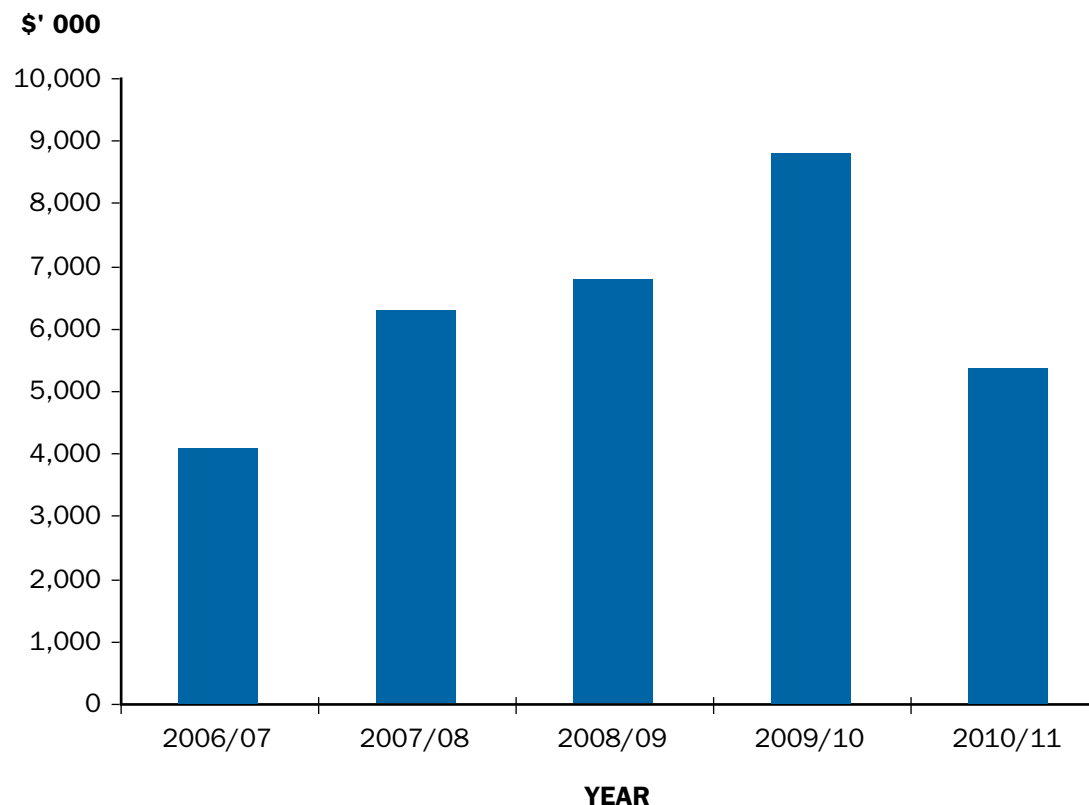


Table 12.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE – 5-YEAR TREND	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Capital Expenditure	4,086	6,287	6,790	8,792	5,337

Capital expenditure by asset class

Figure 13 shows departmental capital expenditure by asset class over the last five years.

Figure 13. Capital expenditure by asset class

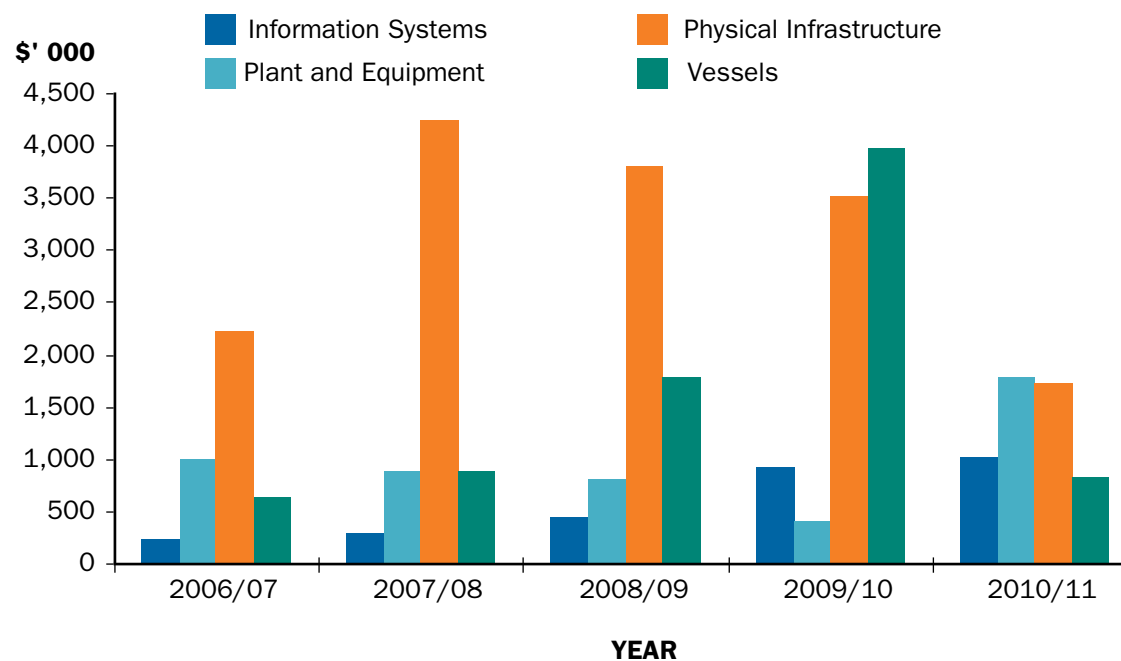


Table 13.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE BY ASSET CLASS	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Information Systems	238	291	436	926	1,010
Plant and Equipment	990	885	798	393	1,784
Physical Infrastructure	2,223	4,223	3,782	3,510	1,716
Vessels	635	888	1,774	3,963	827
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	4,086	6,287	6,790	8,792	5,337

Financial Position

The Statement of Financial Position shows what the Department owns (assets) as well as owes (liabilities). This is useful in assessing and analysing how good the Department is at managing its resources.

Financial position – five-year trend

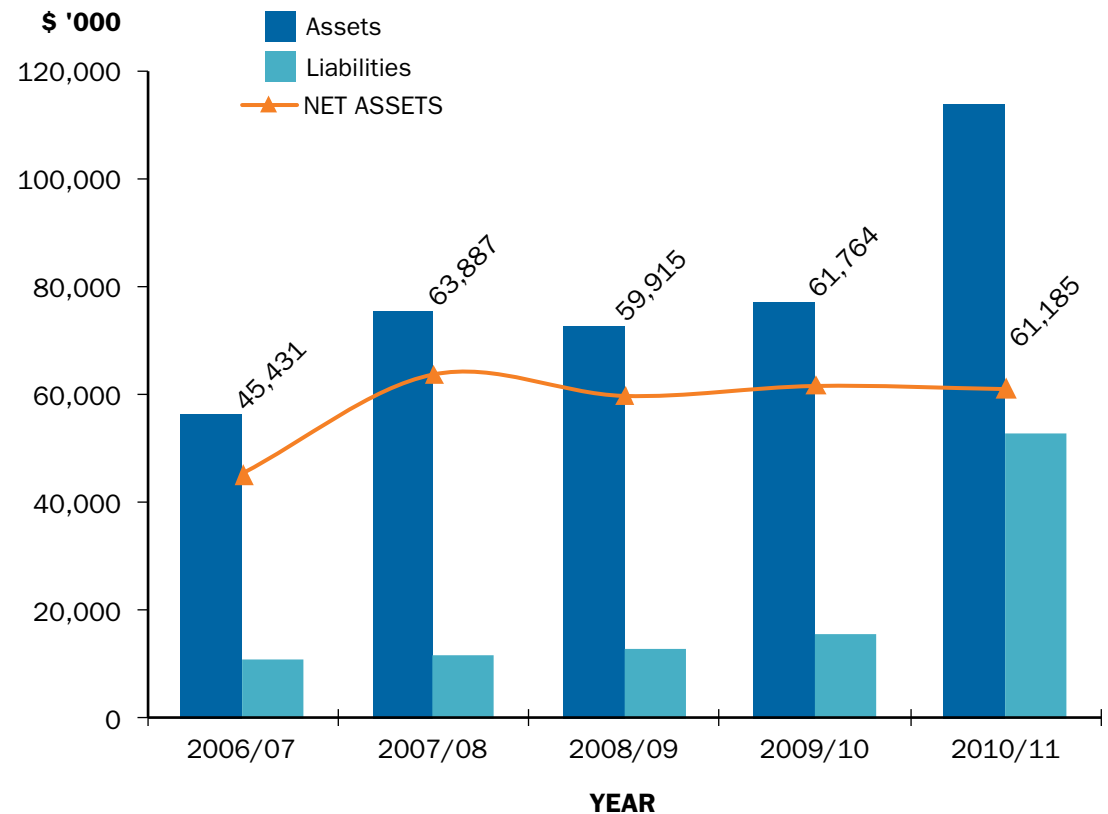
Figure 14 shows the value of the assets and liabilities, and net assets of the Department over the last five financial years.

The net assets of the Department is the difference between total assets and total liabilities and represents the residual interest in the assets after deducting the probable call on these resources, represented by liabilities.

Under the *Fisheries Adjustment Schemes Act 1987* the Department has the capacity to reduce effort in a fishery by acquiring commercial fishing authorisations. The Act allows the Department to borrow money from the Treasurer to purchase the authorisations. The fishers remaining in the relevant fisheries are required to pay additional fees to recover the outlays incurred by the Department. Under these schemes, outstanding amounts owing from fishers as at 30 June of the financial year are recognised as 'Amounts Receivable'.

In the 2010/11 year significant acquisitions occurred in the Shark Bay prawn, Shark Bay scallop and Abrolhos Island trawl fisheries. The borrowings relating to these schemes and the recognition of associated amounts receivable has impacted both assets and liabilities at 30 June 2011.

Figure 14. Financial position – five-year trend



Asset categories

The Department's assets as at 30 June 2011 are made up of property, plant and equipment (52 per cent), Fisheries Adjustment Scheme and trade receivables (35 per cent), cash (five per cent), and other assets like pre-payments and debtors (eight per cent). This is shown in Figure 15 against comparative figures for 2010/11.

Fisheries Adjustment Scheme 'receivables' relates to money owed to the Department from fisheries in Abrolhos Island, Exmouth and Shark Bay. This debt will be completely recovered in 2019. See also notes with respect to Figure 14.

Figure 15. Asset categories

As at 30 June 2011 and 30 June 2010

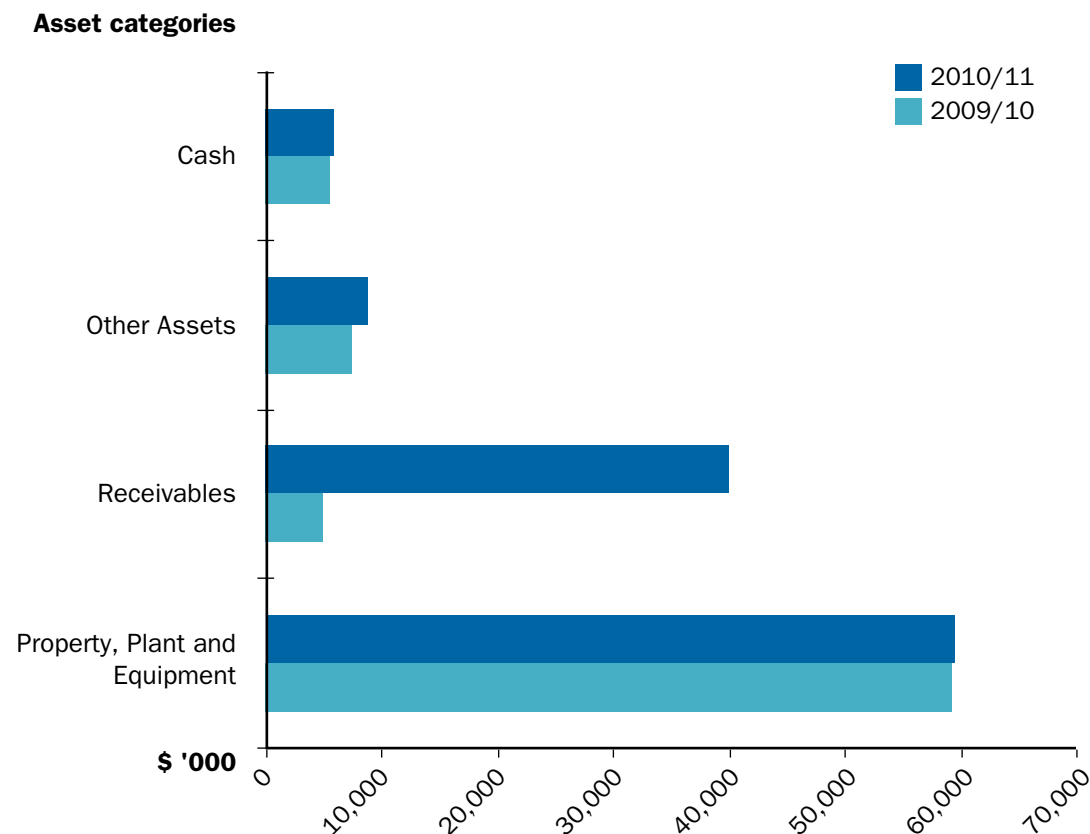


Table 14.

ASSET CATEGORIES	2009/10	2010/11	2010/11
	\$'000	\$'000	%
Property, Plant and Equipment	59,384	59,452	52%
Receivables	4,895	39,990	35%
Other Assets	7,518	8,737	8%
Cash	5,480	5,825	5%
TOTAL ASSETS	77,277	114,004	100%

Liability categories

The liabilities of the Department are mainly employee entitlements (21 per cent) and borrowings under the Fisheries Adjustment Scheme (72 per cent). This is shown in Figure 16.

The amount 'owed' under Fisheries Adjustment Scheme will reduce in the out-years with the final instalments due in 2018/19.

See also notes with respect to Figure 14.

Figure 16. Liability categories

As at 30 June 2011 and 30 June 2010

Liability categories

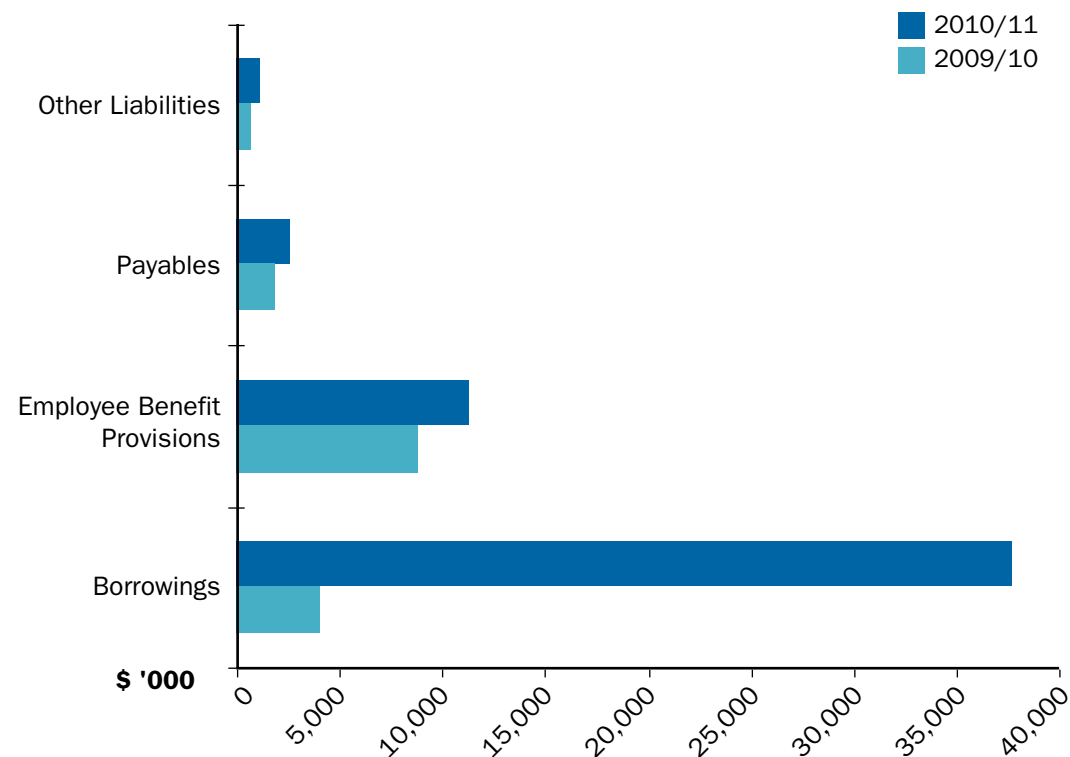


Table 15.

LIABILITY CATEGORIES	2009/10	2010/11	2010/11
	\$'000	\$'000	%
Borrowings	4,027	37,765	72%
Employee Benefit Provisions	8,845	11,274	21%
Payables	1,907	2,607	5%
Other Liabilities	734	1,173	2%
TOTAL LIABILITIES	15,513	52,819	100%

Bank account composition

Figure 17 shows what accounts make up the amounts showing as cash assets at 30 June 2011.

Figure 17. Bank account composition

As at 30 June 2011 (\$5.82 million)

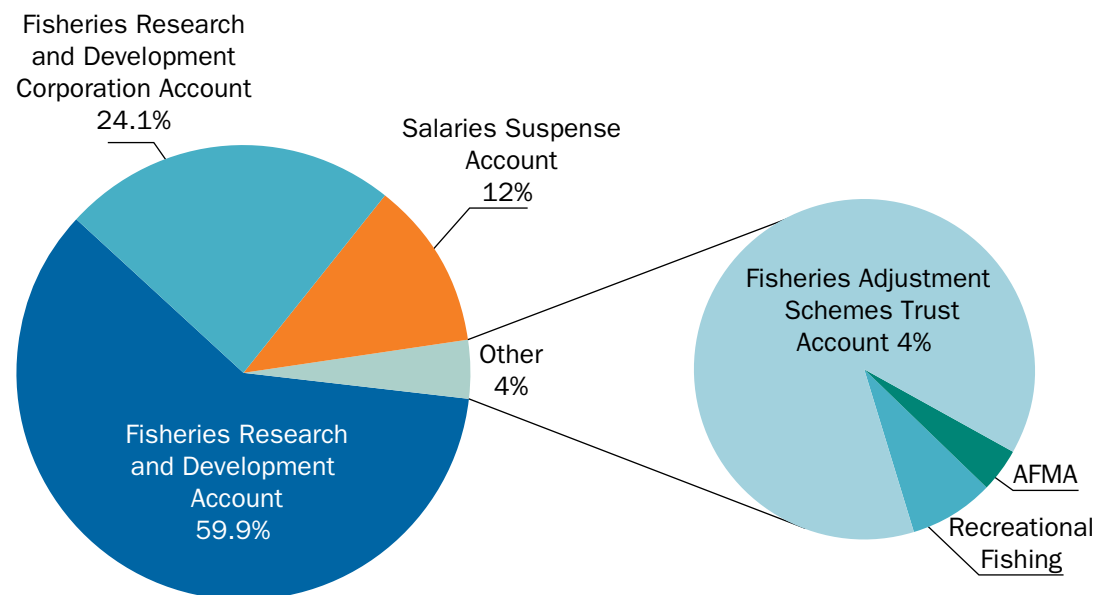


Table 16.

BANK ACCOUNT COMPOSITION	2010/11	2010/11
	\$'000	%
Fisheries Research and Development Account	3,486	59.9%
Fisheries Research and Development Corporation Account	1,406	24.1%
Fisheries Adjustment Schemes Trust Account	231	4.0%
Recreational Fishing Account	10	0.2%
AFMA Account	20	0.3%
Salaries Suspense Account	672	11.5%
TOTAL	5,825	100%

Employee benefit provisions ratio

Employee entitlements are what is owed to employees for annual and long service leave. The Department has had increasing staffing levels since 2007 as well as increasing salary levels. The liability for employee entitlements has increased by 27 per cent in the 2010/11 financial year mainly due to an actuarial assessment of long service leave, which resulted in an increase in the provision and leave expense.

The employee benefit provisions ratio in Figure 18 is the total employee benefit provisions divided by equity. As a result of increasing long service leave, this ratio has also increased by four percentage points in 2010/11.

The Department has been working in recent years to reduce its leave liability in accordance with Government policy and this will continue into the future.

Figure 18. Employee benefit provisions ratio

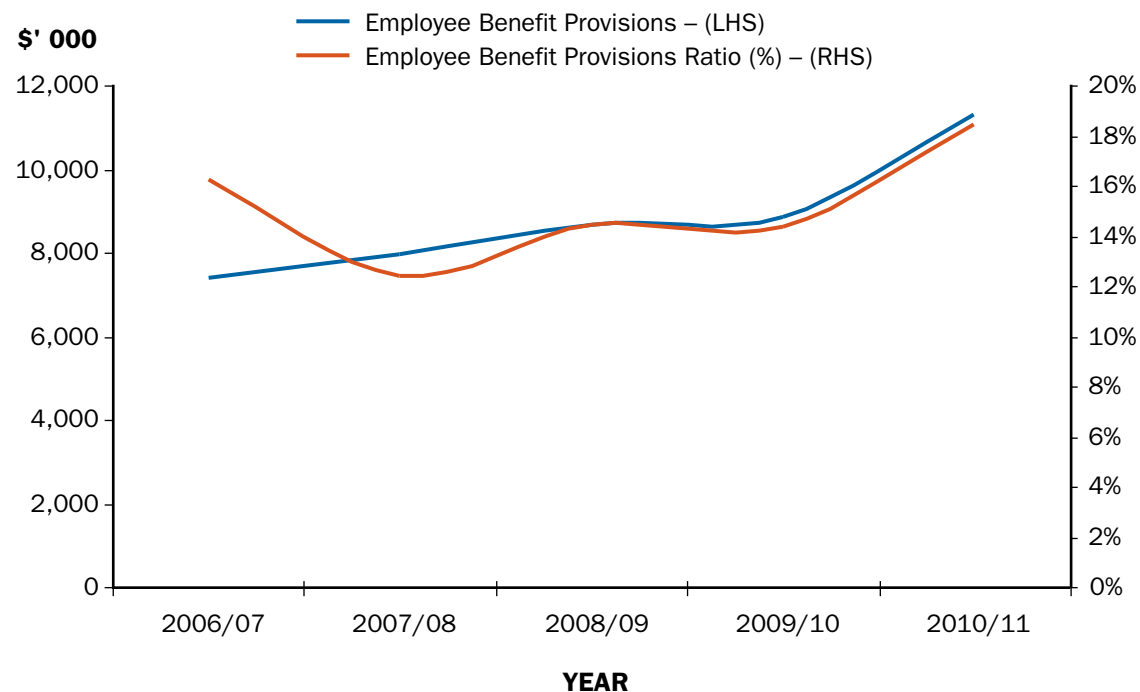


Table 17.

EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PROVISIONS RATIO	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Employee Benefit Provisions – (LHS)	7,390	7,932	8,661	8,845	11,274
Employee Benefit Provisions Ratio (%) – (RHS)	16%	12%	14%	14%	18%

Fish Pies (and Other Graphs)

The following is a snapshot of fisheries management and operations carried out by the Department of Fisheries, represented graphically using pie charts and other graphs.

Values of the State's major fisheries and aquaculture

Figure 19. Managed Fisheries by Gross Value Product (\$'000) in 2009/10

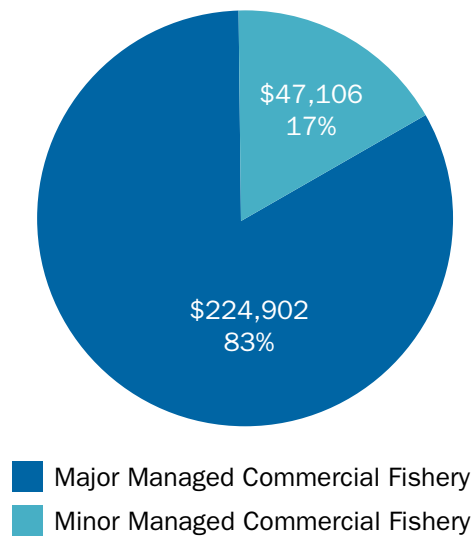


Figure 20. Major Commercial Fisheries by Gross Value Product (\$'000) in 2009/10

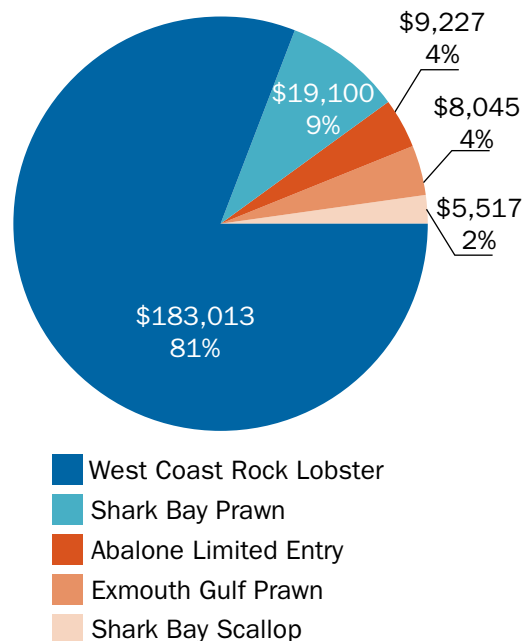


Figure 21. Minor Commercial Fisheries by Gross Value Product (\$'000) in 2009/10

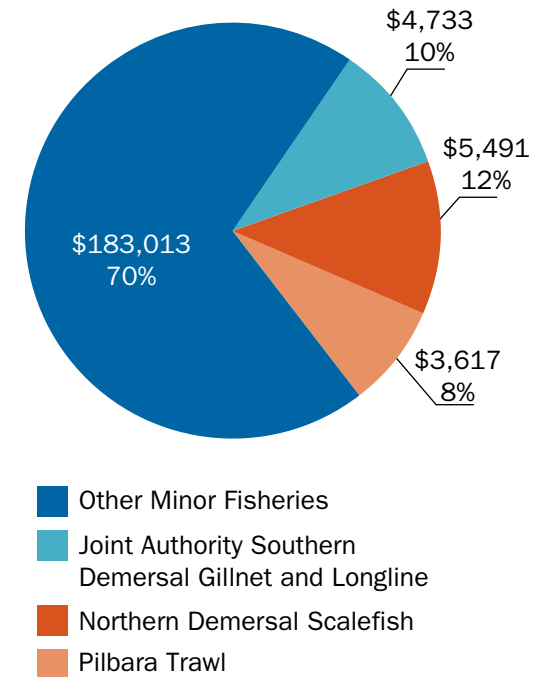


Figure 22. Aquaculture and Pearling by Gross Value Product (\$'000) in 2009/10

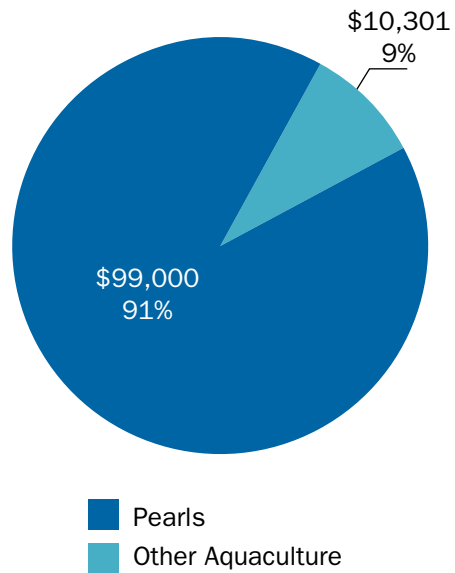
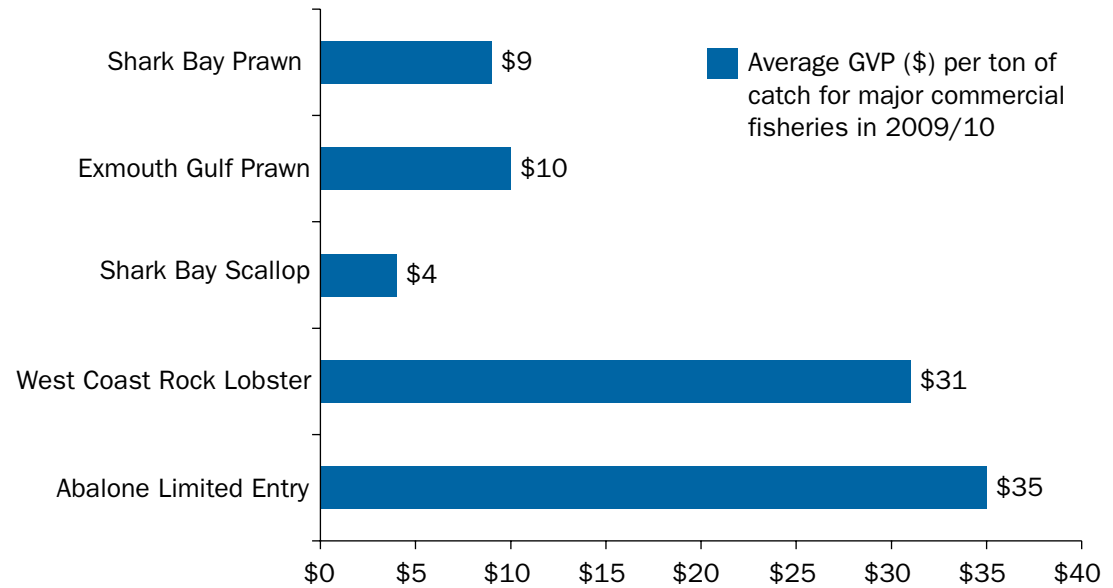
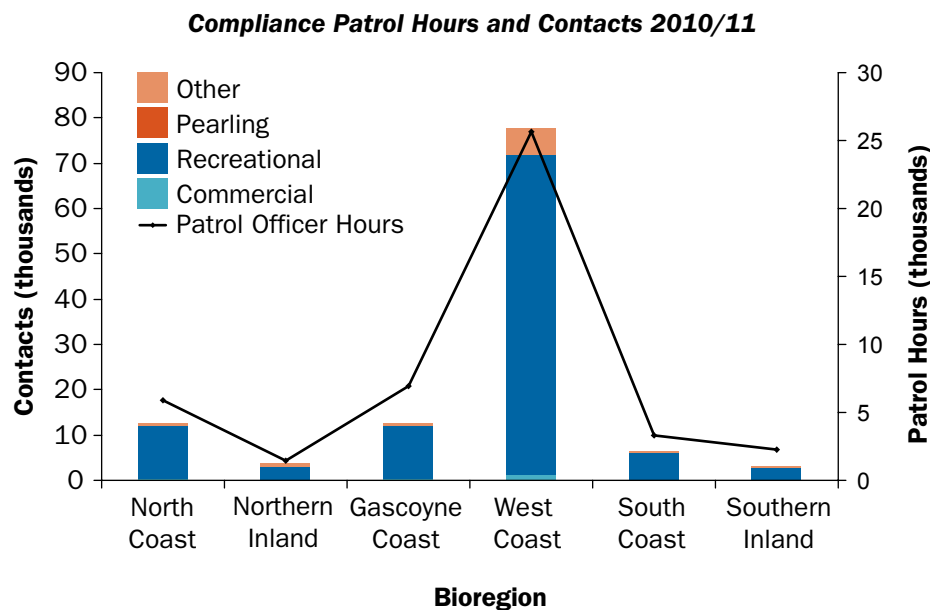


Figure 23. Major Commercial Fisheries – Gross Value Product (\$) per ton of catch in 2009/10



Summary of compliance and educative contacts within the fisheries bioregions during the 2010/11 financial year

Figure 24. Number of contacts (in thousands) by the Department of Fisheries' Fisheries and Marine Officers in each fisheries bioregion (shown using bars) and number of patrol hours (in thousands) recorded (shown using a line)



Key compliance statistics – 2010/11

Figure 25. Number of offences in each bioregion (shown using bars) and number of patrol hours (in thousands) recorded (shown using a line)

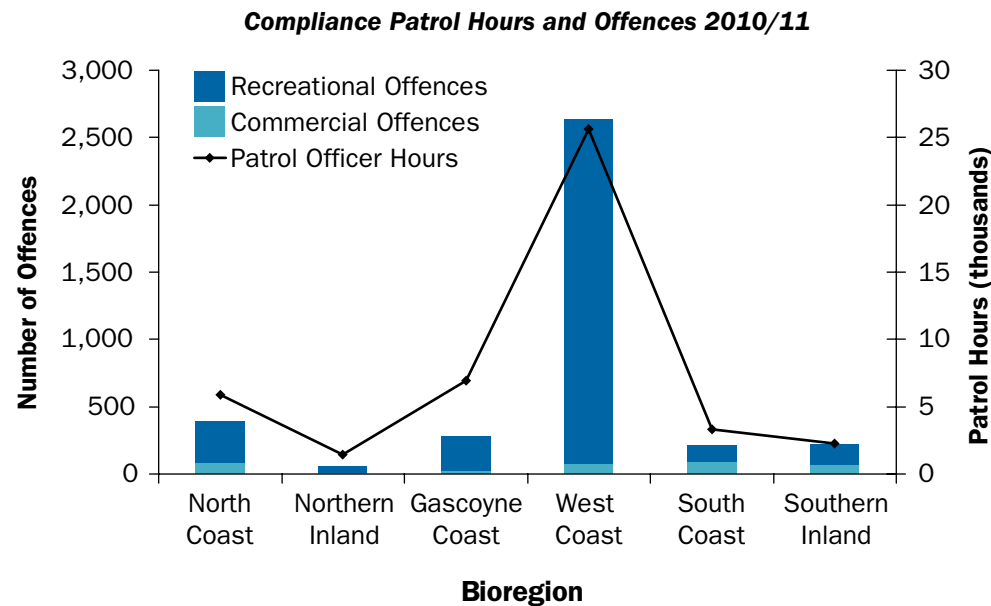


Figure 26. Number of offences in each bioregion (shown using bars) and number of contacts (in thousands) recorded (shown using a line)

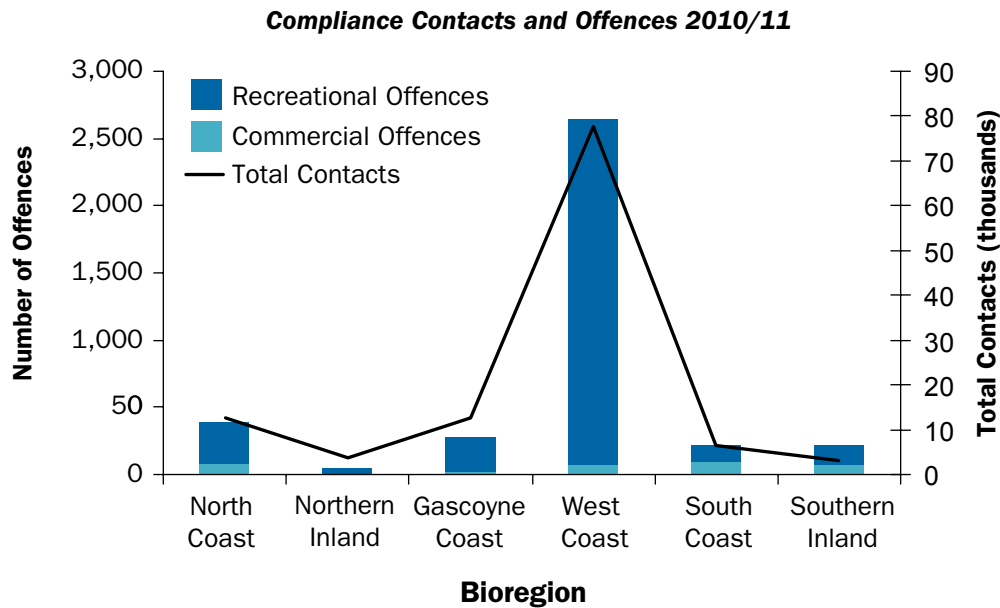
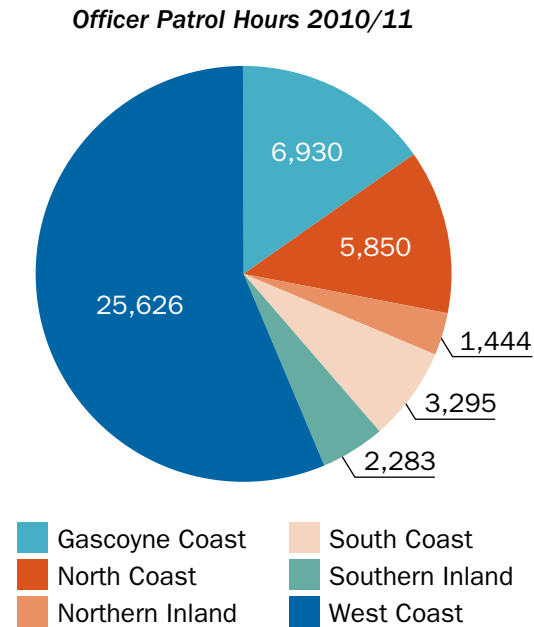


Figure 27. Patrol hours delivered to each bioregion during 2010/11 financial year



Note: This chart includes all time spent on compliance-related tasks, e.g. investigations, prosecution, etc. The hours spent in the West Coast Bioregion includes time spent on the West Coast Rock Lobster Fishery.

Figure 28. Number of contacts across all bioregions for 2010/11

All Regions Number of Contacts 2010/11

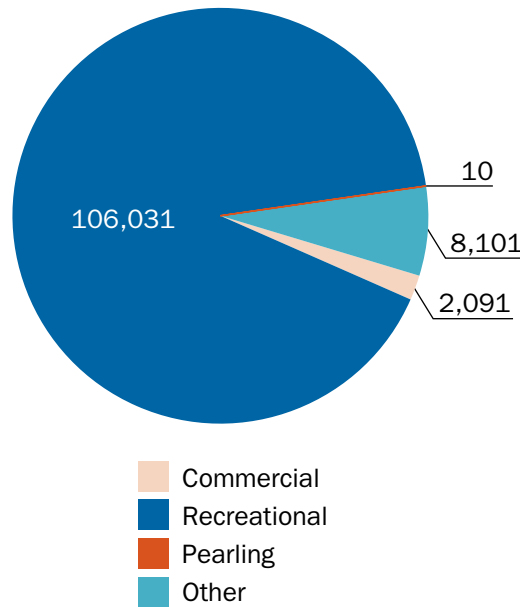


Figure 29. Number of recreational contacts by bioregion

Recreational Contacts by Bioregion 2010/11

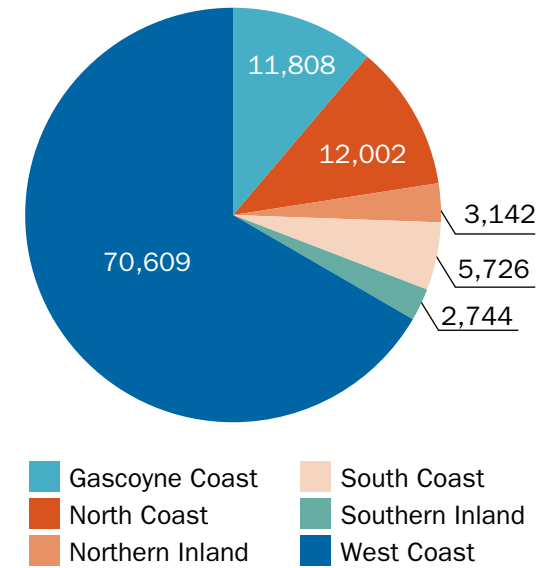


Figure 30. Number of commercial contacts by bioregion

Commercial Contacts by Bioregion 2010/11

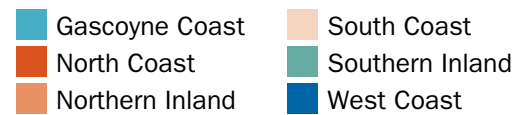
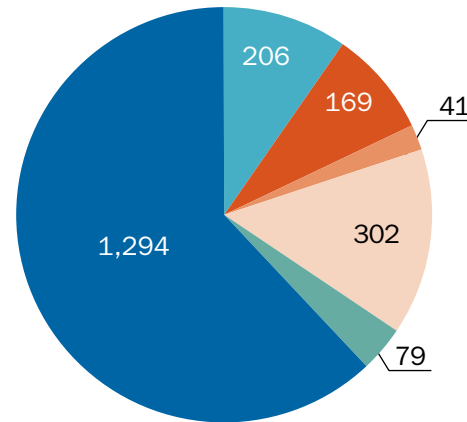
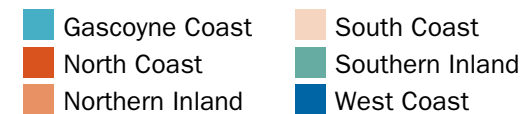
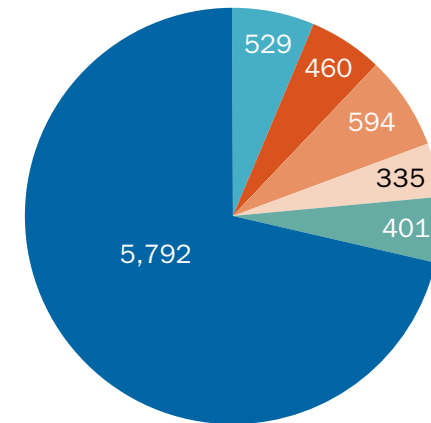


Figure 31. Number of other contacts by bioregion

Other Contacts by Bioregion 2010/11



Note: Commercial West Coast Rock Lobster Fishery contacts are included in the West Coast Bioregion. Contacts are classified according to the specific fishery, which is usually clearly delineated as being either commercial or recreational.

The 'Other' category is used where multiple fisheries are contacted and it is not possible to accurately classify the contacts into one specific fishery – typically, the majority of these contacts are recreational in nature (e.g. personal contacts in Marine Parks), but contacts made in relation to fish kills, shark patrols and inspections of commercial fish wholesale and retail premises, etc. are also included in this category. This includes contacts made by *PV Hamelin* and *PV McLaughlin*. Contacts made by *PV Walcott* are included in North Coast Bioregion.

Key compliance statistics – 2008/09 to 2010/11

Table 18.

Commercial

Mode of compliance breach	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Prosecutions	23	41	22
Infringements	104	72	43
Infringements – warnings	242	172	67

Figure 32. Commercial compliance breaches

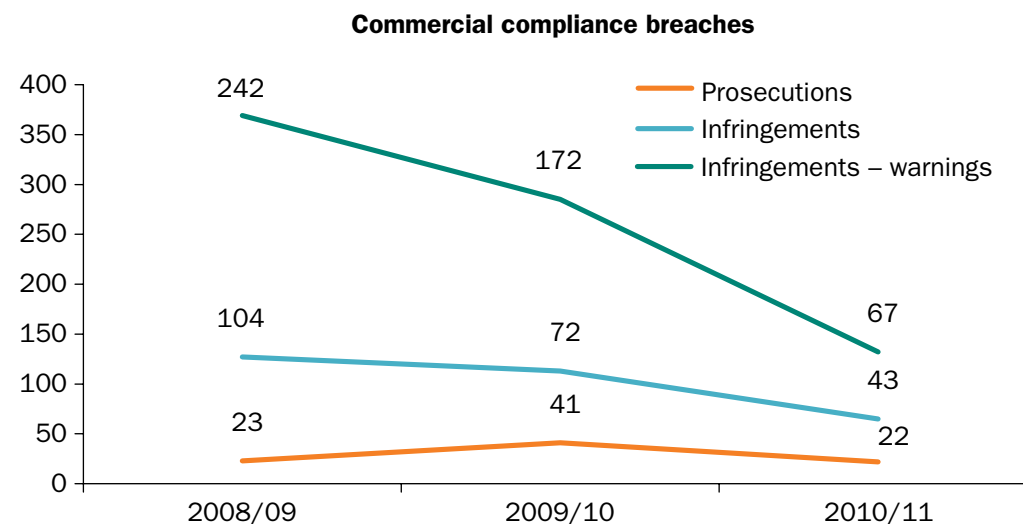
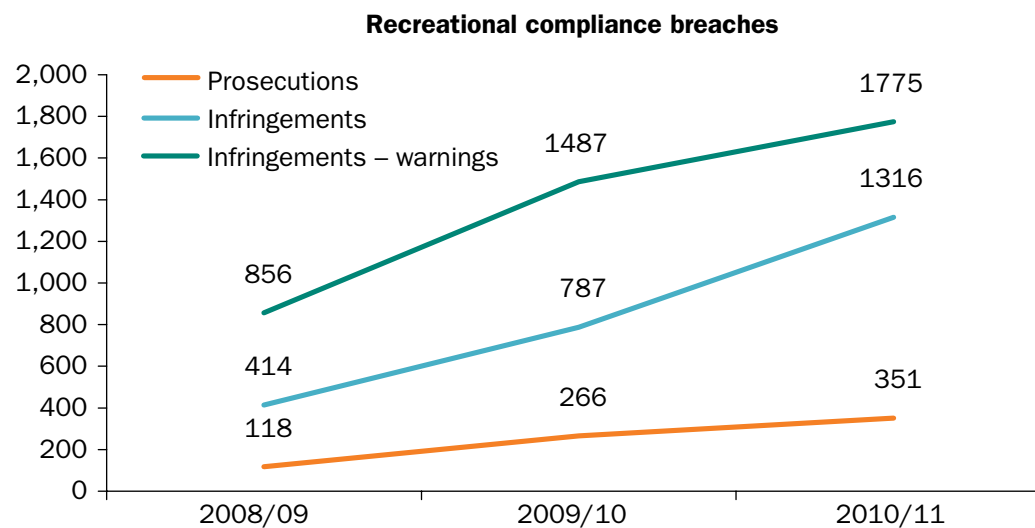


Table 19.

Recreational

Mode of compliance breach	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Prosecutions	118	266	351
Infringements	414	787	1316
Infringements – warnings	856	1487	1775

Figure 33. Recreational compliance breaches



Key licensing statistics

Figure 34. Recreational licence renewal modes

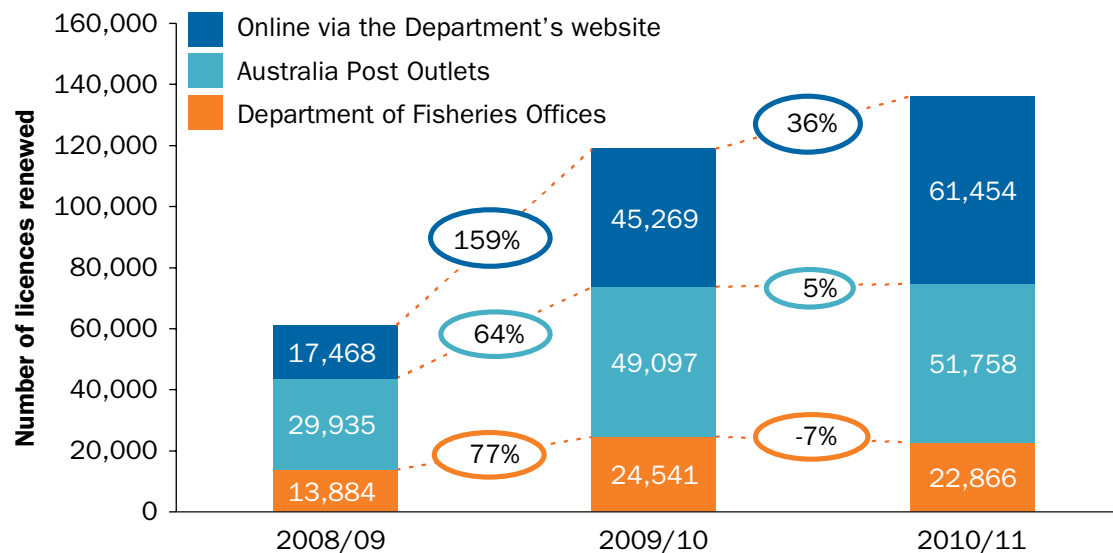


Table 20.

Recreational Licence Renewal Modes	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Department of Fisheries' Offices	13,884	24,541	22,866
Australia Post Outlets	29,935	49,097	51,758
On-line via the Department's website	17,468	45,269	61,454



In 2010/11 a combined total of 94 per cent of the major commercial fisheries in WA have breeding stock management that is considered satisfactory. Photo: Eloise Dortch

OVERVIEW OF AGENCY

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Profile of the Department of Fisheries

Vision: World-class management of fisheries and aquatic ecosystems.

Mission: To conserve, sustainably develop and share the use of the State's aquatic resources and their ecosystems for the benefit of present and future generations.

Our message to the community: Fish for the future.

The Department of Fisheries manages the marine and freshwater fisheries and ecosystems within the limits of the State. By agreement with the Commonwealth, the Department has unique management responsibilities within Australian waters out to 200 nautical miles from the Western Australian coast. This allows for management on a spatial scale that is appropriate to the sustainable management and protection of the State's fish resources and their environment.

The principles of Ecologically Sustainable Development, as contained in the objects of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*, guide the Department in its operations. These objects involve managing human impacts on both target

and bycatch fish species and their habitats, and assessing and limiting any potential indirect impacts of fishing and aquaculture activities on the broader ecosystem. It also includes managing social and economic impacts of fishing and aquaculture activity.

The Department works in the present-day context of limited fish and environmental resources, and a growing human 'footprint' on the aquatic environment. Factors with increasing impact include a growing population, developing coastal infrastructure, industrial development, rapidly advancing 'fish-finding' technology and climate change.

As a result of the Department's activities, around 80 per cent of WA's marine waters are protected through fishing closures or controls on fishing methods that can impact directly on marine habitats (for example, trawling) and are totally closed to highly-destructive fishing methods (for example, dredging and explosives). The Department ensures compliance with fishing rules and controls through an active community education and enforcement program.

The Department's services are delivered in a context of increasing aquatic management accountability. This includes accountability to the Commonwealth government through reporting requirements established under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

The Department values consultation with stakeholders and works with partners to develop management practices able to stand up to domestic, national and international scrutiny.

In this report to the Parliament and the community, the Department presents its summary of operations and outcomes during the 2010/11 financial year, based around the State Government's Annual Reporting Framework.

Legislation Administered

The Department assists the Minister for Fisheries in the administration of the following Acts:

- *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*
- *Pearling Act 1990*
- *Fisheries Adjustment Schemes Act 1987*
- *Fishing and Related Industries Compensation (Marine Reserves) Act 1997*
- *Fishing Industry Promotion Training and Management Levy Act 1994*

The Department is also responsible for the management of fishing (and related activities) in marine protected areas established under the *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984*, and

provides at-sea marine safety compliance services on behalf of the Department of Transport under the *Western Australian Marine Act 1982*.

By arrangement with the Commonwealth, the Department has management responsibilities for a number of fisheries undertaken in waters adjacent to the Western Australian coast out to 200 nautical miles.

The Department also provides fisheries management and education services in the territorial waters around both Cocos (Keeling) and Christmas Islands, on behalf of the Commonwealth Attorney General's Department, in accordance with a Service Delivery Arrangement made under the Commonwealth's *Fish Resources Management Act 1994 (WA) (Cocos Keeling Islands)* or the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994 (WA) (Christmas Island)*.

Fisheries in Western Australia that fall under State or joint State/Commonwealth jurisdiction under the Offshore Constitutional Settlement Agreement are listed below.

Fisheries under Western Australia State Jurisdiction

Except where specifically noted, fisheries involving the following species are managed by the Department of Fisheries, in accordance with State law:

- All bony fish and shark (except to the extent they are managed under a Joint Authority or by the Commonwealth).

- All aquatic invertebrates.
- All marine algae.
- All seagrasses.

In effect this means all commercial fisheries listed in the 'Stock Status and Catch Ranges for Major Commercial Fisheries' table detailed later in this report.

In addition the Department manages recreational and customary fishing activities, pearling and aquaculture operations, the fish processing industry sector, the fishing charter boat and aquatic eco-tour industries, Fish Habitat Protection Areas and the Abrolhos Islands.

With the exception of pearling, the above activities are managed in accordance with the provisions of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*. The pearling industry is managed under the *Pearling Act 1990*.

Operators in commercial fisheries, the pearling industry, the charter boat and aquatic eco-tour industries and the fish processing sector are required to be licensed by the Department.

Recreational fishers are required to hold licences when fishing for western rock lobster, abalone, marron, inland freshwater species, when fishing from a powered boat or when fishing with a net.

Aboriginal people fishing in accordance with continuing Aboriginal tradition and custom are not required to hold a recreational fishing licence.

Fisheries under Western Australia Joint Authority Jurisdiction

The following fisheries are controlled jointly by the Western Australian Fisheries Joint Authority (a body comprising the State and the Commonwealth) and managed in accordance with the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*:

- the Joint Authority Southern Demersal Gillnet and Demersal Longline Fishery; and
- the Joint Authority Northern Shark Fishery, east of Koolan Island.

The activities of fisheries managed through the Joint Authority are described separately in a report tabled in the Commonwealth and Western Australian Parliaments.

Fisheries under Commonwealth Jurisdiction

The following list shows fisheries undertaken in waters adjacent to Western Australia that are controlled by the Commonwealth in accordance with Commonwealth legislation:

- Northern Prawn Fishery.
- Southern and Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery.
- Western Deepwater Trawl Fishery.
- North-West Slope Deepwater Trawl Fishery.
- Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery.
- Recreational fishing in the waters of any Commonwealth Marine Park.

Stakeholders

All those that have a stake in Western Australia's aquatic environment have a role to play in ensuring that fish stocks and their habitats are protected, both now and in the future. Stakeholders are encouraged to participate in fisheries management and



594,000 people in WA went recreational fishing at least once in the previous 12-month period. Photo: Ben Carlish

consultation, in particular via 'peak' representative bodies, such as the Western Australian Fishing Industry Council and Recfishwest, which is considered essential to balance the often-competing demands on the use of the State's fish resources and their habitats.

The Department of Fisheries identifies the following groups as its stakeholders with an interest in ensuring 'fish for the future':

- The community of Western Australia.
- Commercial fishers.
- Recreational fishers.
- Indigenous communities.
- Charter fishing and aquatic eco-tour operators.
- Fish processors and others involved in the commercial utilisation of Western Australia's aquatic resources.
- Pearlers.
- Aquaculturalists.
- The conservation sector.
- Fisheries volunteers.
- Environmental groups and passive users.
- Businesses and communities directly and indirectly dependent upon fishing and aquaculture activities.
- Other state, national and international government agencies and tertiary institutions.

Operating Environment – Significant Issues Impacting the Agency

.....
Significant issues impacting on fisheries and fisheries management during 2010/11 and likely to be of influence in the future include:
.....

- Record-low puerulus (young lobster) settlement within the boundaries of the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery has led to intensive management action to cap the total catch in the fishery at around half the historical catch levels during the 2010/11 fishing season, with the aim of leaving more breeding stock in the water and increasing egg production. A decision has also been taken to introduce Individual Transferrable Quota into the fishery commencing in the 2013/14 fishing season.
- Recreational and commercial fishing are continuing to put pressure on the sustainability of iconic fish species such as dhufish, pink snapper, baldchin groper and blue swimmer crabs, warranting extended strong management intervention from the Department.



Baldchin groper above coral. Photo: Shannon Conway

- Obtaining the required knowledge and sound science to support decision-making and achieve ecologically sustainable fisheries management remains a challenge for the Department. This highlights the need for effective coordination of the State's marine research efforts to ensure that research activities are being prioritised and funded according to risk levels and community needs.
- Aquaculture industries have the potential to significantly increase fish production, as the demand for high-quality seafood grows while the harvest from most wild-capture fisheries worldwide is declining. The Department is working with the aquaculture sector to identify suitable sites and species for these industries.
- The level of risk of introduced marine and freshwater pest diseases, together with responsibilities under national biosecurity agreements, present a range of new tasks for the Department that require careful management.
- Difficult economic conditions, including increased costs of fuel and the high-value Australian dollar, are affecting export markets and having an impact on the profitability of fishing operations. The Department of Fisheries and the fishing industry are working on strategies to improve the economic sustainability of fishing operations.
- A growing Western Australian population is placing ever-increasing pressure on recreational fish species and the marine environment – and on the Department to deliver effective community education and compliance. This issue highlights the need for more cost-effective integrated management solutions for commercial and recreational fishing, recreational boating activities and the expanding marine park network.
- Commonwealth Government proposals to establish large-scale marine parks in Commonwealth waters (i.e. outside of three nautical miles) have the potential to create uncertainty for a number of the Department's stakeholders.

Operational Structure

The Department of Fisheries' operating structure consists of a Corporate Executive comprising the Chief Executive Officer and the directors of the Department's four divisions – Aquatic Management, Fisheries Research, Regional Services and Corporate Services.

Process Structure

The Department of Fisheries deals with a variety of complex issues that impact upon the sustainable management of the State's fish resources. To deal with these issues, the Department supports a number of integrated processes designed to facilitate planning, priority setting and project management across all divisions to our four key service areas – fisheries management, research and monitoring, compliance and education, and marine safety services.

The Department's staff and volunteers provide a conduit for public interaction and communication.



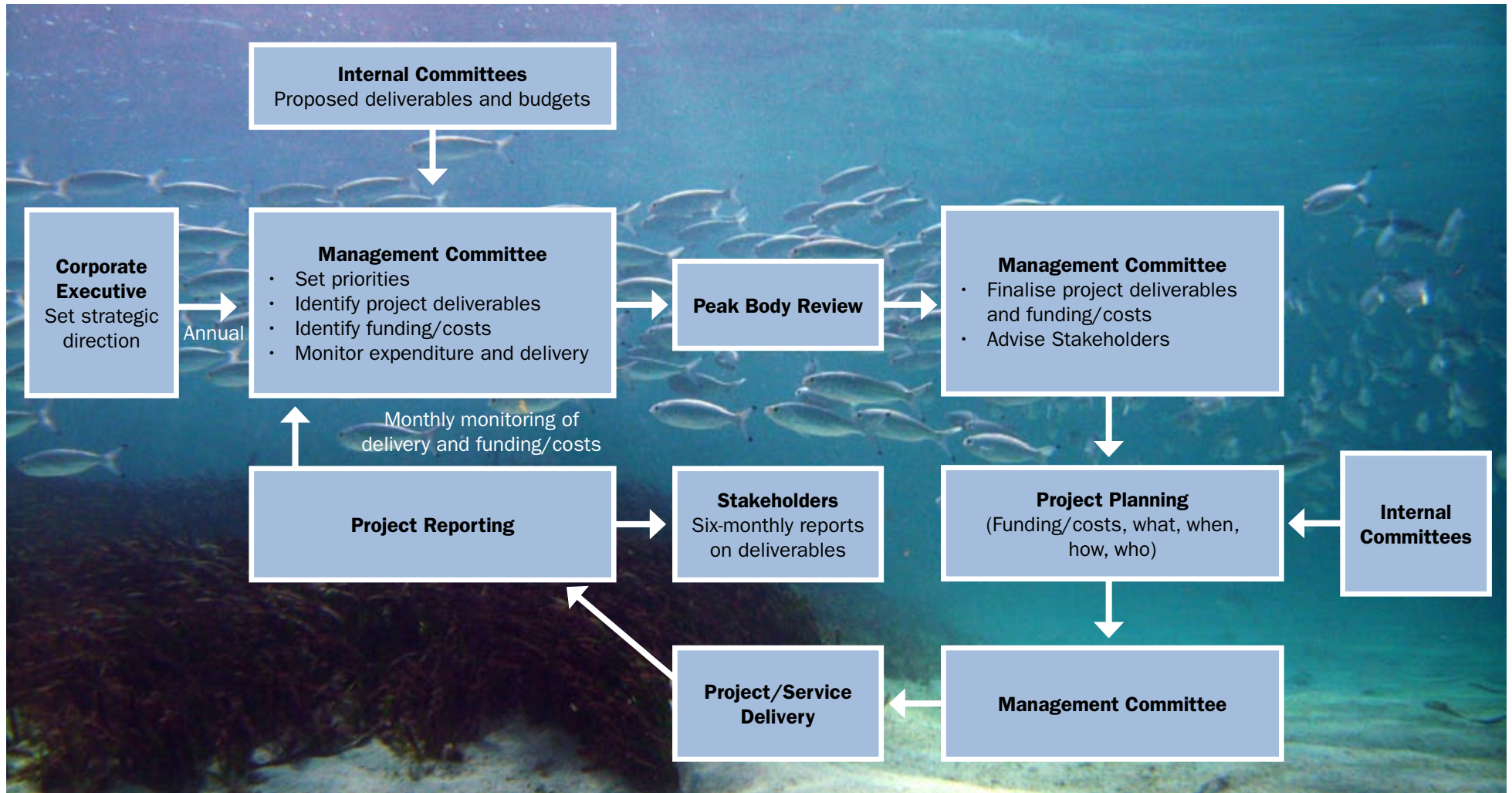
Fisheries ambassador Glen Jakovich demonstrating how to best fillet a fish. Photo: Matthew Terwey

Figure 35. Process Structure within the Department

Governing Factors

- Minister/Government Priority
- Aquatic Advisory Committee
- Risk Register
- Stakeholder Priorities
- Strategic Plan

Fish for the future



Corporate Executive

.....
The Corporate Executive is responsible for establishing the strategic directions of the Department. It gives consideration to a range of information in establishing strategic priorities, including risk information derived from the Department's Risk Register of ecological and organisational assets, stakeholder priorities and Government policy. This strategic direction is reflected in the Department's Strategic Plan.
.....

Management Committee

The Management Committee is responsible for setting the work program of the Department of Fisheries to ensure optimum delivery against identified aquatic management priorities within a five-year planning horizon. Its role includes taking a strategic and risk-based approach to establishing priorities; setting clear deliverables and associated budgets; coordinating departmental project planning, management, monitoring and reporting processes; and ensuring accountability for effective and efficient service delivery across the Department. The membership of the Management

Committee includes the Department's four directors, the general manager of the Aquatic Management division and two external members to provide independent governance and non-Western Australian based fisheries expertise.

Internal Audit Committee

The Internal Audit Committee (IAC) maintains and manages the Department's internal audit function on behalf of the Chief Executive Officer. The committee assists the Chief Executive Officer to manage the process of identifying and quantifying risks that have the potential to impede the Department in achieving its goals, and to guide the development and implementation of risk mitigation strategies.

Aquatic Advisory Committee

The Aquatic Advisory Committee provides strategic advice on issues relating to the management of fisheries and aquatic resources as requested by the Minister or the Department's Chief Executive Officer.

Public consultation

The Department is committed to continuing consultation with fisheries stakeholders and to ensuring efficient and effective participatory decision-making processes are maintained. It supports the initiative of the State Government's *WA Citizenship Strategy 2004–2009* and utilises the guidelines in the *Consulting Citizens: Planning for Success* and *Consulting Citizens: Engaging with Aboriginal Western Australians* to plan specific consultation programs.

The Department of Fisheries' Operations

The Department operates from its Head Office in the Perth central business district and in other metropolitan and regional areas as follows:

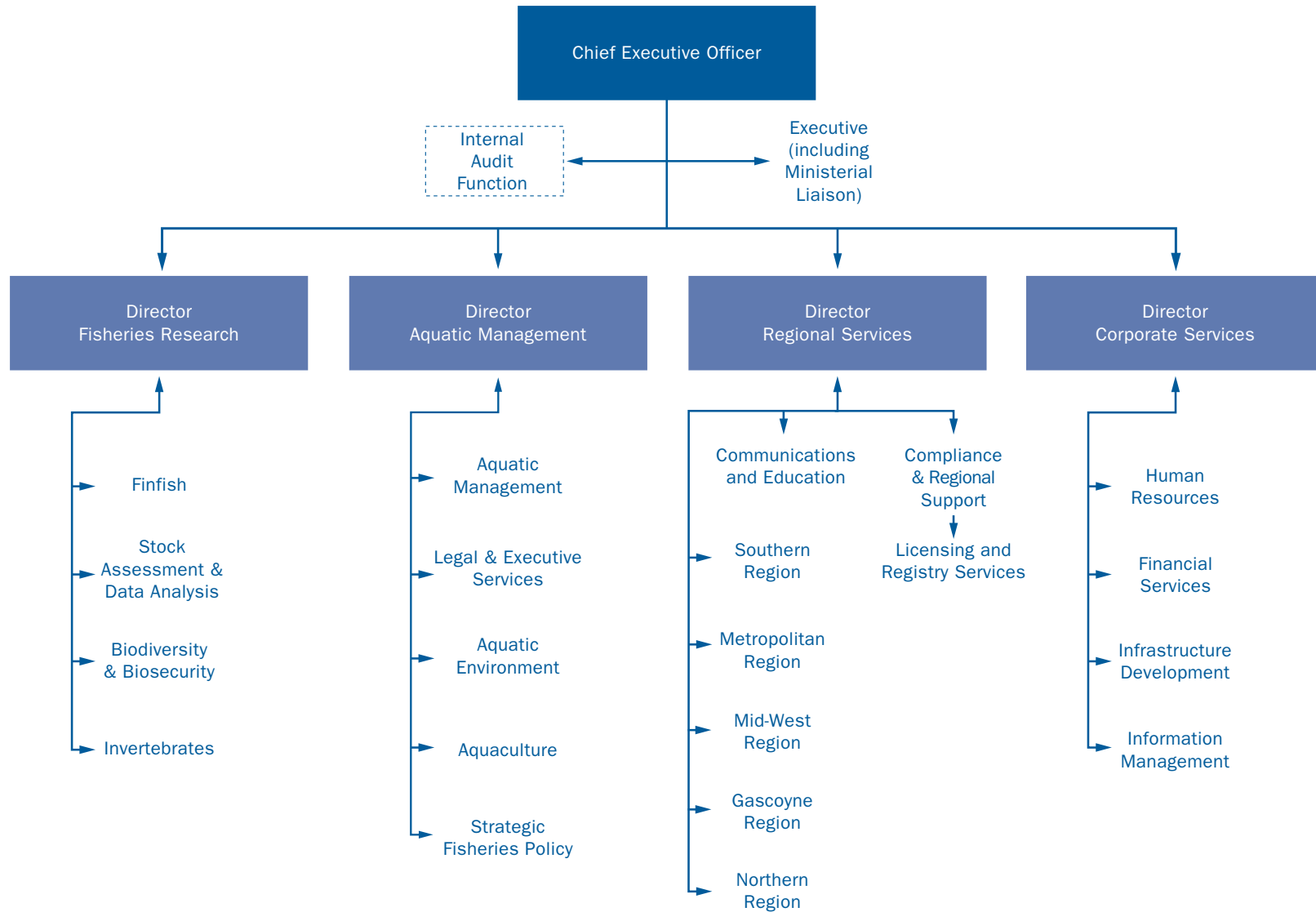
- The Fisheries Research Division operates from the Western Australian Fisheries and Marine Research Laboratories at Hillarys and the Pemberton Freshwater Research Centre. The Department's Naturaliste Marine Discovery Centre is located at Hillarys, as is the Department's Communications and Education Branch. The Regional Services Branch also maintains a compliance presence at Hillarys.
- The Marine Operations Centre and the Metropolitan Regional Office operate from premises in Capo D'Orlando Drive in Fremantle.



The Department of Fisheries' Marine Operations Centre and Metropolitan Regional office. Photo: Steve Ireland

- The Regional Services Division has five regional offices located at Broome, Carnarvon, Geraldton, Fremantle and Albany, and 12 district offices located throughout the State.

Figure 36. Department Functional Structure Chart as at 30 June 2011



Corporate Executive



From left to right Michael Connolly (Director, Corporate Services), Stuart Smith (Chief Executive Officer), Heather Brayford (Director, Aquatic Management), Bruno Mezzatesta (Director, Regional Services) and Rick Fletcher (Director, Research). Photo: Stephen Emery

The Corporate Executive of the Department of Fisheries comprises the Chief Executive Officer, the Director of Aquatic Management, the Director of Regional Services, the Director of Fisheries Research, and the Director of Corporate Services.

Stuart Smith, BEc, Grad. Dip. Ec.

Chief Executive Officer*

Stuart Smith joined the Department as Chief Executive Officer on 3 November 2008. He previously held senior roles in the Department of Industry and Resources, including that of Deputy Director General, State Development and Deputy

Director General, Resources Group. He also acted as Director General of the Department of Industry and Resources.

Stuart brings over 20 years of wide-ranging experience in both the State and Federal public sector to the role of Chief Executive Officer. He holds a Bachelor of Economics from the University of Western Australia and a Graduate Diploma in Economics from the Australian National University.

* Terms of Appointment: The Chief Executive Officer is appointed under Part 3 of the *Public Sector Management Act 1994* for five years.

Heather Brayford BSc, MBA, GAICD***Director, Aquatic Management***

Heather Brayford was appointed Director, Aquatic Management in 2009. This position includes responsibility for fisheries management programs, broader environmental management programs, aquaculture and the provision of legal, legislative drafting and governance services.

Heather has close to 25 years experience in fisheries management, having held a number of senior policy and management positions in the Department. She has also held the position of Executive Director of Fisheries in the Northern Territory.

Dr Rick Fletcher, BSc (Hons), PhD***Director, Fisheries Research***

Dr Rick Fletcher was appointed as Director, Fisheries Research in 2006. This position is responsible for the overall management and strategic direction of the Department's research group, which provides the information that underpins the Department's successful natural resource management programs.

Rick has over 25 years experience conducting and managing research on fisheries and aquaculture-related issues across four jurisdictions in Australia and the South Pacific, including Director of Research of Fisheries in NSW. His recent research focus has been in the development of ecosystem-based management frameworks for marine and coastal systems, for which he is the leader of a number of state, national and international initiatives.

Bruno Mezzatesta, BBus MBA FCPA***Director, Regional Services***

Bruno Mezzatesta is responsible for the Department's Regional Services Division including community education and compliance, licensing and communications. Prior to this position, Bruno was the Director of the Department's Corporate Services Division. He has more than 25 years experience in the public sector, including periods with the Office of the Auditor General and the Department of Treasury and Finance.

Michael Connolly, BSc, BBus ASA***Director, Corporate Services***

Michael was appointed to the position of Director, Corporate Services in March 2011 and is responsible for the operations of the Corporate Services Division, comprising Financial Services and Infrastructure Development, Human Resources and Information Management branches. Michael is also the senior responsible officer for the development and delivery of a new entitlement management system which, when completed and implemented, will modernise the administration and management of fisheries in Western Australia.

Michael has 28 years experience in the public sector, including 20 years in various regulatory roles within the Department of Racing, Gaming and Liquor.

Performance Management Framework

Western Australia's fisheries and aquatic ecosystems are an important natural resource managed by the Department of Fisheries on behalf of all Western Australians.

The services of the Department of Fisheries, as described in the 2010/11 Budget Papers, are aimed at achieving the Government goal of: Ensuring that economic activity is managed in a socially and environmentally responsible manner for the long-term benefit of the State.

Contribution to Government Goals

The Department works towards the achievement of the Government goal and its department-level outcome of the *conservation and sustainable development of the State's fish resources* through the provision of four key services:

Service 1 – Fisheries Management

The Department's Aquatic Management Division and Licensing and Registry Services Branch is responsible for management, policy development, licensing and legislation related to the State's

commercial and recreational fisheries, pearling, aquaculture, the charter boat industry, customary fishing and protection of aquatic ecosystems.

Service 2 – Compliance and Education

The Department's Regional Services Division is responsible for state-wide fisheries compliance and community education, in accordance with the provisions of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and the *Pearling Act 1990*.

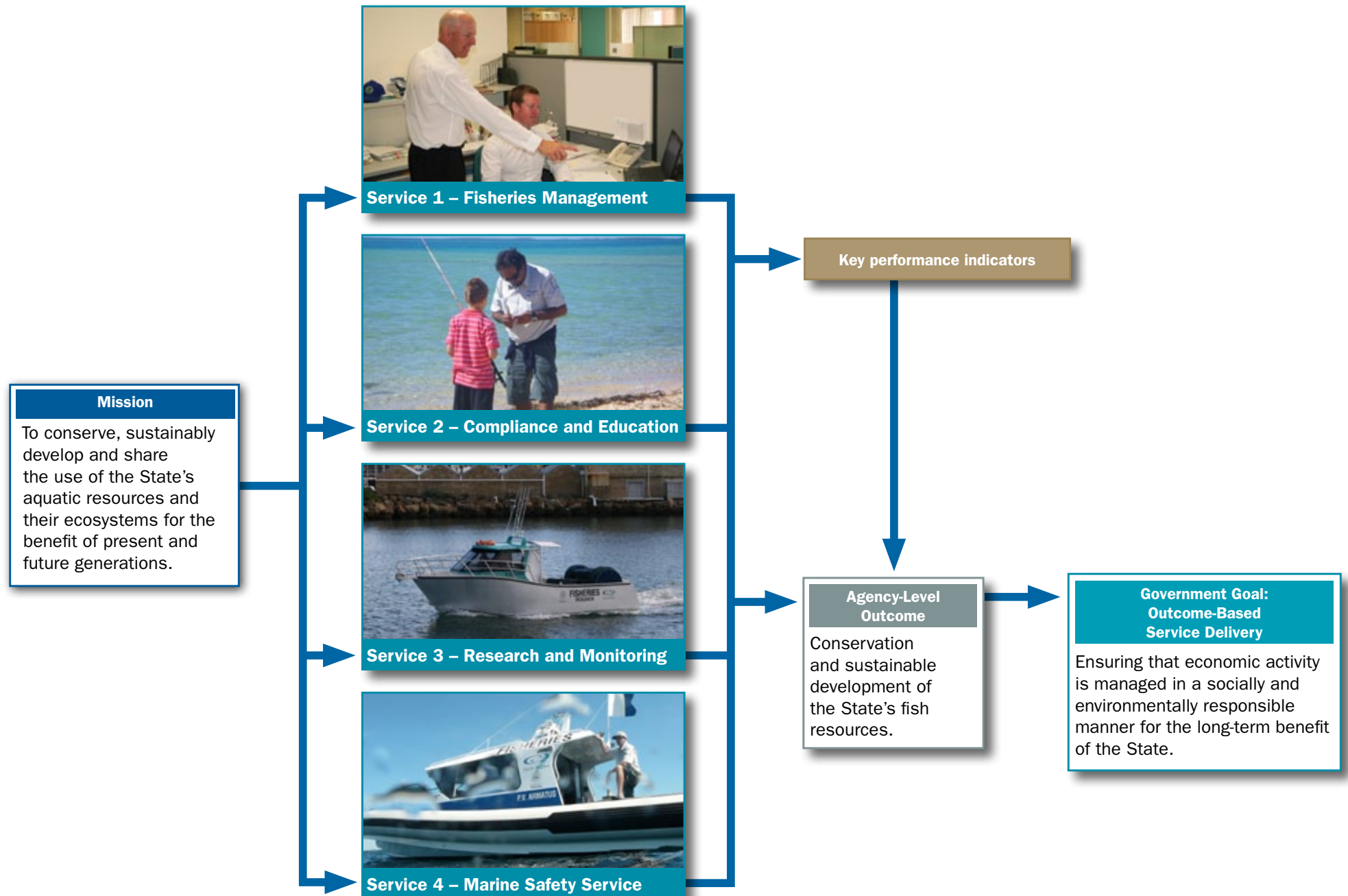
Service 3 – Research and Monitoring

The Department's Research Division is responsible for the provision of timely, quality scientific knowledge and advice to support the conservation and sustainable use of the State's fish resources and aquatic ecosystems.

Service 4 – Marine Safety Service

The Marine Operations Section of the Department of Fisheries' Regional Services Division coordinates the delivery of at-sea marine safety compliance services by the Department's Fisheries and Marine Officers under a service level agreement with the Department of Transport.

Figure 37. Performance Management Framework



Measurement of Department-level Outcome and Services

The Department of Fisheries evaluates, measures and reports on the effectiveness and efficiency of its service delivery in achieving its desired department-level outcome through Key Performance Indicators or 'KPIs'. KPIs comprise both Effectiveness and Efficiency Indicators.

Effectiveness Indicators show the extent to which the Department achieved its department-level outcome, while Efficiency Indicators show the relationship between the service delivered and the resources used in the delivery of that service. A summary of the Department's performance against budget targets is provided in Table 21 below.

Table 21. Summary of Key Performance Indicators: Actual Performance Compared to Budget Targets

	2010/11 Target	2010/11 Actual
Outcome: Conservation and sustainable development of the State's fish resources.		
Key Effectiveness Indicators		
The proportion of fish stocks identified as being at risk or vulnerable through exploitation.	17%	6%
The proportion of fisheries where acceptable catches (or effort levels) are achieved.	90%	94%
The percentage of fisheries or fished sectors where current catch shares are known and where catch share allocations are in process or in place.	65%	61%
The gross value of State fisheries production (million).	\$400m*	\$380m**
The participation rate in recreational fishing.	33%	32%
Key Efficiency Indicators		
Service 1 – Fisheries Management		
Average cost per hour for management (excluding grants and fisheries adjustments).	\$109	\$152
Service 2 – Compliance and Education		
Average cost per hour for compliance and education.	\$134	\$186
Service 3 – Research and Monitoring		
Average cost per hour for research and monitoring.	\$116	\$126
Service 4 – Marine Safety Service		
Average cost per hour for marine safety service.	\$116	\$134

Notes:

* See Key Performance Indicator 2.1 (contribution to the State's gross value of output).

** This is derived from the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics (ABARE) figures for the year 2009/10.

Further information on the efficiency indicators can be found in the 'Statement of Performance Indicators' section of this Annual Report.

Financial Performance

The table below describes the Department of Fisheries' performance against the targets that formed part of the 2009/10 State Budget papers and reflected in the resources agreement signed by the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Fisheries, the Minister for Fisheries and the Treasurer.

Table 22. Financial Targets: Actual Performance Compared to Budget Targets

	2009/10 Target \$'000	2009/10 Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000
Total cost of services (expense limit) (sourced from Income Statement).	62,736	71,891	(9,155)
Net cost of services (sourced from Income Statement).	30,663	38,831	(8,168)
Total equity (sourced from Balance Sheet).	73,894	61,185	12,709
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held (sourced from Cash Flow Statement).	1,059	345	714
	No.	No.	No.
Approved full-time equivalent (FTE) staff level	409	416	(7)

Contribution to Other Government Goals

The Department of Fisheries contributes to the achievement of the Government's other stated goals as follows.

State Building – Major Projects

In 2010/11 the Department's work towards this goal included:

- A new Marine Operations Centre at Denham is under construction. This new centre will facilitate the delivery of the Department's services, including fisheries and marine protected area management, in the Shark Bay World Heritage Area. The centre will also accommodate staff from the Department of Environment and Conservation. In addition, the Shark Bay Volunteer Sea Rescue Group will be accommodated in the new Denham centre.

Financial and Economic Responsibility

In 2010/11 the Department's work towards this goal included:

- Progressing the implementation of reviews of fisheries legislation, in particular those dealing with the Department's fee setting capacity and the regulatory requirements of the aquaculture sector.
- Facilitating and encouraging more efficient use of the Department's marine patrol vessels by other government agencies with research,

management and compliance responsibilities in the marine environment, such as the Department of Transport and the Department of Environment and Conservation.

- The appointment of a Chief Financial Officer to provide strategic oversight of the Department's financial operations.

Outcomes-Based Service Delivery

In 2010/11 the Department's work towards this goal included:

- Collaborating with other government agencies and research and educational institutions that have management responsibilities or research programs at the Abrolhos Islands and other marine protected areas for the delivery of natural resource management outcomes in the marine environment.

Stronger Focus on the Regions

In 2010/11 the Department's work towards this goal included:

- Most of the State's significant fisheries are regionally-based and contribute strongly to the economy, employment opportunities, lifestyle and culture of regional Western Australia. As a result, the Department of Fisheries has regional offices in the Kimberley, Gascoyne, Mid-West, Peel and Great Southern and also maintains district offices from Kununurra south to Esperance.
- About 45 per cent of the Department's staff are located in regional areas and about 75 per cent of the departmental expenditure relates to fisheries and aquatic management programs of importance to regional communities.



The Department of Fisheries works together with other government institutions that have responsibilities at the Abrolhos Islands.



Staff in the Regional Services Division are widely dispersed around the coastal areas of WA and are the Department's primary public interface.

AGENCY PERFORMANCE

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Agency Performance – Overview

.....
The Department of Fisheries is responsible for the sustainable management of fisheries, aquaculture and the aquatic environment. The Department takes a strategic and risk-based approach to fisheries management, setting clear project budgets and coordinating activity across the Department’s Aquatic Management, Research, Regional Services and Corporate Services Divisions to deliver the following services:

Service 1 – Fisheries Management

Service 2 – Compliance and Education

Service 3 – Research and Monitoring

Service 4 – Marine Safety

The Department organises its resources to ensure optimum delivery against identified aquatic management priorities within a five-year planning horizon.

In order to provide a clear idea in practical terms of how the Department of Fisheries provides these services, the divisions and branches who provide a particular service are described below under the service heading, along with the achievements (for 2010/11) and initiatives (for 2011/12) relating to the particular service.

The Department’s Corporate Services Division provides human resources, financial and management support to enable the Department to deliver its planned services effectively.

Service 1 – Fisheries Management

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The Department's Aquatic Management Division, in conjunction with the Licensing and Registry Services Branch, has overall responsibility for fisheries management service.
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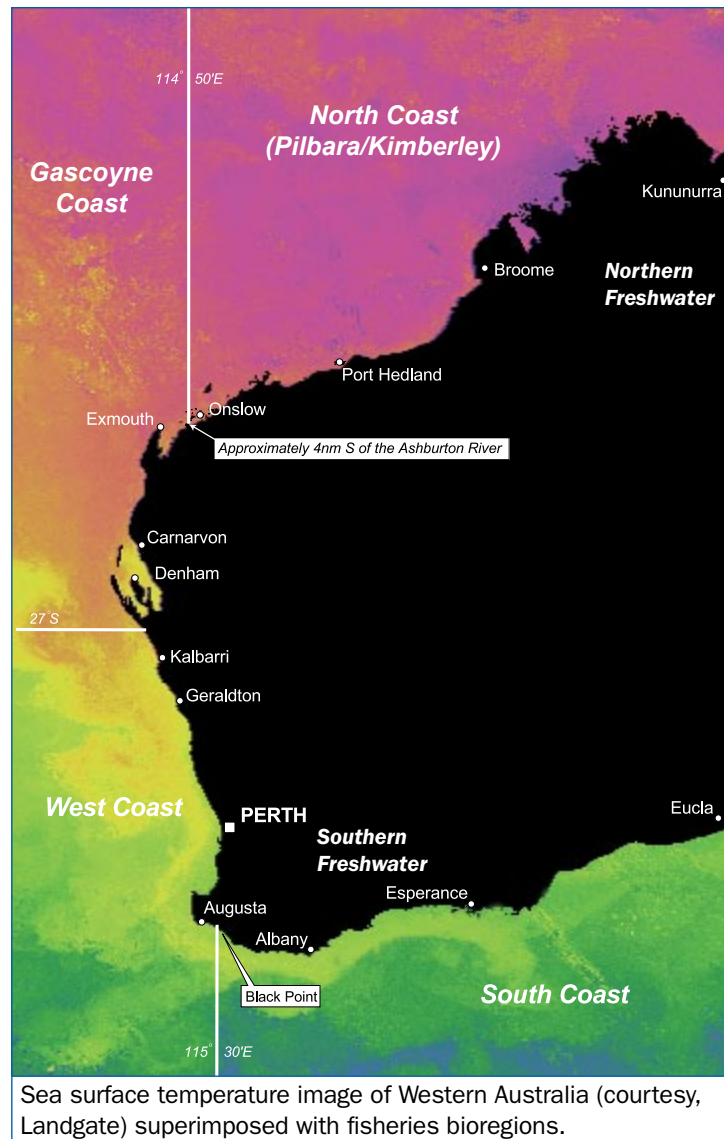
Through collaboration with the Research and Regional Services divisions, the Aquatic Management Division develops, implements and reviews management strategies for fisheries resources of importance to Western Australia's commercial, recreational and indigenous fishing sectors. It is also responsible for the management of the pearling industry, land and marine-based aquaculture and the protection of the marine and aquatic environments.

In addition, the Aquatic Management Division also maintains an expert capability in legislative drafting, legal services and overarching governance, including risk management, audit and annual reporting.

As a regulator, the Department of Fisheries has introduced an integrated fisheries management and operational approach that aims to take into account the needs of all major fishing

groups in the community and the effect of other human activities on the State's ecosystems. The basis of this approach lies in the division of our State into four marine biogeographical regions – the North Coast, the Gascoyne Coast, the West Coast and the South Coast.

These regions haven't randomly been chosen – they reflect the variation of temperatures in our coastal waters, caused by the influence of the Leeuwin Current (see the map on page 68). This warm, tropical current flows south from Indonesia and down WA's coast past Cape Leeuwin and then eastwards along the south coast into the Great Australian Bight and is strongest during the winter months. Each region comes with its own environment, fish species and set of rules.



The Department provides its fisheries management service through the allocation of resources across the following branches.

Aquatic Management Branch

The Aquatic Management Branch undertakes the key wild-stock fishery management functions of the Department of Fisheries. These functions are delivered through two bioregional management groups – the Northern Bioregions group and the South-West Bioregions group – and the West Coast Rock Lobster group.

The two bioregional groups are responsible for the integrated management of all ‘extractive’ (recreational, commercial and customary indigenous) fishing activities within their bioregions.

This branch is supported by the Strategic Fisheries Policy Group, which is responsible for broader issues of policy development and implementation for wild-stock fisheries, as well as administrative matters relating to ‘whole-of-state’ fishery issues.

The activities of the Integrated Fisheries Allocation Advisory Committee (IFAAC), which is responsible for providing advice to the Minister for Fisheries on fish resource allocations between commercial, recreational and customary users, are also supported through the Strategic Fisheries Policy Group.

Aquaculture Branch

The Aquaculture Branch is responsible for the management and regulation of Western Australia's aquaculture industry, which is small by global standards but considered to have capacity for substantial growth in the future. Commercially-produced species include barramundi, mussels, abalone, western rock oyster, silver perch, trout, pearl oysters, yellowtail kingfish, mulloway, marron, yabbies, ornamental species, artemia (brine shrimp used in fish hatchery diets) and algae (for the production of beta carotene, biofuels and biolipids).

The Department's management arrangements are designed to ensure the aquaculture industry is both economically and environmentally sustainable.

Aquatic Environment Branch

The Aquatic Environment Branch is responsible for leading the development of environmental policy frameworks and procedures to protect fish and their habitats throughout Western Australia, including biodiversity protection and aquatic biosecurity. In addition, the Aquatic Environment Branch is also responsible for the development, management and sharing of spatial data gathered by the Department to inform its management decisions and those across government relating to the State's aquatic environment.

The Aquatic Environment Branch provides advice for environmental impact assessments and

proposed exemptions and contributes to State, Commonwealth and regional marine planning initiatives, including the declaration and ongoing management of Fish Habitat Protection Areas and the delivery of Western Australian aquatic natural resource management activities resulting from the Commonwealth Government's 'Caring for Country' program. It is also responsible for freshwater fish protection and management.

In performing its biosecurity functions, the Aquatic Environment Branch collaborates with other state, interstate and national departments.

Legal and Executive Services Branch

The Legal and Executive Services Branch is responsible for the oversight and development of the Department of Fisheries' legislative framework. It also assists the Corporate Executive and officers of the Department in the provision of legal and strategic policy advice, legal interpretation and litigation including matters coming before the State Administrative Tribunal.

The Legal and Executive Services Branch works closely with all areas of the Department in the delivery of legislative priorities and policy advice on 'whole-of-government' issues. In addition, it coordinates the Department's annual reporting and regulatory 'gate-keeping' requirements.

Legislation gazetted by the Department during the 2010/11 financial year is shown in Appendix 3.

Licensing and Registry Services Branch

The Licensing and Registry Services Branch is responsible for the provision of licensing services for commercial fishing, recreational fishing, pearling and aquaculture. It manages the Fisheries Licensing and Management System (FLAMS) and the online renewal and payment facility and maintains a register of authorisations, exemptions and aquaculture leases, pursuant to Part 12 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.

The register is available to the public on application to the Department of Fisheries' Registrar and the payment of appropriate fees in accordance with section 125 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994 (FRMA)*.

Appendix 4 of this Annual Report provides a summary of information recorded on the register during 2010/11 including authorisations, aquaculture leases, security notations and exemptions.

Service 1 – Fisheries Management – Major Achievements in 2010/11

- The first stage in the transition to Individual Transferable Quota catch management in the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery was carried out, including the allocation of individual catch limits and introduction of a revised regulatory and administrative framework for quota management.
- A new funding model was implemented for the commercial fishing sector. Under the new model, commercial fishers are required to pay a flat fee of 5.75 per cent of the Gross Value Product (GVP) of the fishery in which they operate.
- The Fisheries Licensing and Management System (FLAMS) was modified and enhanced to incorporate ongoing changes to a variety of managed fishery plans including the West Coast Rock Lobster Management Plan.
- Fisheries Adjustment Schemes were established and completed for the Shark Bay Prawn Fishery, Shark Bay Scallop Fishery and the Abrolhos Islands and Mid-west Trawl Fishery. The total value of these schemes was approximately \$34 million.
- An Access Rights Working Group report to the Minister was completed on improving commercial fishing access rights.

- Requirements relating to the use of Sea Lion Exclusion Devices (SLEDs) on pots by commercial rock lobster fishers were expanded to include specified waters at the Abrolhos Islands.
- The Department of Fisheries and industry have completed the requirements for the anticipated Marine Stewardship Council re-certification of the commercial western rock lobster fishery for a further five-year period, when its current certification expires in November 2011.
- The Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Managed Fishery was established, providing an integrated sustainable demersal scalefish management framework for the waters of the southern Gascoyne.
- The Indian Ocean Territories Aquaculture Development Plan was completed.
- Contributions were made to concurrent State and Commonwealth marine planning processes in the south-west and north-west of WA and to the Kimberley Science and Conservation Strategy.
- Development of a new strategic plan and management plan for the Abrolhos Islands Reserve and associated Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Area was commenced and a wastewater monitoring program implemented for the islands.
- The *Fish Resources Management Amendment (Fees) Bill 2010* and the *Fish Resources Management Amendment (Fees) Bill (No.2) 2010* were passed by the Parliament.
- The *Fish Resources Management Amendment Bill 2011* was introduced to the Parliament.

Service 1 – Fisheries Management **– Major Initiatives for 2011/12**

- A major state-wide review of recreational fishing management arrangements will be undertaken, with the aim of simplifying management and moving recreational fishing to a resource-based framework.
- A state-wide review of charter management arrangements will be undertaken, focusing on the licensing structure that underpins the management of this industry.
- A trial program to determine the effectiveness of artificial reefs at improving the quality of recreational fishing experiences will be carried out in the south-west of the State.
- The Licensing and Registry Services Unit will make a significant contribution to the development of the business and functional requirements that will lead to the introduction of the new Entitlement Management System for commercial fishers, which will include entitlement trading online.

- The second phase of implementing a full quota catch management system for the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery will be operational for the season commencing November 2011 and preparations for introducing a new management plan from 2013 made.
- The Department and the Western Australian Fishing Industry Council will work together to introduce changes to commercial rock lobster licensing, which will enable those with a financial stake in the fishery to have their investment more clearly recognised.
- A new management plan will be finalised and implemented for the commercial mackerel fishery.
- Model Management and Environmental Monitoring Plans (MEMP) will be developed for small-scale aquaculture operators and a guidance note written for the preparation of a MEMP for larger-scale operators.
- Aquatic biosecurity policies, standards and procedures will be completed and promoted for both marine and freshwater environments.
- Assessments will be carried out of the cumulative impact (direct and indirect) of coastal and offshore development proposals on the fisheries sector.
- Translocation policies and procedures will be completed and made assessable to clients and the public using the Department's corporate website.
- A number of initiatives will be progressed involving the Abrolhos Islands including the Abrolhos Islands Management Plan, a new body corporate lease, and the development of a new tourism plan and aquaculture policies.
- Spatial interpretation and analysis will be completed to support pre and post incident monitoring for potential oil spill responses.
- New legislation to replace the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and the *Pearling Act 1990* will be progressed.

Service 2 – Compliance and Education

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The Regional Services Division has overall responsibility for delivery of the Department of Fisheries' compliance and education services. The division develops and implements compliance, communications and education strategies to ensure fishing behavior is consistent with the Department's 'fish for the future' objective.
.....

Staff in the Regional Services Division are widely dispersed around the coastal areas of the State and located in five regional offices, 12 district offices, the Department's Perth head office and the Western Australian Fisheries and Marine Research Laboratories at Hillarys, and are the Department's primary public interface.

The Department provides its compliance and education service through the allocation of resources across the following branches.

Regional Services Branch

The Department's Regional Services Branch is responsible for the delivery of fisheries enforcement in recreational and commercial fisheries, the pearling and aquaculture industries, and in Fish

Habitat Protection Areas and marine parks. It also provides some education services, along with marine safety services, on behalf of the Department of Transport.

To maximise efficiency and effectiveness of compliance and at-sea servicing requirements in marine parks and reserves, the Regional Services Branch is also actively involved in joint operational planning and cross-authorisation training with the Department of Environment and Conservation.

A wide range of compliance tools are used by the Regional Services Branch to ensure that the fishing industry and public comply with fisheries legislation. These tools include land and sea patrols, aerial surveillance, covert operations, mobile patrols and educational activities. Compliance strategies are developed and resources allocated to fisheries and associated areas of highest risk through a comprehensive risk assessment process.

The Regional Services Branch has five regional offices – Gascoyne, Metropolitan, Mid-West, North and South – which each control a number of district offices. These regional operational areas are

supported by the Regional Services Branch Perth-based Central Support Services and Strategic Policy sections.

Communications and Education Branch

The Communications and Education Branch aims to build the knowledge, values and attitudes that are necessary to reinforce sustainable community behavior in the aquatic environment. It achieves this by keeping the Western Australian community informed about developments in marine science, fisheries management and compliance, and engaging the community and Department of Fisheries' volunteers in marine education, research, policy and planning processes.

The Communications and Education Branch is comprised of five areas – communications, media liaison, education and volunteers, the Naturaliste Marine Discovery Centre, and Trade and International Relations.

Work commenced in the latter part of the 2010/11 financial year to combine the education and volunteer team with the Naturaliste Marine Discovery Centre to form a community and education unit. The development of this unit recognises the growing importance of involving the community in the Department's management efforts.

Service 2 – Compliance and Education – Major Achievements for 2010/11

State-wide

- A quota catch monitoring system and associated compliance program was implemented for the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery.
- Twenty-three new trainee Fisheries and Marine Officers were recruited.
- The Department of Fisheries' state-wide schools education program won the Science Outreach Initiative prize at the 2010 Western Australian Science Awards.
- The [Perth Beachcombers Education Kit](#) was recognized as a finalist in the Environmental Education and Communication Category of the 2010 WA Environment Awards.
- The successful development, completion and launch of the Primary School phase of a new interactive curriculum-linked web-based education tool called [Marine WATERS](#) (Western Australian Teacher Education Resources).
- A range of over 150 technical, educational and promotional print and e-media titles were published, including departmental websites, *Western Fisheries* magazine, research and management reports, log books, recreational fishing guides, species identification guides, posters, stickers, signage, display banners and

other material to support the Department's strategic goals and operations.

- An overseas trade mission to Korea and China was managed for the Department's Chief Executive Officer and six delegates.
- The [WA Fish eNews](#) email newsletter was produced and published every week for the Western Australian fishing industry.
- Over 4,000 school students and more than 10,000 members of the general public visited the Naturaliste Marine Discovery Centre.
- There was continued collaboration with government and non-government agencies that enhance the delivery of fisheries and sustainable natural resource management education programs across the State.

Northern Region

- Mobile patrols of recreational fishing activity were successfully implemented at Broome and Kununurra.
- A new Community Education Officer was appointed to the Northern Bioregion.
- A recreational compliance and education campaign was carried out at Port Hedland.
- A Western Australian Work Safety Award was won for the safety upgrades to the Broome Tropical Aquaculture Park.

Gascoyne Region

- An educational tour of the Gascoyne Region was carried out, which included schools at Denham, Useless Loop, Carnarvon and Exmouth and a number of community events.
- A new rigid inflatable boat, *FD44* was delivered to the Carnarvon District Office, increasing the ability to carry out compliance services across both commercial and recreational fisheries.
- A new mobile recreational fisheries patrol successfully delivered compliance and educational services across the region from Onslow to Kalbarri.

Mid-West Region

- A significant increase was made in the number of education and compliance contacts with land-based recreational fishers, including in the Jurien Bay Marine Park, through the introduction of the mobile patrol service.
- Targeted recreational demersal fishing compliance operations were carried out during the Easter and April school holiday period.
- Public recreation infrastructure was installed at Turtle Bay (East Wallabi Island in the Houtman Abrolhos) in collaboration with the Northern Agricultural Catchment Council.
- A new aquatic guide of the Houtman Abrolhos Islands was produced.

Metropolitan Region

- The Lancelin District Office was re-established to provide compliance services focusing on West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery quota management and west coast demersal scalefish.
- Mobile patrols operating from Hillarys, Fremantle and Mandurah were established, providing additional compliance services in recreational fisheries within the Metropolitan Region and in other key areas around the State when required.
- The Rockingham Office was provided with two four-wheel-drive quad bikes to improve access to recreational fishers on local beaches from Safety Bay to Mandurah. This equipment upgrade has led to a massive increase in efficiency in the number of contacts and inspections in support of new initiatives in west coast demersal scalefish management.
- Five major joint operations were carried out with the WA Police (Peel Region) targeting fishing and drink-driving non-compliance. These operations resulted in 391 vehicles being checked and 41 infringements, eight infringement warnings and 11 prosecution briefs being issued for fisheries-related offences.

Southern Region

- A recreational fishing mobile patrol was established in the Southern Region.
- A collaborative interpretive education program was carried out in conjunction with the Department of Environment and Conservation for Walpole-Nornalup Marine Park.

Service 2 – Compliance and Education – Major Initiatives for 2011/12

State-wide

- The secondary school phase of the Marine WATERS online education resource will be developed, supported by a further \$150,000 sponsorship from Woodside Energy, extending the resource to Years 7 – 10.
- The new corporate website and an innovative electronic guide to Western Australian recreational fishing rules, providing bag and size limits that can be accessed using third-generation (3G) mobile phones, will be launched.
- Planning and development of the new Intranet will commence to provide a single, easily accessed source of information for staff, integrated into the Department's systems and processes.
- Volunteering and the use of volunteers will be reviewed across the Department of Fisheries.

- A community education officer will be appointed to the Pilbara/Gascoyne regions in a fly-in/fly-out role.
- The interactive equipment, such as touch screens and displays, in the Department's Naturaliste Marine Discovery Centre will be upgraded and enhanced in order to provide a better educational experience through partnerships with similar educational centres such as Scitech and the WA Museum.

Northern Region

- The planning and development of compliance and education programs for services for marine parks in the Kimberley will be progressed with the Department of Environment and Conservation.
- Industry consultation will be conducted for amendments to the Northern Demersal Scalefish Fishery Management Plan as the result of services for marine parks in the Kimberley.
- Formal management arrangements will be progressed for commercial mud crab fishing in the Kimberley.
- The development and implementation of management and compliance service delivery arrangements will continue for the Indian Ocean Territories.

- Assistance will be provided for the development of a barramundi restocking program for Lake Kununurra.

Gascoyne Region

- The Denham Fisheries Office – a multi-agency building incorporating the Department of Environment and Conservation and the Volunteer Marine Safety program – will be completed.
- Stage two of the Gascoyne Demersal Scale Fish Management Plan will be introduced and implemented.
- A new rigid inflatable boat will be delivered to the Denham district, increasing the ability to carry out compliance services across both commercial and recreational fisheries.

Mid-West Region

- An industry education program will be provided to support the 'year-two' changes of the introduction of a quota catch management system in the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery.
- A number of capital works projects relating to the Abrolhos Islands will be undertaken including the installation of at least 10 new 'courtesy' vessel moorings at safe anchoring areas and key dive sites; a major upgrade of aerodromes; the installation of additional dive trail markers at key dive sites and marine archeological sites; and the construction of a medium-sized patrol vessel to service the islands.

Metropolitan Region

- The Lancelin Office will be provided with two four-wheel-drive quad bikes to improve access to recreational fishers on local beaches between Two Rocks and Wedge Island.
- Assessment and planning for the purchase of a new mobile education trailer will be conducted as part of enhancing the community education program in the Perth metropolitan area and the wider regional areas.

Southern Region

- New management arrangements will be finalised for the South Coast Crustacean Fishery.
- A catch record card for recreational fishers who use Busselton Jetty will be implemented and promoted for data collection purposes to aid fisheries management.
- At-sea compliance capabilities will be increased with delivery of new patrol vessels in Albany and Busselton.

CASE STUDY 1



The lower levels of 'recruitment' of young lobsters into the western rock lobster fishery became evident in the 2010/11 season.

Rock Lobster in Focus – the transition to quota management and the low recruitment of young lobsters

The start of the 2010/11 [western rock lobster](#) fishing season heralded the start of a significant process of change for the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery, as it began the transition from management by input controls towards a full Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC)/Individual Transferable Quota (ITQ) output management system. This process will involve substantial change to the management arrangements for the fishery and, as such, is being implemented over a number of years.

The implementation of a TACC/ITQ catch management system will bring a range of benefits to licence holders and operators in the fishery, allowing them greater flexibility in determining how and when they fish. This will provide greater scope to respond to, among other things, seasonal fluctuations in the price of lobsters and changes in the cost of fishing. The increased flexibility should provide licensees and operators with an improved ability to increase their profitability.

From a fishery management perspective, moving to a TACC framework will provide for much more direct control over the catch of the fishery. With input controls used in the past, the catch taken by the fishery varied with the levels of lobster abundance (or catchability) and the values set for

input controls (such as the number of pots that could be used by a fisher, the length of the season or the number of fishing days per week).

However, in recent years, when targeting particular catch 'outcomes' (such as the 5,500 tonne catch target for 2009/10), the use of input controls has required regular review and adjustment of factors such as pot usage, season length or fishing days. This level of 'micro-management' has been difficult for both the rock lobster industry and Government, as it has required frequent changes to the input controls to deliver the desired catch outcome. Moving to a TACC will give certainty about the catch outcome without the need for frequent changes to input controls.

The first year of the move towards a TACC/ITQ framework has required the implementation of catch limits on licences, with the level of the limit varying in accordance with the number of units of (pot) entitlement on the licence and the zone to which the licence related. Thus, for those licensees in Zone B and Zone C, the limit was 81 kg and 75 kg per unit respectively. For Zone A the limit was split into two parts, according to which part of the season the fishing was being carried out in. For the period prior to 15 March the limit was set at 36 kg, and for the period 15 March to 31 August it was set at 51 kg.

The move to weight-based output controls also involved significant changes in the compliance framework for the fishery, with the compliance focus moving away from the quantity of gear used and days fished to the quantity of lobsters landed. This involved the implementation of a weighing and documentation process to record the weights of catches delivered by fishers and to track the consignments of lobsters.

Overall, implementation of the first phase of the TACC/ITQ management went well, with only minor teething issues. Perhaps the major complaint was that the system, as implemented in the 2010/11 season, did not provide the range of benefits (such as within-season transfers) that could be expected with a fully-developed TACC/ITQ system.

Given that the 2010/11 implementation was the first stage of the move to full TACC/ITQ management, it was not expected that the full benefits would be realised in that season. Nevertheless, when difficulties were experienced during January in supplying lobsters into the Chinese market, the flexibility for at least coastal fishery operators to adapt to changing market circumstances by simply delaying their fishing activities was regarded as a welcome feature of the new system.

The need to impose catch limits through explicit catch controls in the 2010/11 season, and catch targets in 2009/10 and 2008/09, arose from declines in the recruitment of young lobsters into the main stocks, as evidenced by

marked reductions in puerulus¹ settlement levels in 2007/08, 2008/09 and 2009/10.

In order to 'flatten out' the overall western rock lobster catch so that reasonable catches could still be taken during the years when the fishery was undergoing lower levels of recruitment, catch targets in the years preceding the entry of these low recruitment years into the main stocks were set at lower levels. This ensured that reasonable catches could be taken in the low recruitment years while still maintaining adequate breeding stock levels.

The lower levels of recruitment to the fishery become evident during the 2010/11 season, with noticeable drops in the relative abundance of smaller lobsters. However, during 2010/11 there were signs that puerulus settlement was improving, although settlement levels were still below the long-term average (see Figure 38 overleaf).

Studies of the likely cause of the period of low recruitment of young lobsters into the stocks strongly suggest that a combination of environmental factors was the primary cause. The studies point towards oceanographic conditions being unfavourable both for the survival of larvae

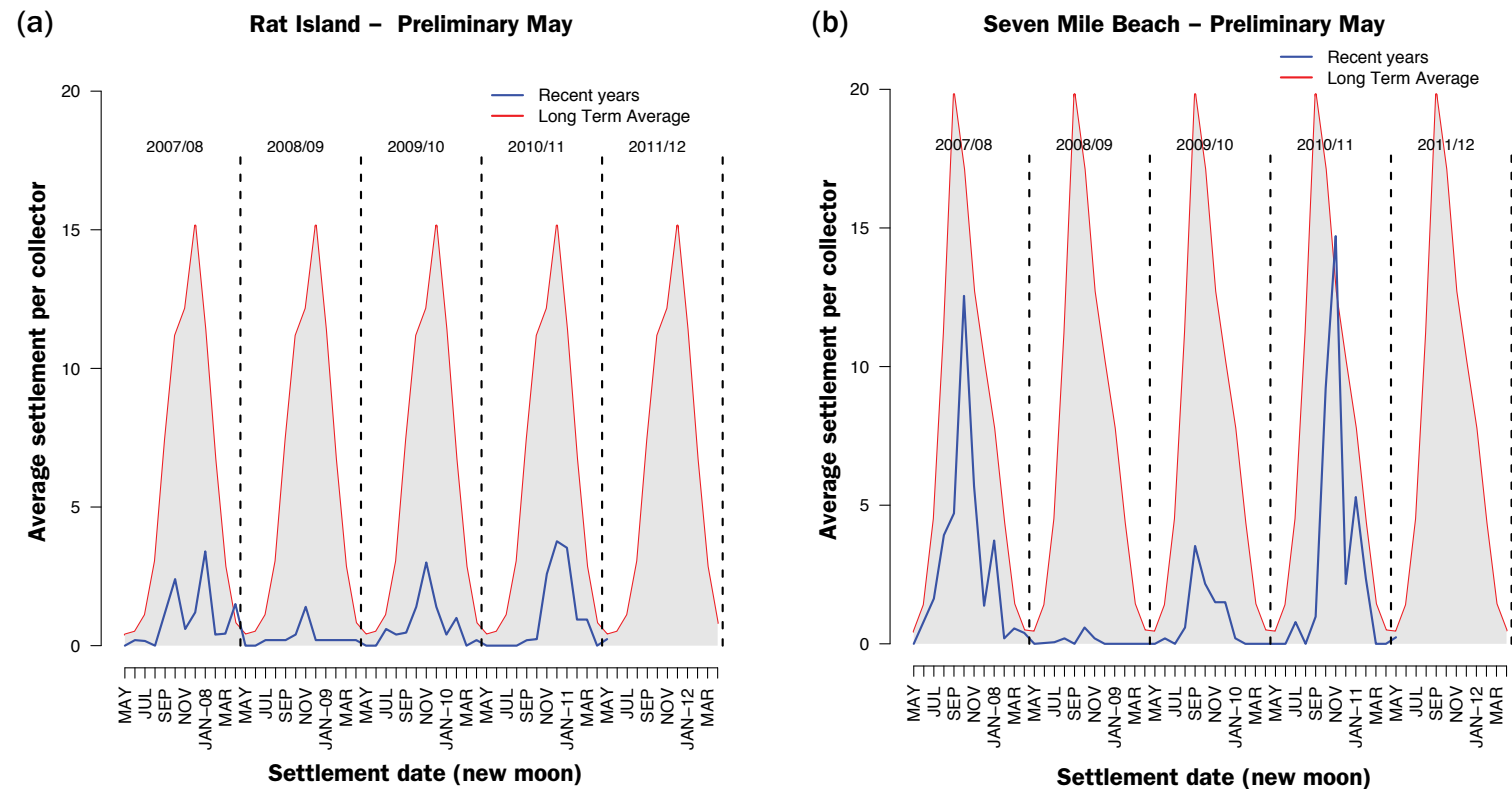
¹ Puerulus are the final stage of the long (around nine-month) larval phase of rock lobsters. Artificial seaweed collectors are placed at various sites along the south and mid-west coasts of WA and used to capture some of these puerulus larvae as they return to 'settle' and grow into adult rock lobsters. The number of puerulus captured is used as an index of the strength of recruitment to the western rock lobster stock.

during the nine-month larval period and for the return to the WA coast of those that survived.

The shift back towards more favourable oceanographic conditions, in particular with the end of the strong *La Niña* weather period as well as the return of a more normal Indian Ocean Dipole pattern of sea surface temperatures, provides a basis for some optimism for a return to normal puerulus

settlement levels. However, even if puerulus settlement returns to more normal levels during 2011/12, it will be three to four years before the first wave of any improved recruitment enters the fishery. On that basis, conservative catch levels will continue to be necessary for the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery for the next few years.

Figure 38. The graphs nearby show the average monthly settlement of rock lobsters that reach the puerulus stage from May 2007 to March 2012 and the actual settlement until May 2011 at (a) Rat Island (Abrolhos Islands) and (b) Seven Mile Beach puerulus collectors.



Marine Stewardship Council certification of the western rock lobster fishery

In March 2000 an industry-led initiative resulted in the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery becoming the first fishery in the world to be certified by the [Marine Stewardship Council](http://www.msc.org) (www.msc.org) as a sustainable and well-managed fishery.

The Marine Stewardship Council certification process is considered to be the most rigorous and comprehensive independent fisheries assessment in the world and the West Coast Rock Lobster industry has demonstrated strong leadership in its willingness to embrace this stringent and transparent process. The industry has completed its requirements for the anticipated Marine Stewardship Council re-certification of the commercial western rock lobster fishery for a further five-year period when its current certification expires in November 2011.

More than 300 fisheries are currently engaged in the Marine Stewardship Council program (106 are certified), which together record annual catches of more than seven million tons of seafood, i.e. 12 per cent of the landings for human consumption. Worldwide, over 10,000 seafood products, worth over AUD\$2 billion/year at retail, bear the blue Marine Stewardship Council eco-label.

The Marine Stewardship Council process provides a rigorous independent expert review under three broad principles:

- Stock assessment and harvest strategy (e.g. are the levels of breeding stock and the fishing effort/exploitation sustainable in the long term?)
- The impact of the fishery on the wider ecology (e.g. what is the impact of large scale removal of lobsters, of pots on the seabed [including corals], on bycatch species [e.g. octopus and finfish] and endangered species [e.g. sea lions, turtles, whales]?)
- Management and consultation arrangements (e.g. how robust and flexible is the management framework; are the decision-making processes effective, transparent and inclusive; how are stakeholders – such as commercial and recreational fishers and conservation non-governmental organisations – consulted during the development and implementation of management arrangements?)

The latest Marine Steward Council reports on the western rock lobster fishery can be found at: <http://www.msc.org/track-a-fishery/certified/south-atlantic-indian-ocean/western-australia-rock-lobster>

CASE STUDY 2

Recreational Fisheries Management in Focus



Licence fees from the 'Recreational Fishing from Boat Licence' produced around \$25 million to be spent directly on recreational fishing management initiatives.

RFBL fees help ensure 'fish for the future'

On 1 March 2011, the Department's 'Recreational Fishing from Boat Licence' passed its first anniversary – and has provided a major boost for the future sustainability of some of Western Australia's best-known demersal and nearshore species through its introduction.

In the 12-months since it was introduced, almost 115,000 'RFBLs' were issued to recreational fishers who use powered boats. The successful take-up of the new licence means that the Department of Fisheries has been able to create by far the biggest database of recreational fishers ever compiled in WA, providing its research scientists with vital information to aid the management of fish stocks along the State's coastline.

In addition, the licence fees have generated around \$2.5 million in revenue that has been placed in a recreational fishing account to be spent directly on recreational fishing management initiatives. During 2010/11, the Department had extensive discussions with recreational fishing representative body Recfishwest in considering how the revenue should be spent.

The revenue from the RFBL has so far been used to improve compliance with recreational fishing rules by increasing patrols of Fisheries and



To help research, some 3,000 boat fishers have volunteered to track their own catches and share this information every month for a year. Photo: Ashley Malone

Marine Officers, increase support for Recfishwest's role as the peak body representing recreational fishers, explore the potential of artificial reefs,

develop the Lake Kununurra barramundi broodstock collection and deliver recreational fishing guides and information to a broad official network of tackle shops and other retail outlets. In the future, RFBL monies will continue to be spent on research, management and compliance as well as particular targeted projects such as artificial reefs and restocking programs.

The RFBL has also enabled the creation of a comprehensive database of recreational boat fishers and where they live in WA, providing a platform for highly detailed surveying to be carried out on how much time is spent fishing and what is caught by a huge range of fishers. This will enable a much more accurate estimation of what recreational fishers catch in total over the State than could be achieved simply with regional boat ramp 'creel surveys' previously used mainly by the Department.

Owing to sustainability concerns about fishing for key demersal species, such as [dhufish](#), [pink snapper](#) and [baldchin groper](#), in the West Coast Bioregion (from Kalbarri to Augusta), the Department of Fisheries has needed to concentrate its catch and effort monitoring program in this area in the last five years.

With the information from the database, the Department will now be able to readily contact fishers in the other three bioregions and compile a more accurate picture of what is happening with recreational fishing catches and the amount of

time spent fishing. This will lead to better and more informed management decisions being made.

Some field work, similar to past creel surveys, is still being carried out to estimate the size and weight of different fish species being caught, but the primary estimates of catch and effort will come through a log book program that is being run using the RFBL database.

In late 2010 the Department contacted a random sample of recreational fishers using the database and, in cooperation with partners Recfishwest, Edith Cowan University and Murdoch University, signed-up 3,000 boat fishers from around the State who volunteered to track their own catches and share this information every month for a year.

For the log book survey, 2,000 fishers have been randomly selected from the wider Perth metropolitan area and 1,000 fishers have been similarly selected from regional areas of the State. In addition, in 2011, between 5,000 and 10,000 fishers will be surveyed at boat ramps by researchers at the end of their fishing trip, and catch information will also be gathered from a similar number of fishers who come into contact with the Department's Fisheries and Marine Officers during this period.

The survey work will provide an estimate of the overall recreational boat fishing catch and effort in WA in 2012.

Management strategies succeed in boosting Cockburn Sound crab numbers

Crab fishers benefited during the 2010/11 summer from continuing improvement in blue swimmer crab stocks in Cockburn Sound, off the Perth metropolitan coast.

Stocks of [blue swimmer crabs](#) are recovering well after a three-year total freeze on crab fishing was lifted in the 2009/10 summer and replaced by a limited three-and-a-half-month fishing season. The fishery's continuing recovery enabled Fisheries Minister Norman Moore to extend the 2010/11 recreational season to four-and-a-half months, allowing crabbers to enjoy the pastime over Easter.

The duration of the commercial crab fishing season in Cockburn Sound remained the same as in the previous year (December 15 – March 31), but the minimum size of blue swimmer crabs that commercial fishers were allowed to catch was reduced to 135 mm carapace width from 140 mm.

The Department will continue to monitor crab stocks in Cockburn Sound as a priority for the foreseeable future.

Recreational fishing rules – available on a special flyer – [‘Crabbing for blue swimmer crabs in the West Coast Region’](#) – include a minimum size limit of 127 mm carapace width, a bag limit of 10 crabs per fisher per day, and a boat limit of 20 crabs.



The recreational Cockburn Sound crab fishery was extended to four-and-a-half months during 2010/11, as stocks recovered well after a three-year total freeze on crab fishing, which was lifted in 2009/10.

Hi-tech tagging helps manage Cockburn Sound snapper stocks

Department of Fisheries research carried out in Cockburn Sound during 2010/11 has used high technology acoustic tags to track the movements of pink snapper to and from the area. Cockburn Sound is the only significant spawning area for [pink snapper](#) in the West Coast Bioregion – the stretch of coast running from east of Augusta to the Zuytdorp Cliffs, north of Kalbarri.

Every year, some time between August and December, thousands of adult pink snapper congregate in Cockburn Sound to release their eggs and sperm, as part of what are known as ‘spawning aggregations’. As a result, there is an annual seasonal



Fisheries researcher with a pink snapper (Inset: pink snapper with tags near dorsal fin).

closure to pink snapper fishing in the area (extended as part of a package of management changes in 2005), which runs from October 1 to December 15 to protect these spawning fish.

Fish that join the spawning aggregation in Cockburn Sound reach sexual maturity when they are about six years old and 600 mm in length. These fish are much larger relative to those from other areas in the West Coast Bioregion – which means they can produce relatively larger numbers of eggs – and are thus very important for pink snapper stocks in the entire bioregion.

The Department of Fisheries has been conducting surveys since 2001 to estimate the spawning biomass of snapper that form the aggregations in Cockburn Sound each year. Preliminary estimates suggest the biomass was declining prior to the management changes in 2005, but has subsequently increased as the result of factors such as changing the timing and extending the length of the closure from six to ten weeks, and adjusting the daily bag limit so that a maximum of one fish over 70 cm in length could be taken.

Other factors that have helped to increase the spawning biomass include an influx of mature pink snapper into the Cockburn Sound spawning population from the strong stock recruitment that occurred in 1999.

Send Us Your Skeletons helps fisheries science

Fishers who participated in the '[Send Us Your Skeletons](#)' initiative provided the Department's research division with fish skeletons of a number of demersal fish (those that live on or near the sea bottom) and nearshore fish species, along with the particulars of their catch, including when and where the fish were caught.

Researchers needed the filleted fish skeletons – with head and guts intact – to support research into key finfish species from the West Coast Bioregion (north of Kalbarri to east of Augusta), such as [Western Australian dhufish](#), [pink snapper](#) and [Australian herring](#).

Analysing data collected from fish frames is one of the best ways that fisheries scientists can assess the health of fish stocks, which is used to help manage WA's prized fish stocks more effectively and ensure there are 'fish for the future'. Important information that is collected from fish skeletons includes the length, sex and reproductive stage, and age of the fish.

Recreational fishers were encouraged to drop off their fish skeletons at Department of Fisheries' regional offices and participating tackle stores.

The recreational fishing industry provided great support for 'Send Us Your Skeletons' by providing a number of incentives for skeleton donation. Those fishers who gave their fish frames to the



Fisheries researcher Josh Brown and volunteer Laurie Birchall demonstrate how to remove fillets from a fish and donate its skeleton. Photo: Matthew Terwey

Department went into a prize draw for a number of prizes donated by industry, including a week-long charter fishing trip to the Montebello Islands, courtesy of Montebello Island Charters.

CASE STUDY 3



Trochus shell after commercial polishing.

Aboriginal community commercial fishing: The Western Australian Trochus Fishery

The Bardi Jawi and Mayala Native Title holders¹ of One Arm Point are the only people permitted to commercially harvest trochus shell in the waters of Western Australia. Trochus shell has been commercially harvested by the Bardi Jawi and Mayala people in the waters around the Dampier Peninsula and Buccaneer Archipelago since at least the 1960s.

It is a small fishery based on a single target species of trochus shell (*Trochus niloticus*) being collected by hand, with between two to 15 tonnes exported annually over the past decade. The fishing grounds are located in the remote Kimberley region of Western Australia and include the Native Title area waters of the Bardi Jawi and Mayala people.

The Trochus Fishery is managed under an Instrument of Exemption (see Appendix 4 of this report for details of types of exemptions), permitting community-nominated community members from One Arm Point to take trochus for a commercial purpose in the Bardi Jawi and Mayala Native Title areas. The collectors use boats (mostly four to five-metre long dinghies) to access the outer reefs from which they hand-pick trochus from exposed reef tops during low tides.

¹ Ardyaloon Incorporated is the commercial arm of the Ardyaloon Aboriginal Community Council, located at One Arm Point, representing the Bardi Jawi and Mayala Native Title holders.



Between two to 15 tonnes of trochus shell are exported annually after being collected by hand by the Bardi Jawi and Mayala People.

In 2007, representatives from the One Arm Point Aboriginal community and the Department of Fisheries agreed to a revised set of co-management arrangements for the Trochus Fishery including:

- a maximum size limit of 100 mm (basal shell diameter);
- minimum size limit of 75 mm (basal shell diameter);

- two area closures; and
- an annual quota (15 tonnes).

Under the co-management arrangements all trochus is picked from exposed reef (no diving is permitted) and all shell is sold through one central point.

The Trochus Fishery's low impact collection methods result in minimal impact on reef habitat and the wider ecosystem generally, and there is no bycatch in the fishery.

The co-management approach provides the One Arm Point Aboriginal Community with a sense of ownership and responsibility in managing the stocks to ensure they are sustainable. There is a strong customary marine tenure aspect to the fishery that enhances the sense of ownership of the Community.



All trochus is picked from exposed reef by the Bardi Jawi and Mayala people and all shell is sold through one central point.

Service 3 – Research and Monitoring

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The Research Division is responsible for the delivery of the Department of Fisheries' research and monitoring service. The primary role of the Research Division is to provide timely and quality scientific knowledge and objective advice to support the management, conservation and sustainable use of the State's aquatic resources. Ongoing research, monitoring and assessment programs are focused on supporting the management of the State's major fish stocks and the marine ecosystems that underpin these resources. These activities also contribute to the Department of Fisheries meeting its statutory responsibilities.
.....

The Research Division's 130-plus staff members, of which over 45 are professionally-qualified research scientists, work within four expertise-based branches (Invertebrate Fisheries, Finfish Fisheries, Biodiversity and Biosecurity, and Stock Assessment and Data Analysis), with monitoring and assessment research projects frequently conducted by multi-disciplinary teams, increasingly in cooperation with external research partners.

The major research activities undertaken by the Research Division are:

- Provision of objective expert scientific advice to assist the Department of Fisheries to implement a comprehensive holistic approach to management of the State's aquatic natural resources (i.e. Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management).
- Annual reporting on the status of the key fish stocks, fisheries and their associated ecosystems in the *State of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources* report.
- Maintenance of long-term monitoring programs and databases to enable the scientific assessment of fish stocks and their associated ecosystems.
- Development of new assessment and governance techniques to assist in aquatic management within an integrated, ecosystem-based framework.
- Generating an understanding of the threats to biosecurity and biodiversity specifically associated with aquaculture activities and to the marine and freshwater environments in general.

- Undertaking monitoring and research activities aimed at limiting the potential introduction and impact of marine pest species.
- Investigation of the effects of fishing on stocks, habitats, bycatch species, protected species and the ecosystem in general.
- Undertaking research and development activities to assist with the expansion of the State's aquaculture industry.

Significant scientific advice and contributions are also provided by the Research Division to assist the Department of Fisheries in:

- Negotiating management or governance arrangements with Commonwealth agencies (such as the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Populations and Communities (SEWPaC); the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF); and the Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA)).
- Providing advice to support the development of national and international strategies.
- Providing advice on risks and impacts of marine and coastal developments including those associated with the resources sector.
- Information to support Wildlife Trade Operation accreditation by State fisheries to obtain export approvals under the Commonwealth's *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

The individual branches of the Research Division and their work are described below.

Invertebrate Fisheries

The Invertebrate Fisheries Branch undertakes research to assess and monitor the crustacean and mollusc stocks that support the State's major fisheries, which include rock lobsters, prawns, pearl oysters, scallops, abalone and crabs.

A focus of research in recent years has been the development of estimates of pre-recruitment abundance to make catch predictions and then using these predictions in the management of the fisheries through management 'decision rules'.

The Invertebrate Fisheries Branch also assists the Biodiversity and Biosecurity Branch to undertake research on broader ecosystem-related issues associated with these fisheries, such as bycatch and community structure, including a number of collaborative projects with universities, the Western Australian Museum and the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO).

The Invertebrate Fisheries Branch is also responsible for staffing and programming the Department's major research vessel, the *RV Naturaliste*. This vessel undertakes a range of research activities throughout the year, encompassing trawling, fish trapping, rock lobster fishing, longlining, biodiversity studies and environmental monitoring.

Finfish Fisheries

The Finfish Fisheries Branch undertakes research to assess and monitor the State's diverse finfish resources. The branch monitors indicator species for finfish resources in all the biogeographical regions that Western Australia has been practically divided into by the Department of Fisheries.

Some of the species monitored include Western Australian dhufish, temperate snapper and baldchin groper, which are indicator species for the health of the west coast demersal scalefish resource. Other indicator species monitored and assessed include tropical shallow-water and deep-water snappers, sharks, nearshore species such as Australian herring and estuarine species such as cobbler.

These species are harvested by commercial fishers (supplying local and overseas markets), the recreational fishing sector (involving around 600,000 fishers) and the managed recreational charter fishing sector. Much of this research work also relates to the species and stocks that are the focus of the Department of Fisheries' Integrated Fisheries Management strategy.

The Finfish Fisheries Branch also supports a significant number of collaborative research projects at local universities and other research groups (Australian Institute of Marine Science, CSIRO) many of which involve postgraduate research students.

Biodiversity and Biosecurity

The Biodiversity and Biosecurity Branch has state-wide responsibilities for the provision of scientific advice relating to the conservation of fish and invertebrates and protection of the environment. This includes responsibility for issues such as:

- Health of benthic habitats including faunal (coral) and floral (seagrass) components.
- Biosecurity issues.
- Provision of fish pathology services.
- Freshwater research (e.g. native fish conservation).
- Production of trout and native fish species at the Pemberton hatchery and the Shenton Park research facility.
- Management of the Department's marine aquarium facilities.

The work of the Biodiversity and Biosecurity Branch is carried out in collaboration with the Department's Aquatic Management Division, the Department of Environment and Conservation, various universities, the Australian Institute of Marine Science, natural resource management groups, and port and harbour authorities.

Stock Assessment and Data Analysis

The Stock Assessment and Data Analysis Branch provides support for the Research Division and the Aquatic Management Division in the fields of

statistical design and analysis, population dynamics and stock assessment, data management, monitoring of fishery catch and effort, library services, and recreational fishing and community surveys.

In addition, the data collected during routine monitoring of commercial and recreational fisheries undergoes preliminary analysis and assessment by the Stock Assessment and Data Analysis Branch.

The branch maintains the Department of Fisheries' extensive commercial fisheries and charter boat databases and undertakes leading-edge research into the development of fisheries stock assessment models and sustainability reporting techniques. In addition, it carries out major recreational fishing and community and stakeholder attitude surveys – the results of which are added to the comprehensive fisheries databases maintained by the Research Division.

This group works in close collaboration with the other Research Division branches and is primarily responsible for assessing the status of most fish stocks in Western Australia. It is through these assessments that the success of the Department's fisheries management arrangements is effectively monitored.

Service 3 – Research and Monitoring – Major Achievements for 2010/11

In addition to the ongoing monitoring and assessment functions (which are all documented in the 2010/11 Research, Monitoring, Assessment

and Development Plan), in 2010/11, the Research Division achieved the following successes:

Invertebrates

- The improved stock assessment model for western rock lobster was reviewed by a team of international experts and used to examine management scenarios for this fishery.
- A Fisheries Research and Development Corporation (FRDC) research project on oceanographic modeling of the larval phase of the western rock lobster fishery was completed in collaboration with the CSIRO to identify important larval source areas that result in successful puerulus settlement.
- An independent survey on the status of western rock lobster stocks in the 'Big Bank' region (to the north of the Abrolhos Islands zone of the limited entry western rock lobster fishery) to evaluate the effects of the closed area showed a significant improvement in abundance.
- An FRDC joint project with the CSIRO was initiated to assess the management implications of climate change effects on the fisheries in Western Australia.
- An assessment of the spawning stock and recruitment of blue swimmer crabs in Cockburn Sound showed that stocks are recovering well and a management decision-

rule framework was used to extend the level of fishing.

- A Seafood Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) bio-economic modeling project was initiated to further examine the maximum economic yield for the western rock lobster fishery.
- A Seafood CRC-funded greenlip abalone enhancement study was initiated to determine the growth and survival of abalone released in the wild fishery.
- A workshop on the ‘marine heatwave’ that took place over the summer of 2010/11 was undertaken to assess the effect of the record water temperatures off the mid- and lower west coast of WA on the marine life.
- External reviews of research on stock status of blue swimmer crab stocks in Cockburn Sound, Peel-Harvey and Shark Bay, as well as scallop stocks in Shark Bay, were carried out.

Biodiversity and Biosecurity

- A baseline survey of coral habitats at the Arolhos Islands was finished.
- Monitoring for introduced marine pests in Western Australia’s three highest risk ports and Christmas Island was finished.
- A review of the marron recreational fishery was undertaken to ensure its sustainability in the future.

- A Natural Resource Management-funded fish ladder was constructed at Pemberton Freshwater Research Centre for native fish breeding.
- Two species of native fish (pygmy perch and western minnows) were successfully bred in captivity.
- Commercial production of brine shrimp at Hutt Lagoon, Port Gregory was achieved as a result of a collaboration with Cognis Australia and FRDC. This success led to the project winning the 2010 Premier’s Award for ‘Developing the WA Economy’.
- A bioregional bycatch (including threatened, endangered and protected species) risk assessment was written and published for the Gascoyne Coast, West Coast and South Coast Bioregions.

Stock Assessment and Data Analysis

- A fully-integrated approach to state-wide surveys of recreational boat-based fishing, using the Recreational Fishing from Boat License, was developed and implemented.
- Assessment of recreational catches of the West Coast demersal scalefish catch showed that management regulations had achieved the desired 50 per cent reduction.
- An FRDC project, in collaboration with Murdoch University, was finished on ecosystem health

indicators relevant to the monitoring and management of Western Australian fisheries.

- Qualitative assessment approaches to Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management were completed for recreational fishing on the west coast and deep-water lobster ecosystems off Jurien Bay.

Finfish

- Potential methods for surveying juvenile dhufish were reviewed, involving intrastate and interstate scientific experts, leading to the development of a workplan to trial survey methods.
- The first assessment was commenced of the status and connectivity of the important nearshore species, Australian herring and tailor, with support from Natural Resource Management funding.
- The status and risk of all finfish resources in the State was reported and made available online to help prioritisation of monitoring and assessment resources.
- An assessment was completed of the status of indicator species for the Gascoyne demersal scalefish resource (temperate (pink) snapper, goldband snapper and spangled emperor).
- Led a delegation to China that resulted in the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Fisheries and the China Society of Fisheries to promote the

exchange of scientific expertise and develop joint-projects to support fisheries research, monitoring, assessment and management

Service 3 – Research and Monitoring – Major Initiatives for 2010/11

Invertebrates

- An FRDC-funded project will be completed on increasing our understanding of the causes of the low puerulus settlement in the western rock lobster fishery, using a larval oceanographic model and a statistical assessment of biological and environmental data.
- Development will be finalised for a new spatial stock assessment model for the western rock lobster fishery and a sensitivity assessment of the parameters used in the model undertaken.
- A catch prediction model for the Perth recreational abalone fishery will be used to assist in the management of the new Total Allowable Recreational Catch.

Biodiversity and Biosecurity

- Delimiting surveys will be carried out for introduced marine pest species identified by monitoring projects carried out in ports.
- Ongoing monitoring will be conducted for introduced marine pest species at high risk locations.

- An FRDC project on the investigation of Chlamydiales-like organisms in pearl oysters will be finalised.
- An FRDC-funded project to investigate viral inclusions in Australian prawns will be started.
- Fresh water bodies and species for rehabilitation, restocking and feral eradication will be prioritised, based upon data from our 2010 survey.
- Restocking of native fish will commence in priority water bodies.
- The community education display at the Pemberton Freshwater Research Centre will be completed and the hatchery re-opened to tours by the general public.

Stock Assessment and Data Analysis

- Assist development and integration of the Department's new entitlement management system to ensure integrity of historical and future time series of catch and effort data for the state's commercial fisheries.
- Data collection for the survey of state-wide boat-based fishing will conclude, and detailed analyses will begin.
- Build capacity in stock assessment to improve ability to meet the needs of fisheries management.

Finfish

- An NRM-funded project to determine connectivity and status of key indicator species in the nearshore waters of the West Coast Bioregion will be finalised.
- Cooperative FRDC-funded projects will be completed that examine the relative efficiency of gear and resource availability in the tropical demersal fisheries and the stock structure of blue and king threadfin species across northern Australia.
- Reports will be finalised and released on the stock status of the Gascoyne demersal scalefish resource.
- An NRM-funded project on the monitoring of juvenile dhufish, including identifying options for future monitoring programs will be finalised.
- Northern and southern finfish monitoring and assessment plans will be finalised and implemented to support departmental planning processes.
- The commencement of an FRDC-funded project led by researchers at the CSIRO and aimed at collecting and identifying larval dhufish in the West Coast Bioregion will be supported.
- An FRDC-funded project to examine the movements and linkages of key shark species among the bioregions will begin.

CASE STUDY 4



During the marine heatwave whale sharks were seen off Mandurah and as far south as Albany. Photo: Matt Pember

Research and Monitoring in Focus – Scientists join forces to investigate marine heatwave and climate variability

An unprecedented ‘marine heatwave’ experienced along the Western Australian coastline during the 2010/11 summer appears to have some major implications for fish and invertebrate species, including western rock lobster, living along the State’s continental shelf.

In May 2011, marine experts from around the State, hosted by the Department of Fisheries and the CSIRO, joined together in a workshop to review the physical and biological aspects of the heatwave. The Department of Fisheries had already started investigating the phenomenon.

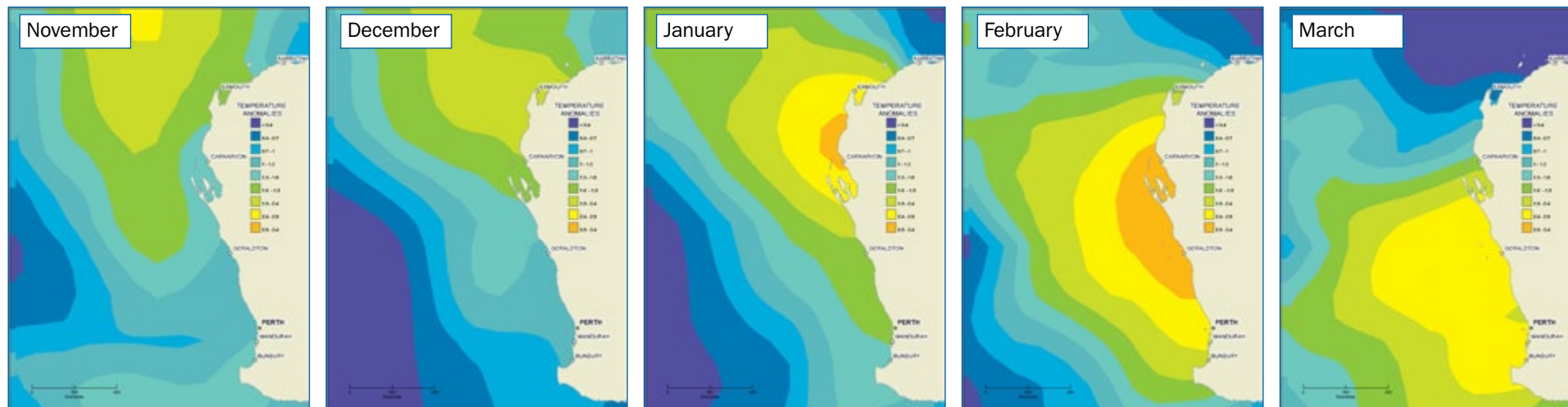
The aim of the forum was to share information collected by marine scientists and other stakeholders,

including commercial and recreational fishers, to ensure the causes and effects of the heatwave were fully understood and properly interpreted.

Since the final quarter of 2010, above-average water temperatures were recorded off the WA coastline. Over a period of several months, an extensive patch of very warm water moved southwards, driven by a stronger-than-usual Leeuwin Current. This current plays a major role in controlling the marine life and climate of Western Australia.

In February 2011, sea surface temperatures were more than three degrees Celcius above average for this time of year over a large area extending from Ningaloo to the Abrolhos and more than 200 km

Figure 39. The size and movement of the marine heatwave from November 2010 through to March 2011.



Signs of the times: Some of the more dramatic results of the marine heatwave that occurred during the summer of 2010/11.

Coral bleaching at Barrow Shoals near Dampier. Photo: Department of Environment and Conservation

Black Marlin as far south as Busselton. Photo: Jeni Gates, Bluewater Tackle, Exmouth

Dead Pink Snapper in Shark Bay. Photo: Department of Fisheries

Whale sharks seen off Mandurah and as far south as Albany. Photo: Jason Stone

Reef Bannerfish seen at the Busselton Underwater Observatory. Photo: Anna Micha

Dead sunfish on beaches near Albany. Photo: Kim Smith, Department of Fisheries

offshore, while an area extending from Exmouth to the Capes and 500 km offshore was more than two degrees Celsius warmer.

In some cases, sea temperatures were the warmest ever recorded for these regions, appearing to be influenced by a stronger-than-usual Leeuwin

Current over summer, associated with the very strong *La Niña* weather event. During the heatwave, there were a number of fish kills along the mid-west coast and in the Abrolhos, Kalbarri and Leeman areas, which appear to have been caused by low oxygen levels brought on by high water temperatures and hot, still weather. Western rock lobster and abalone deaths were also reported in areas of warmer water associated with calm conditions.

Climatic variability has a strong influence on many biological processes off the west coast of WA. Recruitment of juvenile rock lobster into adult stocks is affected by climatic factors including water temperatures and the strength of the Leeuwin Current (which strengthens during *La Niña* events, but weakens during *El Niño* events).

Whilst high recruitment of western rock lobster is influenced by a strong Leeuwin Current and the associated higher water temperatures, there is evidence that increases in water temperature can result in a decrease in the size of rock lobsters at maturity.

During March 2011, the Department of Fisheries announced its researchers were combining with the CSIRO in a three-year project to closely examine the effects of climate change on Western Australia's marine environment. The \$450,000 project, funded by the Australian Government's Fisheries and Research Development Corporation, the Department of Fisheries (WA) and the CSIRO, utilises oceanographic modeling and an

understanding of environmental effects on fisheries using case studies.

In WA this project will be used to assess the vulnerability to climate change of fish stocks such as western rock lobster, blue swimmer crab, tailor and dhufish.

Climate change affects life cycles of fish stocks by altering seasonal cycles and long-term trends of the physical environment. Any long-term changes in the abundance of fish stocks as the result of climate change may require an adjustment in fishing effort or catch quota, in order that the fish stocks remain sustainable.

Figure 39 on page 97 features a graduated temperature scale indicating the average sea surface temperatures recorded over that month. The darkest blue/purple shade indicates water of normal temperature (ie. what you would usually expect to see). The yellow and orange areas indicate water of much higher than usual temperature (2.5 to 3.5 degrees above normal).

Figure 39 also shows the movement of the body of water from well off the north-west coast (about 400 km offshore) in November 2010 through to a significant intensification in January 2011, where it is seen to be directly hugging the Gascoyne coastline. By February it has enlarged and extends from Ningaloo to south of Mandurah. By March the coverage was still extensive but the very high temperatures had fallen.

Service 4 – Marine Safety Service



During 2010/11, the Department of Fisheries took part in a joint marine safety exercise with the Department of Transport, Police Air Wing, Peel Water Police and Sea Rescue to practice winding people on and off vessels. Above: a man being winched off a vessel. Right: the exercise viewed from a Department of Fisheries vessel.

The marine safety compliance service is delivered by Fisheries and Marine Officers within the Department's Regional Services Branch on behalf of the Department of Transport.

These services are primarily provided within the Metropolitan Region (Lancelin to Mandurah) and include both at-sea and boat ramp checks to ensure Masters and persons in charge of vessels are complying with relevant marine safety legislation. Most of these services are targeted at recreational boat users but some commercial inspections also occur when the situation permits.

As many of these services are delivered in conjunction with a fisheries compliance service, they are delivered effectively and efficiently in line with government policy.

The Department of Fisheries is working closely with the Department of Transport on policy matters, such as the introduction of marine safety single national jurisdiction under the Commonwealth by 2013, that may affect clients and our own maritime operations.



Corporate Services

Corporate Services Division

The Department's Corporate Service Division, in partnership with the Department of Treasury and Finance – Office of Shared Services (DTFSS), provides corporate services necessary to support the Department in the delivery of its Fisheries Management, Compliance and Education, Research and Monitoring and Marine Safety services.

Shared Corporate Services

The DTFSS delivers corporate services such as financial and human resources across the public sector from a single location, using a common system. The Department of Fisheries' personnel functions were transferred in October 2009. This complements the existing finance and payroll modules previously adopted.

Customer Service Management

The Department of Fisheries' Customer Service Feedback Management System was established to ensure that complaints are heard and dealt with fairly and quickly. The system also records complimentary feedback and suggestions for the improvement of service.

The management and staff of the Department respect the right of members of the community to complain about the standard of service provided by the Department. The Department's commitment to fair, equitable and timely resolution of complaints, and recognition of both positive and negative feedback at all levels of the organisation, are described in its Feedback Management Policy (see below) and related documents.

Our Policy

The Department will deal with complaints effectively and promptly without prejudice or bias. At all times we will be honest and fair in our dealings with customers.

The Department's Customer Service Charter provides procedures for the effective management

and resolution of feedback and complaints by members of the public. It outlines the Department's Feedback Management Policy and meets the criteria for effective complaints handling laid down by the Australian Standard (AS ISO 10002-2004).

The Feedback Management System enables the Department to manage and respond to complaints, compliments and suggestions in a timely and equitable manner.

Maintenance of the Customer Service Charter and the Feedback Management System is now the responsibility of the Customer Relations Manager.

In addition to the Feedback Management System, the Department also relies on regular client surveys for feedback on customer service performance. This data is gathered in a number of ways, including questionnaires distributed by Fisheries Volunteers to recreational fishers, the commercial fishing fleet log book system and an annual community attitudes survey.

The Feedback Management System

This specialised software package was developed to enable staff to record and assign a response time to feedback from customers, whether it is a complaint, a compliment or a suggestion provided to the Department by clients in person or by telephone, letter, facsimile and email. The Customer Relations Manager manages the system and Feedback Liaison Officers are assigned to each area and regional office to oversee the day-to-day running of the system.

To encourage support and understanding of the new system, the Department produced a suite of brochures that outline the feedback process to clients and the public. A *Policy for Customer Feedback, Guidelines for Staff; the Customer Service Charter – Our Commitment to You; and Feedback for the Future* brochures are available from Departmental offices and on the Department's website.

The Department received 23 feedback items through the Feedback Management System during 2010/11 – 19 complaint items and four complimentary items.

The majority of the complaints related to difficulty in accessing the Department's recreational fishing online licensing system. The matter was investigated, the problems were identified and the online licensing system has now been modified.

To meet the requirements of the Customer Service Charter, the Feedback Management System is continually being reviewed by the Customer Relations Manager to improve the system and ensure the best possible customer service.

Outlook for 2011/12

The amended Feedback Management System will be continually monitored during 2011/12 to assess its effectiveness.

Human Resource Management

Throughout 2010/11, the Human Resources Branch has focused operational resources on facilitating the delivery of human resources/payroll services in collaboration with the Department of Treasury and Finance Shared Services.

Annual Staffing Level

The annual staffing level for the year was 419 employees as at 30 June 2011.

Table 23. Department of Fisheries staffing levels for 2010/11

	September 10	December 10	March 11	June 11
Actual FTE	385	382	398	419

The staffing levels outlined above are a snapshot of the number of full time equivalent (FTE) staff paid on the last pay day in each quarter of 2010/11.

The number of FTEs has fluctuated throughout the year as a result of variations to the number of externally-funded positions, receipt of additional funding for new projects and as a result of positions being vacant and/or incumbents on unpaid leave during various reporting periods.

Finance and Administration

The Finance and Administration Branch worked hard during 2010/11 to ensure ongoing strategic financial management was provided to meet the requirements of the Department of Fisheries, the

Department of Treasury and the Office of the Auditor General. This involved a major review and cleansing of financial data within the shared services environment.

The Department's finance and administration function was strengthened during the year with the appointment of a new Chief Financial Officer. In previous years, this statutory position has been held by the Director of Corporate Services.

Consistent with State Government policy, the Department finished the year ahead of its financial targets for the implementation of corporate purchasing cards. This initiative continues to add efficiencies and savings in the procurement and payments processes for both the Department and for suppliers.

Information Management

The Information Management Branch is responsible for the management and delivery of information services to meet internal Department requirements. The branch is made up of three separate areas:

- Corporate Information – responsible for the management of corporate documents and other information, including compliance with the Department's statutory obligations under the *State Records Act 2000* and *Freedom of Information Act 1992*.
- Information Systems Operations – responsible for the management of IT infrastructure

(including computers, servers and network equipment), communications and data services (fixed and mobile data and mobile telephones), the corporate operating environment (including desktop and server software) and Information Technology helpdesk services.

- Application Development – responsible for the management and support of corporate applications including eBrief, SeaStar and the Rock Lobster Quota Management System. This section also manages new application development.

Major Achievements for 2010/11

- A review of progress against the initiatives contained in the Strategic Human Resource Management Plan (*Plan for Our People*) that aligns people strategies and initiatives with the strategic goals of the Department.
- The implementation of the Public Sector Reform Program that has introduced new Commissioner's Instructions covering disciplinary procedures, employment and filling a public sector vacancy.
- The review and improvement of the Department's performance management tool, the Individual Performance and Development (IPAD) form and supporting information for managers and employees. The roll-out of these improvements included awareness sessions and management coaching both in the metropolitan area and regional centres.

- Commenced the development of a multi-period and multi-scenario financial analysis tool to enable the regular review of the Department's strategic financial position.
- The development of a Rock Lobster Quota Management System, including an interactive voice response system.
- The roll-out began of a new corporate operating environment for both servers and personal computers.
- A virtual computer environment was further consolidated, reducing the Department's impact on the environment.
- Significant contributions were made to the 'whole-of-government' Server and Data Storage Devices Common Use Agreement.
- The Department's record keeping plan was updated in line with State Records Office requirements.

Major initiatives for 2011/12

- Enhancing organisational development initiatives and programs.
- Assisting Corporate Executive with a review of the organisational structure and classification framework for the Department.
- Implementation of a Suicide Prevention Strategy that aims to engage employees in mental health discussions and develop programs to improve coping resilience and

- reduce the risks of suicide for staff and their loved ones.
 - Implementation of an induction and training program for supervisors and managers.
 - Development and implementation of a human resources metrics and reporting model that will improve workforce analysis and risk management.
 - Continuation of the Department's Wellness Program to strengthen employee engagement in health and wellbeing initiatives.
 - The follow-up Work Safe accreditation assessment is scheduled to be undertaken.
 - The development of a new strategic plan to guide the Department's investment in information services over the coming years.
 - The development of a business classification scheme and retention and disposal schedule to support the effective management of corporate information.
 - Further work will be carried out on the deployment of an electronic document records management system.
 - Significant changes to a range of core corporate tools, including service desk, records management system and other support and management tools.
- Implementation of the Interactive Voice Response system for the Rock Lobster Quota Management System.
 - Significant changes to the Department's infrastructure to support the deployment of the Entitlement Management System.




As a result of moving to the shared services environment, the Department of Fisheries has adopted 'whole of government' depreciation rates as determined by the Department of Treasury. Under these rates, the estimated useful life for a vessel is five to six years. Photo: Steve Ireland

DISCLOSURES AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE

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Independent Audit Opinion on Financial Statements and Key Performance Indicators



Auditor General

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Parliament of Western Australia

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES

Report on the Financial Statements

I have audited the accounts and financial statements of the Department of Fisheries.

The financial statements comprise the Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2011, the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows, Schedule of Income and Expenses by Service, Schedule of Assets and Liabilities by Service, and Summary of Consolidated Account Appropriations and Income Estimates for the year then ended, and Notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Chief Executive Officer's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for keeping proper accounts, and the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Treasurer's Instructions, and for such internal control as the Chief Executive Officer determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

As required by the Auditor General Act 2006, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements based on my audit. The audit was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those Standards require compliance with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and that the audit be planned and performed to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Department's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Chief Executive Officer, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I believe that the audit evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Opinion

In my opinion, the financial statements are based on proper accounts and present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Department of Fisheries at 30 June 2011 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended. They are in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Treasurer's Instructions.

Page 1 of 2

4th Floor Durmas House 2 Havelock Street West Perth 6005 Western Australia Tel: 08 9222 7500 Fax: 08 9222 5664

Department of Fisheries

Report on Controls

I have audited the controls exercised by the Department of Fisheries. The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for ensuring that adequate control is maintained over the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of public and other property, and the incurring of liabilities in accordance with the Financial Management Act 2006 and the Treasurer's Instructions, and other relevant written law.

As required by the Auditor General Act 2006, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the controls exercised by the Chief Executive Officer based on my audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards.

Opinion

In my opinion, the controls exercised by the Department of Fisheries are sufficiently adequate to provide reasonable assurance that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property, and the incurring of liabilities have been in accordance with legislative provisions.

Report on the Key Performance Indicators

I have audited the key performance indicators of the Department of Fisheries. The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the key performance indicators in accordance with the Financial Management Act 2006 and the Treasurer's Instructions.


As required by the Auditor General Act 2006, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the key performance indicators based on my audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards.

Opinion

In my opinion, the key performance indicators of the Department of Fisheries are relevant and appropriate to assist users to assess the Department's performance and fairly represent indicated performance for the year ended 30 June 2011.

Independence

In conducting this audit, I have complied with the independence requirements of the Auditor General Act 2006 and the Australian Auditing Standards, and other relevant ethical requirements.



COLIN MURPHY
AUDITOR GENERAL
1 September 2011

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Certification of financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2011

The accompanying financial statements of the Department of Fisheries have been prepared in compliance with the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2006* from proper accounts and records to present fairly the financial transactions for the financial year.

At the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances which would render any particulars included in the financial statements misleading or inaccurate.



THU LANG VO
CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER
Date: 22 August 2011



STUART SMITH
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Date: 22 August 2011

**DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011**

COST OF SERVICES	Note	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000
Expenses			
Employee benefits expense	6	40,516	38,027
Supplies and services	7	21,352	17,750
Depreciation and amortisation expense	8	3,790	3,262
Finance costs	9	253	140
Accommodation expenses	10	2,071	2,092
Grants and subsidies	11	3,476	5,099
Fisheries Adjustment Scheme buy-backs	12	170	2,566
Other expenses	13	263	639
Total cost of services		<u>71,891</u>	<u>69,575</u>
Income			
<i>Revenue</i>			
User charges and fees	14	29,558	24,673
Grants and contributions	15	2,987	6,633
Interest revenue	16	491	102
Total revenue		<u>33,036</u>	<u>31,408</u>
<i>Gains</i>			
Gain on disposal of non-current assets	17	24	109
Total gains		<u>24</u>	<u>109</u>
Total income other than income from State Government		<u>33,060</u>	<u>31,517</u>
NET COST OF SERVICES		(38,831)	(38,058)
INCOME FROM STATE GOVERNMENT			
Service appropriations	18	32,676	36,029
Resources received free of charge		499	1,272
Royalties for Regions Fund		94	-
Total income from State Government		<u>33,269</u>	<u>37,301</u>
DEFICIT FOR THE PERIOD		<u>(5,562)</u>	<u>(757)</u>
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME			
Changes in asset revaluation surplus	29	(527)	(2,794)
Total other comprehensive income		(527)	(2,794)
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD		<u>(6,089)</u>	<u>(3,551)</u>

Refer to the 'Schedule of Income and Expenses by Service'.

The Statement of Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2011

	Note	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	29	3,516	3,486
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	19	1,637	1,437
Receivables	20	5,128	1,559
Amounts receivable for services	21	2,226	2,226
Other current assets	22	162	109
Total Current Assets		<u>12,669</u>	<u>8,817</u>
Non-current Assets			
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	19	672	557
Receivables	20	34,862	3,336
Amounts receivable for services	21	6,349	5,183
Property, plant and equipment	23	59,452	59,384
Total Non-Current Assets		<u>101,335</u>	<u>68,460</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>114,004</u>	<u>77,277</u>
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Payables	25	2,607	1,907
Borrowings	26	2,903	562
Provisions	27	9,151	6,863
Other current liabilities	28	1,173	734
Total Current Liabilities		<u>15,834</u>	<u>10,066</u>
Non-current Liabilities			
Borrowings	26	34,862	3,465
Provisions	27	2,123	1,982
Total Non-Current Liabilities		<u>36,985</u>	<u>5,447</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>52,819</u>	<u>15,513</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>61,185</u>	<u>61,764</u>
EQUITY			
Contributed equity	29	50,076	44,566
Reserves	29	13,514	14,041
Accumulated surplus/(deficit)	29	(2,405)	3,157
TOTAL EQUITY		<u>61,185</u>	<u>61,764</u>

Refer to the 'Schedule of Assets and Liabilities by Service'.

The Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

**DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011**

	Note	Contributed Equity \$'000	Reserves \$'000	Accumulated Surplus/ (Deficit) \$'000	Total Equity \$'000
Balance at 1 July 2009	29	39,166	16,835	3,914	59,915
Changes in accounting policy or correction of prior period errors		-	-	-	-
Restated balance at 1 July 2009		39,166	16,835	3,914	59,915
Total comprehensive income for the year		-	(2,794)	(757)	(3,551)
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:					
Capital appropriations		5,400	-	-	5,400
Total		5,400	-	-	5,400
Balance at 30 June 2010		44,566	14,041	3,157	61,764
Balance at 1 July 2010		44,566	14,041	3,157	61,764
Total comprehensive income for the year		-	(527)	(5,562)	(6,089)
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:					
Capital appropriations		5,510	-	-	5,510
Total		5,510	-	-	5,510
Balance at 30 June 2011		50,076	13,514	(2,405)	61,185

The Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

	Note	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM STATE GOVERNMENT			
Service appropriation		29,284	32,637
Capital contributions		5,510	5,400
Holding account drawdowns		2,226	4,003
Royalties for Regions Fund		94	-
Net cash provided by State Government		37,114	42,040
Utilised as follows:			
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Payments			
Employee benefits		(37,683)	(36,967)
Supplies and services		(15,122)	(17,245)
Finance costs		(253)	(127)
Accommodation		(2,071)	(2,092)
Grants and subsidies		(3,476)	(5,099)
GST payments on purchases		(6,522)	(3,466)
Fisheries Adjustment Scheme buy-backs		(170)	(2,566)
Other payments		(5,498)	(1,321)
Receipts			
User charges and fees		28,689	25,036
Grants and contributions		2,987	6,633
Interest received		413	102
GST receipts on sales		547	984
GST receipts from taxation authority		5,786	2,533
Net cash used in operating activities	30	(32,373)	(33,595)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Payments			
Purchases of non-current physical assets		(4,414)	(7,652)
Receipts			
Proceeds from the sale of non-current physical assets	17	36	1,021
Net cash used in investing activities		(4,378)	(6,631)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Payments			
Payments to industry		(34,300)	(4,100)
Repayment of borrowings		(562)	(674)
Receipts			
Proceeds from industry		544	447
Proceeds from borrowings		34,300	4,100
Net cash used in financing activities		(18)	(227)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		345	1,587
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of period		5,480	3,893
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of period	30	5,825	5,480

The Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES SCHEDULE OF INCOME AND EXPENSES BY SERVICE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

	AQUATIC MANAGEMENT		COMPLIANCE AND EDUCATION		RESEARCH AND MONITORING		MARINE SAFETY		TOTAL	
	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000
COST OF SERVICES										
Expenses										
Employee benefits expense	12,569	8,618	14,849	16,528	12,781	12,106	317	775	40,516	38,027
Supplies and services	4,637	2,135	8,412	9,296	8,198	6,037	105	282	21,352	17,750
Depreciation and amortisation	38	33	2,729	1,468	1,023	1,761	-	-	3,790	3,262
Finance costs	253	140	-	-	-	-	-	-	253	140
Accommodation expenses	1,056	241	705	1,096	300	691	10	64	2,071	2,092
Grants and subsidies	1,969	3,016	-	8	1,507	2,075	-	-	3,476	5,099
FAS buybacks	170	2,566	-	-	-	-	-	-	170	2,566
Other expenses	23	183	9	207	231	239	-	10	263	639
Total cost of services	20,715	16,932	26,704	28,603	24,040	22,909	432	1,131	71,891	69,575
Income										
User charges and fees	6,830	4,979	11,139	11,261	11,537	8,315	52	118	29,558	24,673
Grants and contributions	44	232	-	9	2,943	6,392	-	-	2,987	6,633
Interest revenue	104	18	168	36	218	48	1	-	491	102
Gain on disposal of non-current assets	-	-	24	109	-	-	-	-	24	109
Total income other than income from State Government	6,978	5,229	11,331	11,415	14,698	14,755	53	118	33,060	31,517
NET COST OF SERVICES	13,737	11,703	15,373	17,188	9,342	8,154	379	1,013	38,831	38,058
INCOME FROM STATE GOVERNMENT										
Service appropriation	11,989	11,209	13,031	16,353	7,313	7,486	343	980	32,676	36,029
Resources received free of charge	144	-	185	-	167	-	3	-	499	-
Royalties for Regions Fund	2	310	90	523	2	419	-	21	94	1,272
Total income from State Government	12,135	11,519	13,306	16,876	7,482	7,905	346	1,001	33,269	37,301
Deficit for the period	(1,602)	(184)	(2,067)	(312)	(1,860)	(249)	(33)	(12)	(5,562)	(757)

The Schedule of Income and Expenses by Service should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES SCHEDULE OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES BY SERVICE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

	AQUATIC MANAGEMENT		COMPLIANCE AND EDUCATION		RESEARCH AND MONITORING		MARINE SAFETY		TOTAL	
	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000
Assets										
Current assets										
Cash and cash equivalents	800	796	1,401	1,379	1,186	1,191	129	120	3,516	3,486
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	373	329	652	568	552	491	60	49	1,637	1,437
Receivables	3,310	601	938	491	794	424	86	43	5,128	1,559
Amounts receivable for services	506	508	887	881	751	760	82	77	2,226	2,226
Other current assets	29	25	80	43	49	37	4	4	162	109
Total Current Assets	5,018	2,259	3,958	3,362	3,332	2,903	361	293	12,669	8,817
Non-current assets										
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	152	128	268	220	227	190	25	19	672	557
Receivables	34,862	3,336	–	–	–	–	–	–	34,862	3,336
Amounts receivable for services	1,444	1,185	2,530	2,050	2,142	1,770	233	178	6,349	5,183
Property, plant and equipment	921	213	34,323	35,383	24,059	23,756	149	32	59,452	59,384
Total Non-Current Assets	37,379	4,862	37,121	37,653	26,428	25,716	407	229	101,335	68,460
Total Assets	42,397	7,121	41,079	41,015	29,760	28,619	768	522	114,004	77,277
Liabilities										
Current liabilities										
Payables	645	434	937	754	963	653	62	66	2,607	1,907
Borrowings	2,774	317	129	245	–	–	–	–	2,903	562
Provisions	2,357	1,568	3,588	2,715	3,122	2,344	84	236	9,151	6,863
Other current liabilities	289	168	511	290	359	251	14	25	1,173	734
Total Current Liabilities	6,065	2,487	5,165	4,004	4,444	3,248	160	327	15,834	10,066
Non-current liabilities										
Borrowings	34,862	3,336	–	129	–	–	–	–	34,862	3,465
Provisions	479	453	894	784	734	677	16	68	2,123	1,982
Total Non-Current Liabilities	35,341	3,789	894	913	734	677	16	68	36,985	5,447
Total Liabilities	41,406	6,276	6,059	4,917	5,178	3,925	176	395	52,819	15,513
NET ASSETS	991	845	35,020	36,098	24,582	24,694	592	127	61,185	61,764

The Schedule of Assets and Liabilities by Service should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES SUMMARY OF CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNT APPROPRIATIONS AND INCOME ESTIMATES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

Item		2011 ESTIMATE \$'000	2011 ACTUAL \$'000	VARIANCE \$'000	2011 ACTUAL \$'000	2010 ACTUAL \$'000	VARIANCE \$'000
	DELIVERY OF SERVICES						
44	Net amount appropriated to deliver services	30,363	32,412	(2,049)	32,412	35,780	(3,368)
	Section 25 transfer of service appropriation						
	Amount authorised by other statutes						
	– Salaries and Allowances Act 1975	258	264	(6)	264	249	15
	Total appropriations provided to deliver services	30,621	32,676	(2,055)	32,676	36,029	(3,353)
	CAPITAL						
134	Capital appropriations	5,510	5,510	–	5,510	5,400	110
	GRAND TOTAL	36,131	38,186	(2,055)	38,186	41,429	(3,243)
	Details of Expenses by Service						
	Fisheries Management	15,697	20,715	(5,018)	20,715	16,932	3,783
	Compliance and Education	25,609	26,704	(1,095)	26,704	28,603	(1,899)
	Research and Monitoring	19,872	24,040	(4,168)	24,040	22,909	1,131
	Marine Safety Service	1,558	432	1,126	432	1,131	(699)
	Total Cost of Services	62,736	71,891	(9,155)	71,891	69,575	2,316
	Less Total Income	(30,621)	(33,060)	2,439	(33,060)	(31,517)	(1,543)
	Net Cost of Services	32,115	38,831	(6,716)	38,831	38,058	773
	Adjustments	(1,494)	(6,155)	4,661	(6,155)	(2,029)	(4,126)
	Total appropriations provided to deliver services	30,621	32,676	(2,055)	32,676	36,029	(3,353)
	Capital Expenditure						
	Purchase of non-current physical assets	8,011	4,414	3,597	4,414	8,792	(4,378)
	Adjustments for other funding sources	(2,501)	1,096	(3,597)	1,096	(3,392)	4,488
	Capital Appropriations	5,510	5,510	–	5,510	5,400	110

Adjustments comprise movements in cash balances and other accrual items such as receivables, payables and superannuation.

Note 34 ' Explanatory statement' provides details of any significant variations between estimates and actual results for 2011 and between the actual results for 2010 and 2011.

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES INDEX OF NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

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Expense		11	GRANTS & SUBSIDIES
Expense		12	FISHERIES ADJUSTMENT SCHEME BUYBACKS
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Subject	Policy Note	Disclosure Note	Title of Policy Note
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This index does not form part of the financial statements

**DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011**

1 AUSTRALIAN ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

General

The Department's financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2011 have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards. The term 'Australian Accounting Standards' refers to Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standard Board (AASB).

The Department has adopted any applicable, new and revised Australian Accounting Standards from their operative dates.

Early adoption of standards

The Department cannot early adopt an Australian Accounting Standard unless specifically permitted by Treasurer's Instruction 1101 *Application of Australian Accounting Standards and Other Pronouncements*. No Australian Accounting Standards that have been issued or amended but not operative have been early adopted by the Department for the annual reporting period ended 30 June 2011.

2 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) General Statement

The financial statements constitute general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards, the Framework, Statements of Accounting Concepts and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board as applied by the Treasurer's Instructions. Several of these are modified by the Treasurer's Instructions to vary application, disclosure, format and wording.

The *Financial Management Act* and the Treasurer's Instructions are legislative provisions governing the preparation of financial statements and take precedence over Australian Accounting Standards, the Framework, Statements of Accounting Concepts and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board.

Where modification is required and has a material or significant financial effect upon the reported results, details of that modification and the resulting financial effect are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

(b) Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting using the historical cost convention, except for land, buildings and infrastructure, which have been measured at fair value.

The accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements have been consistently applied throughout all periods presented unless otherwise stated.

The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars and all values are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$'000).

Note 4 'Judgements made by management in applying accounting policies' discloses judgements that have been made in the process of applying the Department's accounting policies resulting in the most significant effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements.

Note 5 'Key sources of estimation uncertainty' discloses key assumptions made concerning the future, and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the end of the reporting period, that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

(c) Reporting Entity

The reporting entity is the Department which has no 'related bodies'.

Mission

The Department's mission is "To conserve, sustainably develop and share the use of the State's aquatic resources and their ecosystems for the benefit of present and future generations."

The Department is funded from revenue collected under the authority of *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*, *Pearling Act 1990* and from Parliamentary appropriations. The Department has legislative authority to retain revenues it collects in the respective Trust Accounts administered by the Department.

Services

The budget is framed in terms of services, consequently financial reporting for the year is also analysed in terms of services.

Information about the Department's services is set out in the Schedule of Expenses and Revenue by Service and the Schedule of Assets and Liabilities by Service.

The services of the Department detailed below closely align with the functional organisational structure of:

- Fisheries Management;
- Compliance and Education;
- Research and Monitoring; and
- Marine Safety Service.

A description of each service is as follows:

Fisheries Management

In accordance with Government Policy, the management of the state's fish and aquatic resources is undertaken within an integrated fisheries management framework – a shift from the management of individual sectors (e.g. the commercial fishing sector) to the holistic management of the aquatic ecosystem. Management, often in association with other related Government agencies, includes the development of policy and procedural frameworks (legislation and management plans), licensing, consultation with stakeholders and the community.

Compliance and Education

Without the support of the community and stakeholders, the Department is unable to effectively manage the aquatic environment. To encourage this support, the Department must raise community awareness and understanding of the issues and of the need to

adhere to the rules governing activities in this environment. There also needs to be enforcement of the rules through penalties for non-compliance. The Department plans and implements education and communications programs to raise levels of awareness and understanding of fishery management objective. It also plans and instigates investigations and enforcement strategies.

Research and Monitoring

The aquatic environment is subject to ongoing change – both natural and man made. In order to ensure that management arrangements continue to adapt to environmental changes (e.g. climate change impacts) and community expectations, research and monitoring is required, including innovative science (eg impacts of expected climate change, social, and economic research) and the ongoing monitoring of fish stocks.

Marine Safety Service

One of the recommendations of the Machinery of Government Taskforce in 2000 was to increase the efficiency of the delivery of government services. The delivery of marine safety in the metropolitan area was identified as being one of those services that could be delivered more efficiently if it was done by the Department of Fisheries on behalf of the Department of Transport. The Department of Fisheries has been delivering this service – which includes checks by Fisheries and Marine Officers of recreational boats to ensure compliance with the safety requirements – since this time.

(d) Contributed Equity

AASB Interpretation 1038 'Contributions by Owners Made to Wholly-Owned Public Sector Entities' requires transfers in the nature of equity contributions to be designated by the Government (the owner) as contributions by owners (at the time of, or prior to transfer) before such transfers can be recognised as equity contributions in the financial statements. Capital contributions (appropriations) have been designated as contributions by owners according to Treasurer's Instruction 955 'Contribution by Owners made to Wholly Owned Public Sector Entities' and have been credited directly to Contributed Equity.

The transfers of net assets to/from other agencies, other than as a result of a restructure of administrative arrangements, are designated as contributions by owners where the transfers are non-discretionary and non-reciprocal. See note 29 'Contributed Equity'.

(e) Income

Revenue recognition

Revenue is measured at the fair value of consideration received or receivable. Revenue is recognised for the major business activities as follows:

Sale of goods

Revenue is recognised from the sale of goods and disposal of other assets when the significant risks and rewards of ownership control transfer to the purchaser and can be measured reliably.

Provision of services

Revenue is recognised upon delivery of the service to the client or by reference to the stage of completion of the transaction. Fees paid for access to managed fisheries are levied on a seasonal, not financial year, basis and may be paid in instalments. The revenue for access fees is recognised at the time of receipt.

Interest

Revenue is recognised as the interest accrues.

Service Appropriations

Service Appropriations are recognised as revenues in the period in which the Department gains control of the appropriated funds. The Department gains control of appropriated funds at the time those funds are deposited into the Department's bank account or credited to the 'Amounts receivable for services' (holding account) held at the Department of Treasury. See note 18 'Income from State Government' for further detail.

Net Appropriation Determination

The Treasurer may make a determination providing for prescribed receipts to be retained for services under the control of the Department. In accordance with the determination specified in the 2010/11 Budget Statements, the Department retained \$5.594 million in 2010/11 (\$3.517 million in 2009-10) from GST receipts on sales and input credits.

Grants, donations, gifts and other non-reciprocal contributions

Revenue is recognised at fair value when the Department obtains control over the assets comprising the contributions, usually when cash is received.

Other non-reciprocal contributions that are not contributions by owners are recognised at their fair value. Contributions of services are only recognised when a fair value can be reliably determined and the services would be purchased if not donated.

Where contributions recognised as revenues during the reporting period were obtained on the condition that they be expended in a particular manner or used over a particular period, and those conditions were undischarged as at the balance sheet date, the nature of, and amounts pertaining to, those undischarged conditions are disclosed in the notes.

Where contributions have been recognised as income during the reporting period that were provided specifically for the provision of goods and services over a future reporting period, the nature, amounts and the periods to which they relate are disclosed.

Where contributions have been recognised as income in a previous reporting period that were obtained in respect of the current reporting period, the nature and amounts are disclosed.

Gains

Gains may be realised or unrealised and are usually recognised on a net basis. These include gains arising on the disposal of non-current assets and some revaluations of non-current assets.

(f) Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs are expensed when incurred.

(g) Property, Plant and Equipment and Infrastructure

Capitalisation/Expensing of assets

Items of property, plant and equipment and infrastructure costing \$5,000 or more are recognised as assets and the cost of utilising assets is expensed (depreciated) over their useful lives. Items of property, plant and equipment and infrastructure costing less than \$5,000 are immediately expensed direct to the Statement of Comprehensive Income (other than where they form part of a group of similar items which are significant in total).

Initial recognition and measurement

All items of property, plant and equipment and infrastructure are initially recognised at cost.

For items of property, plant and equipment and infrastructure acquired at no cost or for nominal consideration, the cost is their fair value at the date of acquisition.

Subsequent measurement

Subsequent to initial recognition as an asset, the revaluation model is used for the measurement of land, buildings and infrastructure and the cost model for all other property, plant and equipment. Land, buildings and infrastructure are carried at fair value less accumulated depreciation (buildings and infrastructure only) and accumulated impairment losses. All other items of property, plant and equipment are carried at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

Where market-based evidence is available, the fair value of land and buildings is determined on the basis of current market buying values determined by reference to recent market transactions. When buildings are revalued by reference to recent market transactions, the accumulated depreciation is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the net amount restated to the revalued amount.

In the absence of market-based evidence, the fair value of land and buildings is determined on the basis of existing use. This normally applies where buildings are specialised or where land use is restricted. Fair value for existing use assets is determined by reference to the cost of replacing the remaining future economic benefits embodied in the asset, ie. the depreciated replacement cost. Where the fair value of buildings is dependent on using the depreciated replacement cost basis, the gross carrying amount and the accumulated depreciation are restated proportionately.

Independent valuations of land and buildings are provided annually by the Western Australian Land Information Authority (Valuation Services) and recognised annually to ensure that the carrying amount does not differ materially from the asset's fair value at the end of the reporting period.

Fair value of major boating assets has been determined on the basis of current market buying values determined by reference to recent market transactions. Where no market based evidence is available, due to the specialised nature of some of these assets, fair value has been determined by reference to the depreciated replacement cost (existing use basis). Independent valuations are obtained every 3 to 5 years.

When major boating assets are revalued, the accumulated depreciation is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the net amount restated to the revalued amount.

The most significant assumptions in estimating fair value are made in assessing whether to apply the existing use basis to assets and in determining estimated useful life. Professional judgment by the valuer is required where the evidence does not provide a clear distinction between market type assets and existing use assets.

Refer to note 23 'Property, plant and Equipment' for further information on revaluations.

Derecognition

Upon disposal or derecognition of an item of property, plant and equipment and infrastructure, any revaluation reserve relating to that asset is retained in the asset revaluation surplus.

Asset Revaluation Surplus

The asset revaluation surplus is used to record increments and decrements on the revaluation of non-current assets as described in Note 23 "Property, Plant and Equipment".

Depreciation

All non-current assets having a limited useful life are systematically depreciated over their estimated useful lives in a manner that reflects the consumption of their future economic benefits.

Land is not depreciated. Depreciation on other assets is calculated using the straight line method, using rates which are reviewed annually. As a result of moving to the shared services environment, the Department has adopted the whole of government depreciation rates as determined by the Department of Treasury. Estimated useful lives for each class of depreciable asset are:

Asset category	Life (years)
Buildings	40
Vessels	5-6
Communication equipment	5
Computer equipment	3
Furniture and fittings	10
Infrastructure	30
Motor vehicles	5
Office equipment	5
Other equipment	5-10
Plant and equipment	5-20

Works of Art controlled by the Department are classified as property, plant and equipment. They are anticipated to have very long and indefinite useful lives. Their service potential has not, in any material sense, been consumed during the reporting period and so no depreciation has been recognised.

Land is not depreciated.

(h) Intangible Assets

Capitalisation/Expensing of assets

Acquisitions of intangible assets costing \$5,000 or more and internally generated intangible assets costing \$50,000 or more are capitalised. The cost of utilising the assets is expensed (amortised) over their useful life. Costs incurred below these thresholds are immediately expensed directly to the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

All acquired and internally developed intangible assets are initially recognised at cost. For assets acquired at no cost or for nominal cost, the cost is their fair value at the date of acquisition.

The cost model is applied for subsequent measurement requiring the asset to be carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

Amortisation for intangible assets with finite useful lives is calculated for the period of the expected benefit (estimated useful life) on the straight line basis using rates which are reviewed annually. All intangible assets controlled by the Department have a finite useful life and zero residual value. The expected useful lives for each class of intangible asset are:

Licences	up to 10 years
Development Costs	3 to 5 years
Software(a)	3 to 5 years
Web site costs	3 to 5 years

(a) Software that is not integral to the operation of any related hardware.

Licences

Licences have a finite useful life and are carried at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

Research and Development

Research costs are expensed as incurred. Development costs incurred for an individual project are carried forward when the future recoverability can reasonably be regarded as assured and the total project costs are likely to exceed \$50,000. Other development costs are expensed as incurred.

Computer Software

Software that is an integral part of the related hardware is treated as property, plant and equipment. Software that is not an integral part of the related hardware is treated as an intangible asset. Software costing less than \$5,000 is expensed in the year of acquisition.

Website costs

Website costs are charged as expenses when they are incurred unless they relate to the acquisition or development of an asset when they may be capitalised and amortised. Generally, costs in relation to feasibility studies during the planning phase of a web site, and ongoing costs of maintenance during the operating phase are expensed. Costs incurred in building or enhancing a website, to the extent that they represent probable future economic benefits that can be reliably measured, are capitalised.

(i) Impairment of Assets

Property, plant, equipment and infrastructure are tested for any indication of impairment at the end of each reporting period. Where there is an indication of impairment, the recoverable amount is estimated. Where the recoverable amount is less than the carrying amount, the asset is considered impaired and is written down to the recoverable amount and an impairment loss is recognised. As the Department is a not-for-profit entity, unless an asset has been identified as a surplus asset, the recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and depreciated replacement cost.

The risk of impairment is generally limited to circumstances where an asset's depreciation is materially understated, where the replacement cost is falling or where there is a significant change in useful life. Each relevant class of assets is reviewed annually to verify that the accumulated depreciation/amortisation reflects the level of consumption or expiration of asset's future economic benefits and to evaluate any impairment risk from falling replacement costs.

The recoverable amount of assets identified as surplus assets is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and the present value of future cash flows expected to be derived from the asset. Surplus assets carried at fair value have no risk of material impairment where fair value is determined by reference to market-based evidence. Where fair value is determined by reference to depreciated replacement cost, surplus assets are at risk of impairment and the recoverable amount is measured. Surplus assets at cost are tested for indications of impairment at the end of each reporting period.

(j) Non-current assets (or disposal groups) classified as held for sale

The department does not have any assets classified as held for sale.

(k) Leases

Finance lease rights and obligations are initially recognised at the commencement of the lease term as assets and liabilities equal in amount to the fair value of the leased item or, if lower, the present value of the minimum lease payments, determined at the inception of the lease. The assets are disclosed as plant, equipment and vehicles under lease, and are depreciated over the period during which the Department is expected to benefit from their use. Minimum lease payments are apportioned between the finance charge and the reduction of the outstanding lease liability, according to the interest rate implicit in the lease.

The Department holds operating leases for its head office and a number of branch office buildings. Lease payments are expensed on a straight line basis over the lease term as this represents the pattern of benefits derived from the leased properties.

(l) Financial Instruments

In addition to cash, the Department has two categories of financial instrument:

- Loans and receivables; and
- Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost.

These have been disaggregated into the following classes:

Financial Assets

- Cash and cash equivalents
- Restricted cash and cash equivalents
- Receivables
- Amounts receivable for services

Financial Liabilities

- Payables
- WATC borrowings
- Finance lease liabilities

Initial recognition and measurement of financial instruments is at fair value that normally equates to the transaction cost or the face value. Subsequent measurement is at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

The fair value of short-term receivables and payables is the transaction cost or the face value because there is no interest rate applicable and subsequent measurement is not required as the effect of discounting is not material.

(m) Cash and Cash Equivalents

For the purpose of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalent (and restricted cash and cash equivalent) assets comprise cash on hand and short-term deposits with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and which are subject to insignificant risk of changes in value.

(n) Accrued Salaries

Accrued salaries (refer note 29 'Other liabilities') represent the amount due to staff but unpaid at the end of the financial year, as the pay date for the last pay period for that financial year does not coincide with the end of the financial year. Accrued salaries are settled within a fortnight of the financial year end. The Department considers the carrying amount of accrued salaries to be equivalent to its net fair value.

The accrued salaries suspense account (see note 20 'Restricted cash and cash equivalents') consists of amounts paid annually into a suspense account over a period of 10 financial years to largely meet the additional cash outflow in each eleventh year when 27 pay days occur instead of the normal 26. No interest is received on this account.

(o) Amounts Receivable for Services (Holding Account)

The Department receives appropriation funding on an accrual basis that recognises the full annual cash and non-cash cost of services. The appropriations are paid partly in cash and partly as an asset (Holding Account receivable) that is accessible on the emergence of the cash funding requirement to cover leave entitlements and asset replacement.

See also note 18 'Income from State Government' and note 21 'Amounts receivable for services'.

(p) Receivables

Receivables are recognised and carried at original invoice amount less an allowance for uncollectible amounts (impairment). The collectability of receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis and any receivables identified as uncollectible are written-off against the allowance account. The allowance for uncollectible amounts (doubtful debts) is raised when there is objective evidence that the Department will not be able to collect the debts. The carrying amount is equivalent to fair value as it is due for settlement within 30 days. See also note 3(l) 'Financial Instruments and note 20 'Receivables'.

(q) Payables

Payables are recognised at the amounts payable when the Department becomes obliged to make future payments as a result of a purchase of assets or services. The carrying amount is equivalent to fair value, as they are generally settled within 30 days. See also note 35 'Financial Instruments and note 25 'Payables'.

(r) Borrowings

All loans payable are initially recognised at cost, being the fair value of the net proceeds received. Subsequent measurement is at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

(s) Provisions

Provisions are liabilities of uncertain timing and amount and are recognised where there is a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event and when the outflow of resources embodying economic benefits is probable and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. Provisions are reviewed at the end of each reporting period. See also note 27 'Provisions'

(i) Provisions – Employee Benefits

Annual Leave

The liability for annual leave expected to be settled within 12 months after the reporting period is recognised and measured at the undiscounted amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled.

Annual leave expected to be settled more than 12 months after the reporting period is measured at the present value of amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement. Leave liabilities are in respect of services provided by employees up to the end of the reporting period.

When assessing expected future payments consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels including non-salary components such as employer superannuation contributions. The expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the end of the reporting period on national government bonds with terms to maturity that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

The provision for annual leave is classified as a current liability as the Department does not have an unconditional right to the defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after reporting period.

Long Service Leave

A liability for long service leave is recognised after an employee has completed three years of service based on remuneration rates current as at the end of the reporting period. An actuarial assessment of long service leave undertaken by PriceWaterhouseCoopers Actuaries at 30 June 2011 determined that the liability measured using the short hand method was not materially different from the liability measured using the present value of expected future payments. An assessment will be undertaken every three years.

Unconditional long service leave provisions are classified as current liabilities as the Department does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting date. Conditional long service leave provisions are classified as non-current liabilities until the employee has completed the required years of service.

Sick Leave

Liabilities for sick leave are recognised when it is probable that sick leave paid in the future will be greater than the entitlement that will accrue in the future.

Past history indicates that on average, sick leave taken each reporting period is less than the entitlement accrued. This is expected to continue in future periods. Accordingly, it is unlikely that existing accumulated entitlements will be used by employees and no liability for unused sick leave entitlements is recognised. As sick leave is non-vesting, an expense is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income for this leave as it is taken.

Deferred and Purchased Leave

Deferred leave relates to Public Service employees who have entered into an agreement to self-fund an additional twelve months leave in the fifth year of the agreement. The provision recognises the value of salary set aside for employees to be used in the fifth year. This liability is measured on the same basis as annual leave. Deferred leave is reported as a non-current provision until the fifth year.

Purchased Leave

Purchased leave relates to Public Service employees who have entered into an agreement to self-fund up to an additional ten weeks leave per calendar year. The provision recognises the value of salary set aside for employees and is measured at the nominal amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled. This liability is measured on the same basis as annual leave.

Superannuation

The Government Employees Superannuation Board (GESB) administers public sector superannuation arrangements in Western Australia in accordance with legislative requirements.

Eligible employees may contribute to the Pension Scheme, a defined benefit pension scheme now closed to new members or the Gold State Superannuation Scheme (GSS), a defined benefit lump sum scheme also closed to new members since 1995.

The GSS is a defined benefit scheme for the purposes of employees and whole-of-government reporting. However, it is a defined contribution plan for agency purposes because the concurrent contributions (defined contributions) made by the Department to GESB extinguishes the agency's obligations to the related superannuation liability.

The Department has no liabilities under the Pension Scheme or the GSS. The liabilities for the unfunded Pension Scheme and the unfunded GSS transfer benefits due to members who transferred from the Pension Scheme, are assumed by the Treasurer. All other GSS obligations are funded by concurrent contributions made by the Department to the GESB. The concurrently funded part of the GSS is a defined contribution scheme as these contributions extinguish all liabilities in respect of the concurrently funded GSS obligations.

Employees commencing employment prior to 16 April 2007 who were not members of either the Pension Scheme or the GSS became non-contributory members of the West State Superannuation Scheme (WSS). Employees commencing employment on or after 16 April 2007 became members of the GESB Super Scheme (GESBS). Both of these schemes are accumulation schemes. The Department makes concurrent contributions to GESB on behalf of employees in compliance with the Commonwealth Government's Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1992. These contributions extinguish the liability for superannuation charges in respect of the WSS and GESBS.

The GESB makes all benefit payments in respect of the Pension Scheme and GSS, and is recouped from the Treasurer for the employer's share. See also note 2(u) 'Superannuation expense'.

(ii) Provisions – Other

Employment On-Costs

Employment on-costs, including workers' compensation insurance, are not employee benefits and are recognised separately as liabilities and expenses when the employment to which they relate has occurred. Employment on-costs are included as part of 'Other expenses' and are not included as part of the Department's 'Employee benefits expense'. The related liability is included in 'Employment on-costs' provision. See notes 13 'Other Expenses' and 27 'Provisions'.

(t) Superannuation Expense

The superannuation expense in the Statement of Comprehensive Income comprises of employer contributions paid to the GSS (concurrent contributions), the WSS and the GESBS. The employer contribution paid to the GESB in respect of the GSS is paid back into the Consolidated Account by the GESB.

(u) Resources Received Free of Charge or For Nominal Cost

Resources received free of charge or for nominal cost that can be reliably measured are recognised as income at fair value. Where the resource received represents a service that the Department would otherwise pay for, a corresponding expense is recognised. Receipts of assets are recognised in the Statement of Financial Position.

Where assets or services are received from another State Government agency, these are separately disclosed under Income from State Government in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

(v) Comparative Figures

Comparative figures are, where appropriate, reclassified to be comparable with the figures presented in the current financial year.

(w) Access Fees - Major Commercial Fisheries

The Department and the commercial fishing industry entered into an agreement in 1995 that provided for the Department to recover the costs associated with the management of major commercial fisheries. The costs were recovered through the annual fee charged for access to the fishery concerned.

Effective 1 July 2010 the use of cost recovery as the mechanism for setting access fees was discontinued. Access fees are now levied as a percentage of the gross value of production of each fishery.

3 JUDGEMENTS MADE BY MANAGEMENT IN APPLYING ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make judgements about the application of accounting policies that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements. The Department evaluates these judgements regularly.

Finance Lease Commitment:

The Department has a commercial lease on a patrol vessel and has determined that it retains all the significant risks and rewards of ownership of the property. Accordingly, the lease has been classified as a finance lease.

4 KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

The Department makes key estimates and assumptions concerning the future. These estimates and assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next financial year. These include:

- Estimating the useful life and residual values of key assets;
- Estimating depreciated replacement cost; and
- Estimating future salary rates, salary inflation, expected future payments, retention rates and discount rates for long service leave.

Changes in these estimations and assumptions may impact on the carrying amount of the long service provision.

5 DISCLOSURE OF CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICY AND ESTIMATES

Initial application of an Australian Accounting Standard:

The Department has applied the following Australian Accounting Standards effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 July 2010 that impacted on the Department:

AASB 2009-12 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards [AASBs 5, 8, 108, 110,112, 119, 133, 137, 139, 1023 & 1031 and Interpretations 2, 4, 16, 1039 7 1052].

This Standard introduces a number of terminology changes. There is no financial impact resulting from the application of this revised Standard.

AASB 2010-5 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards [AASBs 1, 3, 4, 5, 101, 107, 112, 118, 119, 121, 132, 133, 134, 137, 139, 140, 1023, &1038 and Interpretations 112, 115, 127, 132 & 1042].

This Standard introduces a number of terminology changes as well as presentation changes to the Notes to the Financial Statements. There is no financial impact resulting from the application of this revised Standard.

Future impact of Australian Accounting Standards not yet operative

The Department cannot early adopt an Australian Accounting Standard or Australian Accounting Interpretation unless specifically permitted by TI 1101 'Application of Australian Accounting Standards and Other Pronouncements'. Consequently, the Department has not applied early the following Australian Accounting Standards and Australian Accounting Interpretations that have been issued and which may impact the Department. Where applicable, the Department plans to apply these Standards and Interpretations from their application date, 1 Jan 2013:

AASB 2009-11 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 9 [AASB 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 101, 102, 108, 112, 118, 121, 127, 128, 131, 132, 136, 139, 1023 & 1038 and Interpretations 10 & 12].

The amendment to AASB 7 requires modification to the disclosure of categories of financial assets. The Department does not expect any financial impact when the Standard is first applied. The disclosure of categories of financial assets in the notes will change.

AASB 9 This Standard supersedes AASB 139 Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement, introducing a number of changes to accounting treatments.

The Standard was re-issued on 6 Dec 2010 and the Department is currently determining the impact of the Standard for agencies.

AASB 2010-5 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Disclosures on Transfers of Financial Assets [AASB 1 & AASB 7].

This Standard makes amendments to Australian Accounting Standards, introducing additional presentation and disclosure requirements for financial Assets.

6 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS EXPENSE	2011	2010
	\$'000	\$'000
Wages and salaries (a)	35,033	33,224
Superannuation - defined contribution plans (b)	3,149	3,028
Other related expenses (c)	2,334	1,775
	<u>40,516</u>	<u>38,027</u>

(a) Includes leave entitlements including superannuation contribution component.

(b) Defined contribution plans include West State, Gold State and GESB Super Scheme (contributions paid).

(c) Includes the value of the fringe benefit to the employee plus the fringe benefits tax component.

Employment on-costs such as workers' compensation insurance are included at note 13 'Other expenses'. The employment on costs liability is included at note 27 'Provisions'.

7 SUPPLIES AND SERVICES	2011	2010
	\$'000	\$'000
Communications	1,044	859
Freight and mail	361	284
Property	745	935
Contractors and consultants	6,087	4,826
Consumables	3,309	2,373
Minor equipment acquisitions	399	467
Repairs and maintenance	2,481	2,060
Travel	1,865	1,535
Electricity and water	500	410
Advertising	112	151
Other	4,449	3,850
	<u>21,352</u>	<u>17,750</u>

8 DEPRECIATION AND AMORTISATION EXPENSE	2011	2010	13 OTHER EXPENSES	2011	2010
	\$'000	\$'000		\$'000	\$'000
Depreciation			Employment on-costs (see note 6 'Employee benefits expense') (a)	(19)	5
Buildings	970	1,007	Other expenses	<u>282</u>	<u>634</u>
Marine vessels	1,398	892		<u>263</u>	<u>639</u>
Communications	35	76			
Computing hardware	106	101	(a) Includes workers' compensation insurance on-costs. The on-costs liability associated with the recognition of annual and long service leave liability is included at Note 27 'Provisions'. Superannuation contributions accrued as part of the provision for leave are employee benefits and are not included in employment on-costs.		
Furniture, fixtures and fittings	47	63			
Office equipment	54	56			
Plant and machinery	139	153			
Motor vehicles	264	139			
Other equipment	79	75			
Infrastructure – maritime	82	83			
Computing software	176	177			
Total depreciation	<u>3,350</u>	<u>2,822</u>			
Amortisation					
Leased patrol vessel	440	440			
Total Amortisation	<u>440</u>	<u>440</u>			
Total Depreciation and Amortisation	<u>3,790</u>	<u>3,262</u>			
9 FINANCE COSTS	2011	2010		2011	2010
	\$'000	\$'000		\$'000	\$'000
Finance lease and charges	<u>253</u>	<u>140</u>	The Department and the commercial fishing industry entered into an agreement in 1995 that provided for the Department to recover the costs associated with the management of major commercial fisheries. The costs were recovered through the annual fee charged for access to the fishery concerned.		
10 ACCOMMODATION EXPENSES	2011	2010		2011	2010
	\$'000	\$'000		\$'000	\$'000
Lease rentals	<u>2,071</u>	<u>2,092</u>	Effective 1 July 2010 the use of cost recovery and a contribution to the Development and Better Interests Fund as the mechanism for setting access fees was discontinued. Access fees are now levied as a percentage of the gross value of production of each fishery with no Development and Better Interests Fund contribution.		
	<u>2,071</u>	<u>2,092</u>			
11 GRANTS & SUBSIDIES	2011	2010		2011	2010
	\$'000	\$'000		\$'000	\$'000
Recurrent			15 GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS		
Grants to key stakeholder groups	1,840	1,743		2011	2010
Contributions to Fisheries Research and Development Corporation	948	1,710		\$'000	\$'000
Research grants	559	1,492	Fisheries Research and Development Corporation	1,297	1,497
Other	129	154	Other	<u>1,690</u>	<u>5,136</u>
	<u>3,476</u>	<u>5,099</u>		<u>2,987</u>	<u>6,633</u>
12 FISHERIES ADJUSTMENT SCHEME BUYBACKS	2011	2010		2011	2010
	\$'000	\$'000		\$'000	\$'000
Fisheries Adjustment Scheme buy-backs	170	2,566	Fisheries Research and Development Account	458	69
			Fisheries Research and Development Corporation Account	<u>33</u>	<u>33</u>
				<u>491</u>	<u>102</u>

17 NET GAIN / (LOSS) ON DISPOSAL OF NON-CURRENT ASSETS	2011	2010
	\$'000	\$'000
<i>Costs of Disposal of Non-current Assets</i>		
Carrying amount of property, plant and equipment disposed of during the year	129	912
Selling costs of property, plant and equipment disposed of during the year	-	-
<i>Proceeds from disposal of non-current assets</i>		
Proceeds from disposal of property, plant and equipment	153	1,021
Net Gain/(loss)	<u>24</u>	<u>109</u>
Gain on Disposal of Non-Current Assets		
Property plant & equipment	24	109
Net Gain/(loss)	<u>24</u>	<u>109</u>

18 INCOME FROM STATE GOVERNMENT	2011	2010
	\$'000	\$'000
Appropriation received during the year :		
Service appropriations (a)	32,676	36,029
	<u>32,676</u>	<u>36,029</u>

(a) Service appropriations are accrual amounts, reflecting the net cost of services delivered. The appropriation revenue comprises a cash component and a receivable (asset). The receivable (holding account) comprises the depreciation expense for the year and any agreed increase in leave liability during the year.

Resources Received Free of Charge	2011	2010
	\$'000	\$'000
Administration expenses	499	1,272
Resources received free of charge has been determined on the basis of the following estimates provided by agencies:		
Department of Justice	321	315
Western Australian Land Information Authority (a)	3	776
Department of Treasury and Finance	175	181
	<u>499</u>	<u>1,272</u>

Where assets or services have been received free of charge or for nominal cost, the Department recognises revenues (except where the contributions of assets or services are in the nature of contributions by owners in which case the Department shall make a direct adjustment to equity) equivalent to the fair value of the assets and/or the fair value of those services that can be reliably determined and which would have been purchased if not donated, and those fair values shall be recognised as assets or expenses, as applicable.

(a) The significant decrease in the resources received free of charge is the result of minimum usage of Western Australian Land Information Authority's digital data after completion of the Corporate Map Viewer implementation in 2009/10.

Royalties for Regions Fund

Regional Community Services Account	94	-
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19 RESTRICTED CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	2011	2010
	\$'000	\$'000
Current		
Fisheries Research and Development Corporation Account (a)	1,406	1,011
Fisheries Adjustment Schemes Trust Account (b)	231	426
	<u>1,637</u>	<u>1,437</u>
Non-Current		
Salaries suspense account (c)	672	557
	<u>2,309</u>	<u>1,994</u>

(a) Monies held in the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation Account are not available for operations of the Department as they relate to specific research projects.

(b) Monies held in the Fisheries Adjustment Schemes Trust Account are only available for use as prescribed by the *Fisheries Adjustment Scheme Act 1987*.

(c) Amount held in suspense account is only to be used for the purpose of meeting the 27th pay in a financial year that occurs every 11 years. This amount will next be drawn in 2015/16.

20 RECEIVABLES	2011	2010
	\$'000	\$'000
Current		
Receivables	2,018	1,104
Less: Allowance for impairment of receivables	(4)	(1)
GST Receivable	340	139
	<u>2,354</u>	<u>1,242</u>
Other Debtors	2,774	317
	<u>5,128</u>	<u>1,559</u>
Non-Current		
Other Debtors	34,862	3,336
	<u>34,862</u>	<u>3,336</u>

Reconciliation of changes in the allowance for impairment of receivables

Balance at start of year	1	4
Doubtful Debts Expense recognised in the income statement	3	–
Amounts written off during the period	–	3
Amounts recovered off during the period	–	–
	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>

The 'Other Debtors' relates to an advance made to industry. The Department does not hold any collateral as security or other credit enhancements relating to receivables.

See also Note 2(p) "Receivables" and Note 35 'Financial Instruments'.

21 AMOUNTS RECEIVABLE FOR SERVICES

	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000
Current	2,226	2,226
Non Current	6,349	5,183
	<u>8,575</u>	<u>7,409</u>

This item represents the non-cash component of service appropriations.
It is restricted in that it can only be used for asset replacement or payment of leave liability.

See note 2(o) 'Amounts Receivable for Services (Holding Account)'.

22 OTHER ASSETS

	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000
Pre-payments		
Licences and rentals	48	72
Lease patrol vessel	4	8
Accrued Income		
Accrued Interest	110	29
	<u>162</u>	<u>109</u>

23 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000
LAND		
Land at fair value (i)	9,424	9,335
	<u>9,424</u>	<u>9,335</u>
BUILDINGS		
At fair value (i)	33,314	34,900
Accumulated depreciation	–	–
	<u>33,314</u>	<u>34,900</u>

MARINE VESSELS

At fair value (ii)	14,563	9,956
Accumulated depreciation	(5,492)	(4,096)
	<u>9,071</u>	<u>5,860</u>

COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT

At cost (ii)	575	558
Accumulated depreciation	(541)	(507)
	<u>34</u>	<u>51</u>

COMPUTER HARDWARE

At cost (ii)	1,449	1,356
Accumulated depreciation	(1,285)	(1,179)
	<u>164</u>	<u>177</u>

COMPUTER SOFTWARE

Computer software – cost	879	879
Computer software – cost accumulated amortisation	(541)	(365)
	<u>338</u>	<u>514</u>

FURNITURE AND FITTINGS

At cost (ii)	1,021	1,022
Accumulated depreciation	(933)	(887)
	<u>88</u>	<u>135</u>

OFFICE EQUIPMENT

At cost (ii)	458	405
Accumulated depreciation	(348)	(301)
	<u>110</u>	<u>104</u>

PLANT AND MACHINERY

At cost (ii)	2,214	1,936
Accumulated depreciation	(1,423)	(1,285)
	<u>791</u>	<u>651</u>

MOTOR VEHICLES

At cost (ii)	1,897	1,292
Accumulated depreciation	(620)	(439)
	<u>1,277</u>	<u>853</u>

WORKS OF ART

At cost (ii)	97	97
	<u>97</u>	<u>97</u>

OTHER EQUIPMENT

At cost (ii)	532	465
Accumulated depreciation	(244)	(165)
	<u>288</u>	<u>300</u>

INFRASTRUCTURE - MARITIME

At cost (ii)	2,513	2,513
Accumulated depreciation	(1,293)	(1,211)
	<u>1,220</u>	<u>1,302</u>

LEASED PATROL VESSEL

At capitalised cost	1,650	1,650
Accumulated amortisation	(1,357)	(917)
	<u>293</u>	<u>733</u>

CAPITAL WORKS IN PROGRESS

Buildings (ii) (iii)	1,720	4
Maritime (ii)	508	4,338
Computer software (ii)	715	30
	<u>2,943</u>	<u>4,372</u>
Total Property, Plant and Equipment	<u>59,452</u>	<u>59,384</u>

(i) Land and buildings were revalued as at 1 July 2010 by the Western Australian Land Information Authority (Valuation Services). The valuations were performed during the year ended 30 June 2011 and recognised at 30 June 2011. In undertaking the revaluation, fair value was determined by reference to market values for land: \$6,094,900 and buildings: \$910,000. For the remaining balance, fair value of land and buildings was determined by reference to current use of land and depreciated replacement value of improvements. See note 2(g) 'Property, Plant and Equipment and Infrastructure'.

(ii) Marine vessels were revalued by the Maritime Engineers Pty Ltd during the year ended 30 June 2008 and recognised at 30 June 2008 at market value based on Asset Protection Criteria.

Reconciliation

Reconciliations of the carrying amounts of property, plant, equipment and vehicles at the beginning and end of the current financial year are set out below:

2011	Carrying amount at start of year \$'000	Additions \$'000	Disposal \$'000	Transfers from WIP \$'000	Revaluation for the year \$'000	Deprecn. for the year \$'000	Carrying amount at end of year \$'000
Land	9,335	–	–	–	89	–	9,424
Buildings	34,900	–	–	–	(616)	(970)	33,314
Marine vessels	5,860	4,614	(5)	–	–	(1,398)	9,071
Communication equipment	51	18	–	–	–	(35)	34
Computer hardware	177	93	–	–	–	(106)	164
Computer software	514	–	–	–	–	(176)	338
Furniture, fixtures and fittings	135	–	–	–	–	(47)	88
Office equipment	104	61	(1)	–	–	(54)	110
Plant and machinery	651	278	–	–	–	(138)	791
Vehicles	853	810	(122)	–	–	(264)	1,277
Works of art	97	–	–	–	–	–	97
Other equipment	300	67	–	–	–	(79)	288
Infrastructure – maritime	1,302	–	–	–	–	(82)	1,220
Leased patrol vessel	733	–	–	–	–	(440)	293
Work in progress	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Computer software	30	715	–	(30)	–	–	715
Buildings	4	1,716	–	–	–	–	1,720
Maritime	4,338	657	–	(4,487)	–	–	508
	<u>59,384</u>	<u>9,029</u>	<u>(128)</u>	<u>(4,517)</u>	<u>(527)</u>	<u>(3,789)</u>	<u>59,452</u>
2010	Carrying amount at start of year \$'000	Additions \$'000	Disposal \$'000	Transfers from WIP \$'000	Revaluation for the year \$'000	Deprecn. for the year \$'000	Carrying amount at end of year \$'000
Land	9,105	974	–	–	(744)	–	9,335
Buildings	27,130	10,826	–	–	(2,049)	(1,007)	34,900
Marine vessels	7,139	252	(639)	–	–	(892)	5,860
Communication equipment	144	–	(16)	–	–	(77)	51
Computer hardware	249	31	(2)	–	–	(101)	177
Computer software	690	–	–	–	–	(176)	514
Furniture, fixtures and fittings	198	–	–	–	–	(63)	135
Office equipment	139	21	–	–	–	(56)	104
Plant and machinery	951	53	(199)	–	–	(154)	651
Vehicles	788	409	(205)	–	–	(139)	853
Works of art	97	–	–	–	–	–	97
Other equipment	354	21	–	–	–	(75)	300
Infrastructure – maritime	1,389	–	(5)	–	–	(82)	1,302
Leased patrol vessel	1,173	–	–	–	–	(440)	733
Work in progress	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Computer software	30	–	–	–	–	–	30
Buildings	8,726	2,104	–	(10,826)	–	–	4
Maritime	672	3,666	–	–	–	–	4,338
	<u>58,974</u>	<u>18,357</u>	<u>(1,066)</u>	<u>(10,826)</u>	<u>(2,793)</u>	<u>(3,262)</u>	<u>59,384</u>

24 IMPAIRMENT OF ASSETS

There were no indications of impairment of property, plant and equipment and infrastructure at 30 June 2011.

The Department held no goodwill or intangible assets with an indefinite useful life during the reporting period and at reporting date there were no intangible assets not yet available for use.

25 PAYABLES

2011
\$'000 **2010**
\$'000

Current

Trade payables	2,607	1,907
	<u>2,607</u>	<u>1,907</u>

See also note 2(q) 'Payables' and note 35 'Financial Instruments'.

26 BORROWINGS

2011
\$'000 **2010**
\$'000

Current

Finance Lease Liability(a)	129	245
Borrowings from Western Australian Treasury Corporation	2,774	317
	<u>2,903</u>	<u>562</u>

Non Current

Finance Lease Liability(a)	-	129
Borrowings from Western Australian Treasury Corporation	34,862	3,336
	<u>34,862</u>	<u>3,465</u>

(a) Lease liabilities are effectively secured as the rights to the leased assets revert to the lessor in the event of default.

The carrying amounts of non-current assets pledged as security are:

Leased Patrol Vessel	293	733
	<u>293</u>	<u>733</u>

27 PROVISIONS

2011
\$'000 **2010**
\$'000

Current

Employee benefits provision		
Purchased leave	7	-
Annual leave (a)	4,322	3,763
Long service leave (b)	4,782	3,049
	<u>9,111</u>	<u>6,812</u>

Other provisions

Employment oncosts (c)	40	51
	<u>9,151</u>	<u>6,863</u>

Non Current

Employee benefits provision	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000
Purchased and deferred leave	12	(9)

Long service leave (b)	2,102	1,975
	<u>2,114</u>	<u>1,966</u>
Other provisions		
Employment oncosts (c)	9	16
	<u>2,123</u>	<u>1,982</u>
TOTAL PROVISIONS	<u>11,274</u>	<u>8,845</u>

(a) Annual leave liabilities have been classified as current as there is no unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after reporting date. Assessments indicate that actual settlement of the liabilities will occur as follows:

	<u>4,322</u>	<u>3,763</u>
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(b) Long service leave liabilities have been classified as current where there is no unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after reporting date. Assessments indicate that actual settlement of the liabilities will occur as follows:

	1,875	3,790
	<u>5,009</u>	<u>1,234</u>
	<u>6,884</u>	<u>5,024</u>

(c) The settlement of annual and long service leave gives rise to the payment of employment on-costs, including workers' compensation insurance. The provision is the present value of expected future payments. The associated expense, apart from the unwinding of the discount (finance cost), is included in Note 13 'Other Expenses'.

Movements in other provisions

Movements in each class of provisions during the financial year, other than employee benefits are set out below:

Employment on cost provision

Carrying amount at start of year	67	72
Additional provisions recognised	(18)	5
Payments/other sacrifices of economic benefit	-	(10)
Carrying amount at the end of year	<u>49</u>	<u>67</u>

The superannuation oncosts are included in the annual and long service leave provisions.

28 OTHER LIABILITIES

	2011	2010
	\$'000	\$'000
Current		
Accrued salaries	841	451
Superannuation accrued	44	47
FBT Accrued	59	48
Other	194	178
Infringement Notice collections payable	35	9
	<u>1,173</u>	<u>734</u>

29 EQUITY

Equity represents the residual interest in the net assets of the Department. The Government holds the equity interest in the Department on behalf of the community. The asset revaluation reserve represents that portion of equity resulting from the revaluation of non-current assets.

	2011	2010
	\$'000	\$'000
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS		
Balance at the start of the year	3,157	3,914
Adjustment for prior year error	-	-
	<u>3,157</u>	<u>3,914</u>
Results for the year		
Deficit as per Statement of Comprehensive Income	(5,562)	(757)
Balance at the end of the year	<u>(2,405)</u>	<u>3,157</u>
CONTRIBUTED EQUITY		
Balance at the start of the year	44,566	39,166
Contributions by owners (a)	-	-
Capital contribution (a)	5,510	5,400
Total contributions by owners	<u>50,076</u>	<u>44,566</u>

(a) Capital Contributions (appropriations) and non-discretionary (non-reciprocal) transfers of assets in Treasurer's Instruction 955 'Contributions by Owners Made to Wholly Owned Public Sector Entities' from other State government agencies have been designated as contributions by owners and are credited directly to equity.

RESERVES

	2011	2010
Asset Revaluation Surplus		
Balance at the start of the year	14,041	16,835
Net revaluation increments/(decrements):		
Land	89	(744)
Buildings	(616)	(2,050)
Balance at the end of the year (a)	<u>13,514</u>	<u>14,041</u>
Total equity	<u>61,185</u>	<u>61,764</u>

(a) The asset revaluation surplus is used to record increments and decrements on the revaluation of non-current assets, as described in accounting policy note 2(g)

30 NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT**(a) Reconciliation of cash**

Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the Cash Flow Statement is reconciled to the related items in the Balance Sheet as follows:

Cash and cash equivalents	3,494	3,464
Cash advances	22	22
Restricted cash and cash equivalents (refer note 19)	2,309	1,994
	<u>5,825</u>	<u>5,480</u>

(b) Reconciliation of net cost of services to net cash flows used in operating activities

Net cash used in operating activities	(32,373)	(33,595)
<i>Non Cash Items</i>		
Depreciation and amortisation expense	(3,790)	(3,262)
Doubtful Debt expense	(3)	3
Resources received free of charge	(499)	(1,272)
Profit/(Loss) on disposal of assets	24	109
Other	19	(139)
<i>Increase/(Decrease) in Assets</i>		
Accounts receivable - General	914	(361)
Pre-payments	(28)	58
Accrued Income	81	-
<i>(Increase)/Decrease in Liabilities</i>		
Accrued salaries	(390)	(122)
Superannuation Accrued	3	26
FBT Accrued	(11)	41
Other Liabilities	(16)	165
Liability for employee entitlements	(2,429)	(184)
Infringement notice Collections payable	(26)	(7)
Accounts payable - General	(460)	534
<i>Increase/(Decrease) in GST</i>		
Net GST (receipts) / payments	189	51
Change in GST in receivables/payables	(36)	(103)
Net cost of services	<u>(38,831)</u>	<u>(38,058)</u>

31 COMMITMENTS FOR EXPENDITURE	2011	2010
(a) Capital Expenditure Commitments	\$'000	\$'000
Capital expenditure commitments, being contracted capital expenditure additional to the amounts reported in the financial statements, are payable as follows:		
Within one year	9,184	4,931
Later than one year and not later than five years	-	-
Later than five years	-	-
	<u>9,184</u>	<u>4,931</u>
The capital commitments include amounts for:		
Buildings	<u>3,418</u>	<u>689</u>
(b) Operating Lease commitments		
Commitments in relation to non-cancellable leases for accommodation and motor vehicles contracted for at the reporting date but not recognised in the financial statements are payable as follows:		
Within one year	3,159	3,100
Later than one year and not later than five years	8,712	2,263
Later than five years	16,546	13,625
	<u>28,417</u>	<u>18,988</u>
Representing:		
Cancellable operating leases	-	-
Non-cancellable operating leases	28,417	18,988
	<u>28,417</u>	<u>18,988</u>
(c) Finance Lease Commitments		
Minimum lease payments commitments in relation to finance leases are payable as follows:		
Within one year	133	266
Later than one year and not later than five years	-	133
Later than five years	-	-
Minimum lease payments	133	399
Less future finance charges	(4)	(25)
Present value of finance lease liabilities	<u>129</u>	<u>374</u>
The present value of finance leases payables is as follows:		
Within one year	133	245
Later than one year and not later than five years	-	129
Later than five years	-	-
Present value of finance lease liabilities	<u>133</u>	<u>374</u>
Included in the financial statements as:		
Current (note 26)	129	245
Non-current (note 26)	-	129
	<u>129</u>	<u>374</u>

The operating lease commitments are calculated and forecast based on the information available at the reporting date and do not take into consideration any impacts of future changes arising from market conditions or rental reviews.

These leasing arrangements do not have escalation clauses other than in the event of payment default. There are no restrictions imposed by these leasing arrangements on other financing transactions.

The commitments, where applicable, are inclusive of GST.

32 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND CONTINGENT ASSETS

In addition to the liabilities included in the financial statements, the Department has the following contingent liabilities.

Contaminated Sites

Under the *Contaminated Sites Act 2003*, the Department is required to report known and suspected contaminated sites to the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC). In accordance with the Act, DEC classifies these sites on the basis of the risk to human health, the environment and environmental values. Where sites are classified as 'contaminated - remediation required' or 'possibly contaminated - investigation required', the Department may have a liability in respect of investigation or remediation expenses.

The Department has reported a suspected contaminated site at the Albany Aquaculture Park to DEC. This has been classified by DEC as requiring further investigation.

In June 2011 the Department received a report from Environmental Resources Australia Pty Limited that included findings from a recent site assessment. The report advised that the assessments indicate that there are currently no identified potential risks to human health or the environment related to previous activities and as such the site appears suitable for ongoing commercial/industrial use.

The Department is unable to assess the likely outcome of the classification process until the contamination sites auditor completes an assessment and, accordingly, it is not practicable to estimate the potential financial effect or to identify the uncertainties relating to the amount or timing of any outflows.

Whilst there is no possibility of reimbursement of any future expenses that may be incurred in the remediation of these sites, the Department may apply for funding from the Contaminated Sites Management Account to undertake further investigative work or to meet remediation costs that may be required.

Litigation

The Department has pending litigation that may affect the financial position. The maximum financial effect is \$65,000.

33 EVENTS OCCURRING AFTER THE BALANCE SHEET DATE

There were no events occurring after the balance date that require disclosure or adjustment to the financial statements.

34 EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Significant variations between estimates and actual results for income and expense as presented in the financial statement titled 'Summary of Consolidated Account Appropriations and Income Estimates' are shown below. Significant variations are considered to be those greater than 10 per cent.

(a) Significant variances between estimate and actual for services delivered in 2011**Services**

	2011 Actual \$'000	2011 Estimate \$'000	Variance \$'000
Aquatic Management	20,715	15,697	5,018
<i>The variance between the budget and the actual expenditure is due to additional employee-related costs resulted from a reduction in the minimum service period required to recognise long service leave liability. In addition significant non-salary related costs were incurred in transitioning the West Coast Rock Lobster fishery to quota and the start-up costs associated with implementing a biosecurity (marine pests) program.</i>			
Research and Monitoring	24,040	19,872	4,168
<i>The variance between the budget and the actual expenditure is due to additional employee-related costs resulted from a reduction in the minimum service period required to recognise long service leave liability. In addition significant non-salary related costs were incurred for recreational surveys.</i>			
Marine Safety Service	432	1,558	(1,126)
<i>The 2010/11 Actual has reduced compared to the 2010/11 Budget as the reduced service delivery in this area in 2010/11 has resulted in a reduction in the non-salary related expenses.</i>			

(b) Significant variances in actual costs of services delivered between actuals for 2010 and 2011**Services**

Aquatic Management	20,715	16,932	3,783
<i>The variance between the budget and the actual expenditure is due to additional employee-related costs resulted from a reduction in the minimum service period required to recognise long service leave liability. In addition significant non-salary related costs were incurred in transitioning the West Coast Rock Lobster fishery to quota and the start up costs associated with implementing a biosecurity (marine pests) program. This impacts salaries, supplies and services.</i>			
Marine Safety Service	432	1,131	(699)
<i>This reduction is the result of reduced level of activity in this service.</i>			

(c) Significant variances between estimate and actual for 2011 - Capital Expenditure

	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000
Capital Expenditure	4,414	8,011
<i>The decreased expenditure results from some 2010/11 financial year expenditure, namely construction of the Denham building, being deferred to 2011/12.</i>		

Supplementary Funding Approved During 2010/11

	\$'000
Recurrent	
Funding for Aquatic Biosecurity	2,400
2010 Voluntary Severance Scheme – Return of 50 per cent savings	(414)
	<u>1,986</u>

35 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**(a) Financial Risk Management Objectives and Policies**

Financial instruments held by the Department are cash and cash equivalents, borrowings, finance leases, and receivables and payables. All of the Department's cash is held in the public account. The Department has limited exposure to financial risks. The Department's overall risk management program focuses on managing the risks identified below.

Credit Risk

Credit risk arises when there is the possibility of the Department's receivables defaulting on their contractual obligations resulting in financial loss to the Department.

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the end of the reporting period in relation to each class of recognised financial assets is the gross carrying amount of those assets inclusive of any provisions for impairment, as shown in the table at Note 35(c) 'Financial Instruments Disclosures' and Note 20 'Receivables'.

Credit risk associated with the Department's financial assets is minimal because the main receivable is the amount receivable for services (holding account). For receivables other than government, the Department trades only with recognised, creditworthy third parties. The Department has policies in place to ensure that sales of products and services are made to customers with an appropriate credit history. In addition, receivable balances are monitored on an ongoing basis with the result that the Department's exposure to bad debts is minimal. At the end of the reporting period there were no significant concentrations of credit risk.

Allowance for impairment of financial assets is calculated based on objective evidence such as observable data indicating changes in client credit ratings. For financial assets that are either past due or impaired, refer to Note 36(c) Financial Instruments Disclosures.

Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk arises when the Department is unable to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The Department is exposed to liquidity risk through its trading in the normal course of business. The Department has appropriate procedures to manage cash flows including drawdowns of appropriations by monitoring forecast cash flows to ensure that sufficient funds are available to meet its commitments.

Market Risk

Market risk is the risk that changes in market prices such as foreign exchange rates and interest rates will affect the Department's income or the value of its holdings of financial instruments. The Department is not exposed to interest rate risk because cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash are non-interest bearing and the Department does not trade in foreign currency and has no borrowings other than from the Western Australian Treasury Corporation and finance leases (fixed interest rate).

(b) Categories of Financial Instruments

In addition to cash, the carrying amounts of each of the following categories of the financial assets and financial liabilities at the balance sheet date are as follows:

Financial Assets and Liabilities	2011	2010
	\$'000	\$'000
Financial Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	3,516	3,486
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	2,309	1,994
Receivables(a)	48,225	12,165
Total Financial Assets	<u>54,050</u>	<u>17,645</u>
Financial Liabilities		
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	40,372	5,934
Total Financial Liabilities	<u>40,372</u>	<u>5,934</u>

(a) The amount of receivables excludes GST recoverable from the ATO (statutory receivable).

(c) Financial Instrument Disclosures*Credit Risk, and Interest Rate Risk Exposures*

The following table discloses the Department's maximum exposure to liquidity and interest rate risks as at the balance date.

The Department's maximum exposure to credit risk at the balance sheet date is the carrying amount of the financial assets on the following table. The table is based on information provided to senior management of the Department. The Fixed Interest Rate contractual maturity amounts are representative of the undiscounted amounts at the balance sheet date. No adjustment for discounting has been made as it is considered immaterial.

The Department does not hold any collateral as security or other credit enhancements relating to the financial assets it holds.

The Department does not hold any financial assets that had to have their terms renegotiated that would have otherwise resulted being past due or impaired.

Interest rate exposures and ageing analysis of financial assets (a)

	Weighted Average Effective Interest Rate %	Carrying Amount \$'000	Interest rate exposure		Past due but not impaired							Impaired Financial Assets \$'000
			Variable interest rate \$'000	Non-Interest Bearing \$'000	Up to 3 months \$'000	3-12 months \$'000	1-2 years \$'000	2-3 years \$'000	3-4 years \$'000	4-5years \$'000	More than 5 years \$'000	
Financial Assets												
2011												
Cash Assets	5.03%	3,516	3,516	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted cash assets	5.03%	2,309	1,406	903	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Receivables(a)	0.00%	1,944	-	-	1,763	66	119	-	-	-	-	-
Loans and Advances	0.00%	37,636	-	37,636	-	2,772	3,102	3,295	3,500	3,718	21,247	-
Amounts Receivable for Services	0.00%	8,575	-	8,575	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		53,980	4,922	47,114	1,763	2,838	3,221	3,295	3,500	3,718	21,247	-
2010												
Cash Assets	4.03%	3,486	3,486	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted cash assets	4.03%	1,994	1,011	983	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Receivables(a)	0.00%	1,103	-	1,103	912	72	119	-	-	-	-	-
Loans and Advances	0.00%	3,653	-	3,653	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Amounts Receivable for Services	0.00%	7,409	-	7,409	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		17,645	4,497	13,148	912	72	119	-	-	-	-	-

(a) The amount of receivables excludes the GST recoverable from the ATO (statutory receivable)

Liquidity risk

The following table details the contractual maturity analysis for financial liabilities. The contractual maturity amounts are representative of the undiscounted amounts at the balance sheet date. The table includes both interest and principal cash flows. An adjustment has been made where material.

Interest rate exposure and maturity analysis of financial liabilities

	Weighted Average Effective Interest Rate %	Carrying Amount \$'000	Interest Rate Exposure			Adjustment for discounting \$'000	Total Nominal Amount \$'000	Maturity Dates						
			Fixed interest rate \$'000	Variable interest rate \$'000	Non-Interest Bearing \$'000			Up to 3 months \$'000	3-12 months \$'000	1-2 years \$'000	2-3 years \$'000	3-4 years \$'000	4-5years \$'000	More than 5 years \$'000
Financial Liabilities														
2011														
Payables	0.00%	2,607	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WATC borrowings	6.17%	37,636	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,772	3,102	3,295	3,500	3,718	21,247
Finance lease liabilities	7.66%	129	-	-	-	-	-	64	65	-	-	-	-	-
		40,372	-	-	-	-	-	64	2,837	3,102	3,295	3,500	3,718	21,247
2010														
Payables	0.00%	1,907	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WATC borrowings	6.12%	3,653	-	-	-	-	-	-	317	336	356	378	401	1,865
Finance lease liabilities	7.66%	374	-	-	-	-	-	60	185	129	-	-	-	-
		5,934	-	-	-	-	-	60	502	465	356	378	401	1,865

The amounts disclosed are the contractual undiscounted cash flows of each class of financial liabilities.

Interest rate sensitivity analysis

The following table represents a summary of the interest rate sensitivity of the Department's financial assets as at the end of the reporting period on the surplus for the period and equity for a one per cent change in interest rates. It is assumed that the change in interest rate is held constant throughout the reporting period.

The one per cent change in interest rates has no impact on the financial liabilities, and hence the profit and equity, as payables do not attract interests and interest payable on the financial lease is based on fixed interest rate.

	Carrying Amount \$'000	-1% change		+1% change	
		Profit \$'000	Equity \$'000	Profit \$'000	Equity \$'000
2011					
Financial Assets					
Cash Assets	4,922	(49)	(49)	49	49
		-1% change		+1% change	
	Carrying Amount \$'000	Profit \$'000	Equity \$'000	Profit \$'000	Equity \$'000
2010					
Financial Assets					
Cash Assets	4,497	(45)	(45)	45	45

Fair Values

All financial assets and liabilities recognised in the Statement of Financial Position, whether they are carried at cost or fair value, are recognised at amounts that represent a reasonable approximation of fair value unless otherwise stated in the applicable notes.

36 REMUNERATION OF SENIOR OFFICERS**Remuneration**

The number of senior officers, whose total of fees, salaries, superannuation and other benefits received or due and receivable, for the financial year, fall within the following bands are:

	2011	2010
< \$110,000	1	1
\$120,001 - 130,000	–	1
\$140,001 - 150,000	1	1
\$150,001 - 160,000	–	1
\$160,001 - 170,000	1	–
\$170,001 - 180,000	1	1
\$190,001 - 200,000	1	–
\$270,001 - 280,000	–	1
\$290,001 - 300,000	1	–
Total remuneration of senior officers	<u>1,016</u>	<u>878</u>

The remuneration includes the superannuation expense incurred by the Department in respect of senior officers. No senior officers are members of the Pension Scheme.

37 REMUNERATION OF AUDITOR

Remuneration to the Auditor General for the financial year is as follows:

	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000
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Auditing the accounts, financial statements and performance indicators	<u>128</u>	<u>150</u>
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The expense is included in notes 7 and 25.

38 RELATED BODIES

The Department has no related bodies as defined in the *Financial Management Act 2006* and Treasurer's Instruction 951.

39 AFFILIATED BODIES

The Department has no related bodies as defined in the *Financial Management Act 2006* and Treasurer's Instruction 951.

40 SUPPLEMENTARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION**Write-Offs**

During the financial year, debts due to the State were written off under the authority of:

The Accountable Officer	<u>29</u>	<u>4</u>
	<u>29</u>	<u>4</u>

During the financial year these assets were written off the Department's asset register under the authority of:

The Accountable Officer	3	38
Less: Recovered by Insurance	(2)	–
	<u>1</u>	<u>38</u>

The Minister	–	214
Less: Recovered by Insurance	–	286
	<u>–</u>	<u>(72)</u>

Act of Grace Payments

During the financial year, one act of grace payment was made under the authority of:

The Minister	<u>29</u>	<u>27</u>
	<u>29</u>	<u>27</u>

41 JOINTLY CONTROLLED ASSETS

The following represents the Department's 50 per cent ownership interest in the Marine Operations Centre with Department of Transport. The jointly controlled assets are included in the financial statements.

	2011 \$'000	2010 \$'000
Non current assets		
Property, plant, equipment, vehicles and vessels	3,076	3,139
Infrastructure	156	167
	<u>3,232</u>	<u>3,306</u>

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES SPECIAL PURPOSE ACCOUNT STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE PERIOD 1 JULY 2010 TO 30 JUNE 2011**42 FISHERIES RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT**

2010 \$'000		2011 \$'000	\$'000
1,068	Opening balance - 1 July		3,396
	Receipts		
30,035	Contribution from Consolidated Account	27,567	
15,752	Fisheries Access Fees	18,466	
3,500	Development and Better Interests	-	
921	Application Fees	1,303	
65	Interest	380	
5,136	Grants	1,690	
8,636	Other Sundry Revenue	8,878	58,284
65,113		<u>61,680</u>	
	Payments		
61,604	Contribution to Fisheries WA operations	58,138	
113	Contribution to Salaries Suspense	115	58,253
61,717		<u>58,253</u>	
3,396	Balance 30 June held by Treasury		<u>3,427</u>

The Fisheries Research and Development Account, which was established under the *Fisheries Act 1905* (repealed), was continued under the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* (*FRMA 1994*). The purpose of the Account is to hold funds in accordance with section 238 of the *FRMA 1994* which may be used and applied by the Minister in such manner and in such proportion as the Minister thinks fit for all or any of the purposes prescribed by section 238(5) of the *FRMA 1994* and section 37(3), 41 and 55(4) and (5) of the *Pearling Act 1990*. All revenue and expenditure relating to commercial fishing, fish and fish habitat protection, pearling and aquaculture services is transacted through this account.

43 AFMA ACCOUNT

2010 \$'000		2011 \$'000	\$'000
12	Opening balance - 1 July		20
	Receipts		
21	Funds received from AFMA	-	-
33		<u>20</u>	
	Payments		
13	Expenditure on AFMA-related activities	-	-
13		<u>-</u>	
20	Balance 30 June held by Treasury		<u>20</u>

The AFMA Account is established under the *FRMA 1994*. The Account is used for transactions relating to the services provided by Department of Fisheries to the Australian Fisheries Management Authority. The purpose of the Account is to hold funds in accordance with section 241 of the *FRMA 1994* which may be applied by the Minister for all or any of the purposes prescribed by section 241(4) of the *FRMA 1994*.

44 RECREATIONAL FISHING ACCOUNT

2010 \$'000		2011 \$'000	\$'000
10	Opening balance - 1 July		10
	Receipts		
10,992	Contribution from Consolidated Account	9,453	
4,985	Recreational Fishing Licences	6,123	15,576
15,987		<u>15,586</u>	
	Payments		
15,977	Expenditure on recreational fishing related activities	15,576	
15,977		<u>15,576</u>	
10	Balance 30 June held by Treasury		<u>10</u>

45 FISHERIES RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION ACCOUNT

2010 \$'000		2011 \$'000	
645	Opening balance - 1 July	1,010	
	Receipts		
1,497	Contributions from Fisheries Research and Development Corporation	1,297	
33	Interest	33	
296	Other	270	1,600
2,471		2,610	
	Payments		
1,461	Expenditure on Fisheries WA research-related activities	1,204	
1,461			
1,010	Balance 30 June held by Treasury	1,406	

The purpose of this Account is to hold funds in accordance with section 242 of the *FRMA 1994* which may be applied by the Minister for all or any of the purposes prescribed by section 242(4) of the *FRMA 1994*. Approval has been granted by the Treasurer to overdraw this Account to a limit of \$300K.

46 FISHERIES ADJUSTMENT SCHEMES TRUST ACCOUNT

2010 \$'000		2011 \$'000	\$'000
1,692	Opening balance - 1 July	426	
	Receipts		
1,013	Specific State contributions to fisheries adjustment	34,921	
2,705		35,347	
	Payments		
3	Administration		
2,276	Unit buy back State Scheme	35,116	
2,279		35,116	
426	Balance 30 June held by Treasury	231	

The purpose of this account is to hold funds in accordance with section 5 of the Fisheries Adjustment Scheme Act 1987 which shall be applied by the Minister for the purposes prescribed by section 6 of that Act.

47 FISHERIES PRIVATE MONEYS TRUST ACCOUNT

2010 \$'000		2011 \$'000	\$'000
60	Opening balance - 1 July	66	
	Receipts		
8	Proceeds from the sale of seized fish		-
68		66	
	Payments		
-	Monies transferred	7	
2	Monies repaid	-	7
66	Balance 30 June held by Treasury	59	

The purpose of this account is to hold moneys seized and proceeds from the sale of seized fish pursuant to the *Fisheries Act 1905* pending prosecution action. *The Fisheries Act 1905* has been repealed and replaced by the *FRMA 1994*.

48 FISH FARM BOND DEPOSITS TRUST ACCOUNT

2010 \$'000		2011 \$'000
105	Opening balance - 1 July	109
	Receipts	
4	Interests	5
109	Balance 30 June held by Treasury	114

The purpose of this account is to hold fish farm bond deposits lodged by licensees, as security and guarantee for the due and punctual performance of the licensees Fish Farm licence conditions.

**DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES DISCLOSURE OF FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS
INDIAN OCEAN TERRITORIES FOR THE PERIOD 1 JULY 2010 TO 30 JUNE 2011**

49 CHRISTMAS ISLAND AND COCOS (KEELING) ISLANDS

	2010	2011	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
91 Opening Balance 1 July			(147)
Income			
Application fees and Recreational Boat Licences		2	
478 Commonwealth Funding		989	991
569			844
Expenditure			
272 Salaries		326	
65 Travel and accommodation		98	
80 Administration		37	
299 Oncosts		358	819
716			819
(147) Balance 30 June			25

In October 2001, the Department of Fisheries entered into a Service Delivery Agreement (SDA) with the Commonwealth. The SDA provides for the delivery of a range of services by the Department of Fisheries in the Indian Ocean Territories including the management of commercial fishing, recreational fishing, aquaculture, fish health and community education and awareness programs. The Department provides these services on behalf of the Commonwealth Attorney General's Department, formerly on behalf of Department of Transport and Regional Services under the *Fish Resources Management Act (1994)* (WA) (CI) (CKI).

Other Financial Disclosures

Capital Works Program

A new Marine Operations Centre at Denham is under construction and is due to open in 2012. This new centre will facilitate the delivery of the Department's services, including fisheries and marine protected area management, in the Shark Bay World Heritage Area. It will also accommodate staff from the Department of Environment and Conservation and the Shark Bay Volunteer Sea Rescue Group.

The capital program for 2010/11 has funded the continuing upgrade of departmental vessels of various sizes to support the Department's compliance and education services, and research and monitoring program.

Where actual spending is under planned expenditure, adjustments are made to future out-years in the capital program.

The table below details key areas of infrastructure that assists the Department of Fisheries to deliver planned services.

Table 24. Capital Works Program 2010/11

Project Description	Planned Expenditure	Actual Expenditure
	\$'000	\$'000
Information Systems	2,971	1,010
Plant and Equipment	1,718	1,784
Physical Infrastructure	5,134	1,716
Vessels	3,531	827
TOTAL: Capital Works Program	13,354	5,337

Vessels

Major vessel replacements completed for the year included the 20-metre offshore patrol vessel *PV Houtman* based in Geraldton (\$3,361,860), the 11.3-metre rigid inflatable boat *PV Armatus* based in Mandurah (\$471,677), the 8.5 metre rigid inflatable boat *FD 44* based in Exmouth (\$271,069) and the 7.5 metre research vessel *Snipe II* based at Hillarys (\$153,000).

The 23-metre research vessel *RV Naturaliste* based in Fremantle was re-powered as part of its major refit (\$145,000). Routine outboard replacements were completed on small patrol vessels based in Denham and Karratha and

the *PV Walcott* tender vessel (\$73,608 total). Replacement dinghies were completed for Kununurra (\$23,000), Special Operations Unit (\$20,000) and Broome (\$23,000).

All replacements were for the Department's existing fleet in keeping with the rationalisation of the State's vessel assets.

Regional Services operational equipment

Operational equipment was procured to support fisheries compliance and education activities in all regions (\$179,910). Major items included all-terrain vehicles at Denham and Lancelin, computer equipment for training, and surveillance and photographic equipment.

Pricing policy for services provided

The Department of Fisheries operates in an environment where a significant proportion of operating revenue is received from sources other than the Consolidated Account.

The non Consolidated Account sources of revenue include regulatory fees and charges related to commercial fishing, aquaculture and recreational fishing. These fees are set in accordance with government policy.

The basis for setting of these regulatory fees is determined by the nature of the transaction. It can be set at full cost recovery (registry transactions), partial cost recovery (recreational

license fees) and in the case of commercial access to fish resources and water, at an amount to reflect an appropriate payment to the community for that access.

As the Department has developed significant specialist service delivery capacity it is often requested to support activities of other State and Commonwealth agencies. These services are provided on a full cost recovery basis.

Where the Department charges for goods and services rendered on a full or partial cost recovery basis, these fees and charges were determined in accordance with *Costing and Pricing Government Services: Guidelines for Use by Agencies in the Western Australian Public Sector* published by the Department of Treasury and Finance.

Regulations specifying commercial fisheries access and other fees charged by the Department are published in the Government Gazette – see Appendix 3.

Details of the fees for the various categories of aquaculture licences can be found on the Department of Fisheries' website at: <http://www.fish.wa.gov.au/docs/pub/Licencing/AquaFees.php?0307>

A new fee system for the commercial fishing and aquaculture sector in Western Australia has been introduced, following extensive consultation. The new system is designed to improve fairness and planning for the commercial sector and takes

effect in each fishery in the first licensing period after 1 July 2010. Further information can be found on the Department of Fisheries website at: <http://www.fish.wa.gov.au/sec/com/lic/index.php?0205>

Detailed Key Performance Indicators

Certification of Performance Indicators for the year ended 30 June 2011

Treasurer's Instruction 905

Financial Management Act 2006

I hereby certify that the performance indicators are based on proper records, are relevant and appropriate for assisting users to assess the Department of Fisheries performance, and fairly represent the performance of the Department of Fisheries for the financial year ended 30 June 2011.



Stuart Smith
Accountable Authority
August 2011

Performance Indicators 2010/11 for the year ended 30 June 2011

Outcome

The desired outcome of the Department of Fisheries is the conservation and sustainable development of the State's fish resources.

The effectiveness of the Department in achieving this outcome is determined by its performance against the following mix of resource sustainability, economic and social benefit measures.

Objective 1 – Sustainable Fisheries Management

1.1 The proportion of fish stocks identified as being at risk or vulnerable through exploitation

Annual stock assessments of the fisheries that are subject to management are undertaken by the Department's Research Division. These assessments, together with trends in catch and fishing activity, have been used to determine the

sustainability status of the State's most significant commercial fisheries (full details of which are in the companion *State of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Report 2010/11*).

Performance is measured as the proportion of fisheries (which have sufficient data) for which the breeding stocks of each of the major target or indicator species are being maintained at levels that ensure catches could be sustained at desirable levels, given effort levels and normal environmental conditions; or they are recovering from a depleted state at an appropriate rate following management intervention. The Department's 2010/11 Budget Papers state that the target for the proportion of fisheries with appropriate breeding stock management is 83 per cent.

For the 2010/11 performance review, 38 fisheries have been utilised, which is the same as in 2009/10.

For the 38 fisheries reviewed, the 'Stock Status and Catch Ranges for Major Commercial Fisheries' section of the Annual Report records that breeding stock assessments are available for the major species taken in 36 (94 per cent) of these fisheries. For the other two fisheries, insufficient data were available on the target species to make a critical assessment. In situations where unmonitored stocks have the potential to become overfished, they are given priority for new research and/or management.

Within the group of 36 assessed fisheries, 30 involve stocks that were considered to have adequate breeding stock levels (83 per cent of fisheries). Four additional fisheries have breeding stocks considered to be recovering at acceptable rates (West Coast Demersal Scalefish Fishery, Shark Bay Snapper Fishery, Southern Shark Fishery, Cockburn Sound Crab Fishery).

The management arrangements introduced for the West Coast Demersal Scalefish Fishery over the past two years to reduce the total level of fishing mortality and catch on these stocks across all sectors by 50 per cent look to be achieving the desired outcomes. The catches have been reduced by 50 per cent, so an initial level of stock recovery is considered to have been initiated.

Ongoing success for the stock is dependent on maintenance of these reduced catches, which is best measured by an examination of the total level of fishing mortality. Monitoring of the status of the indicator species and the catches taken by all sectors is currently underway. The status of the key stocks for this fishery will be fully reviewed in 2012/13 to determine if the initial positive signs that management has been successful are likely to be ongoing. Similarly, the status of the Shark Bay snapper component of the Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Fishery will be re-assessed in 2012/13.

For the Southern Shark Fishery, only one of the four target species (sandbar shark) has a breeding

stock that will likely remain below acceptable levels for some time due to previous fishing activities (i.e. not from current fishing impacts). Following a detailed review of catch and effort data for the Southern Shark Fishery, a re-assessment of the stocks has revealed that previous management interventions can now be seen to have had a positive impact on the sustainability of dusky shark and whiskery shark.

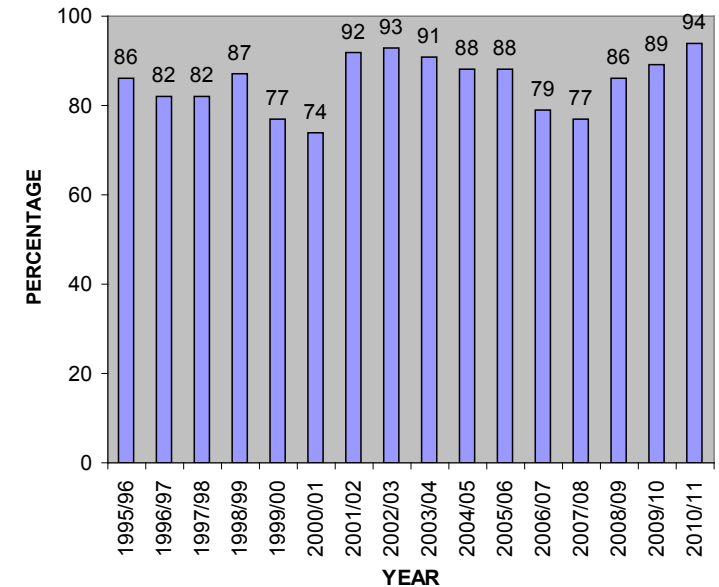
The Cockburn Sound Crab Fishery opened for the first time in three years due to continuing recovery of the breeding stock and improving recruitment. It was opened under precautionary management arrangements (restricted effort) to allow further recovery.

In conclusion, a combined total of 94 per cent of fisheries have breeding stock management that is considered satisfactory (Figure 1), which is above the target level.

For the two remaining fisheries, in the Northern Shark Fishery the sandbar shark stock continues to be depleted, while the South Coast Herring Fishery continues to have an uncertain status. Note that the sandbar shark stock is shared between the northern and southern shark fisheries, with catches in the north currently at zero due to uncertainty for the industry regarding ongoing viability of operating in this region.

Research is continuing on the stocks of herring in the south-west region to determine

whether the recent low catch levels are a result of changes to environmental conditions or a reduction in the breeding stock leading to lowered recruitment, reduced fishing effort, or some combination of the above.



KPI Figure 1. The proportion (%) of commercial fisheries where breeding stocks of the major target species are both assessed and either adequate or recovering adequately to levels to ensure catches can be sustained at maximum levels within the range expected under typical environmental conditions.

1.2 The proportion of commercial fisheries where acceptable catches (or effort levels) are achieved

A target catch or effort range has been determined for each of the major commercial fisheries (see the 'Stock Status and Catch Ranges for Major Commercial Fisheries' section of the Annual Report) by the Department's Research Division. This indicator provides an assessment of the success of the Department's management plans and regulatory activities in keeping fish catches at appropriate levels (including those in a recovery phase). The Department's 2010/11 Budget Papers state that the target is 90 per cent.

For most of the fisheries in WA, each management plan seeks to directly control the amount of fishing effort applied to stocks, with the level of catch taken providing an indication of the effectiveness of the plan. Where the plan is operating effectively, the catch by the fishery should fall within a projected range. The extent of this range reflects the degree to which normal environmental variations affect the recruitment of juveniles to the stock which cannot be 'controlled' by the management plan. An additional consideration is that market conditions, fleet rationalisation or other factors may result in ongoing changes to the amount of effort expended in a fishery, which will in turn influence the appropriateness of acceptable catch ranges for certain fisheries.

For quota-managed fisheries, the measure of success for the management arrangements is firstly that the majority of the Total Allowable Catch (TAC) is achieved, but additionally that it has been possible to take this catch using an acceptable amount of fishing effort. If an unusually large expenditure of effort is needed to take the TAC, or the industry fails to achieve the TAC by a significant margin, this may indicate that the abundance of the stock is significantly lower than anticipated. For these reasons, an appropriate range of fishing effort to take the TAC has also been incorporated for assessing the performance of quota-managed fisheries (see the 'Stock Status and Catch Ranges for Major Commercial Fisheries' section of the Annual Report).

Comparisons between the actual catches (or effort) with the target ranges have been undertaken for 33 of the 38 fisheries referred to in the 'Stock Status and Catch Ranges for Major Commercial Fisheries' section – three more than in the previous year. The fisheries for which there are target ranges account for most of the commercial value of WA's landed catch. For the mackerel and deep-sea crab fisheries, effort ranges are not yet available so catch ranges will continue to be used. This approach will also be used for the State's pilchard (purse seine) fisheries as it may not be possible to determine meaningful effort ranges; the three south coast purse seine fisheries are now included

in this year's comparisons because there has been increasing consistency in achieving significant catches.

In the case of the Cockburn Sound Crab Fishery, the recent period of breeding stock recovery has led to a stock level adequate to allow some fishing to resume but it is too early for target ranges of catch and effort to be developed. Similarly the recent significant expansions in the Shark Bay Crab Fishery catch are not thought to pose a risk to the breeding stock but do indicate that a target catch range needs to be developed to ensure this remains the case. Finally, some fisheries had negligible fishing activity for economic reasons and were therefore not assessed.

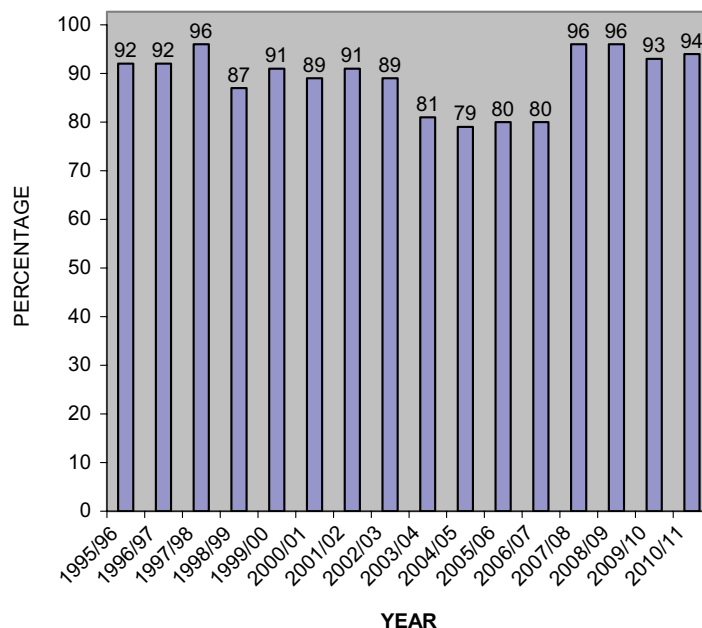
Of the 33 fisheries where 'target ranges' were available and a material level of fishing was undertaken in 2009/10, 10 were catch-quota managed [through a TAC allocated through Individually Transferable Quotas (ITQ)] with 23 subject to effort control management.

All of the ITQ-managed fisheries operated within their target effort/catch ranges or were acceptably below the effort range (Roe's abalone, pearl oysters). In the 23 effort-controlled fisheries, 21 produced catches that were within (16) or acceptably below (five) their target catch ranges. The two fisheries identified where the catch levels were considered to be unacceptably lower (one) or higher (one) than the target range were the

Pilbara Trawl Fishery and the Kimberley Gillnet and Barramundi Fishery respectively.

Recent catches have been declining in the Pilbara Trawl Fishery and there are some questions whether this is due to reduced gear efficiencies following the introduction of protected species bycatch reduction devices. In the Kimberley Gillnet and Barramundi Fishery there has been a considerable increase in barramundi catch in recent years and it has yet to be determined whether this is sustainable.

In summary, 31 (94 per cent) of the 33 fisheries assessed were considered to have met their performance criteria, or were affected by factors outside the purview of the management plan/arrangements (Figure 2), which is above the target level.



KPI Figure 2. The proportion (%) of commercial fisheries where the catch or effort reported is acceptable relevant to the target management range being applied.

1.3 The percentage of fisheries or fished sectors where current catch shares are known and where catch share allocations are in process or in place

The primary object of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* is 'to conserve, develop and share the fish resources of the State for the benefit of present and future generations'. This indicator has been developed to allow reporting

on the 'sharing' of fish resources in Western Australia. In the context of this indicator, 'sharing' means to allocate the fish resources of the State, within sustainability limits, on an equitable basis to various sectoral user groups.

Previously, WA's fish resources were shared mainly on an implicit basis, with no explicit setting of catch shares within an overall total allowable catch or corresponding total allowable effort. The Department is now implementing an Integrated Fisheries Management (IFM) approach where the aggregate effects of all fishing sectors are taken into account. This involves the use of a framework in which decisions on optimum resource use (i.e. allocation and re-allocation of fish resources) are determined and implemented within a total sustainable catch for each fishery or fished stock.

IFM is being progressively phased in and it is likely to take some 10 years to bring the majority of the State's shared fisheries under this new framework.

The indicator is presented in two parts:

- The percentage of fisheries or fished stocks for which current estimates of catch shares are available.
- The percentage of those fisheries or fished stocks for which catch sharing allocations are in progress or in place.

The 65 per cent target in the Department's 2010/11 Budget Papers relates to the percentage of fisheries or fished stocks for which current estimates of catch shares are available. The 2010/11 Budget Papers do not provide a target for the percentage of those fisheries or fished stocks for which catch sharing allocations are in progress or in place, but the Department has a target of 25 per cent of catch sharing allocations in progress or in place by 2015.

'Fisheries or fished stocks' can either be a managed fishery for a particular species (e.g. western rock lobster) or a spatially managed area of fishing activity encompassing a number of species (e.g. west coast estuaries). A 'current estimate' (of catch) is defined as being within the past five years (i.e. since 2004/05). Finally, a 'sharing allocation' is defined as a percentage of a total allowable catch or effort.

For the purposes of this indicator, 23 fisheries or stocks have been identified as having both a 'material' commercial and recreational catch share. This is one more than last year, reflecting the re-opening of the Cockburn Sound Crab Fishery. Over time, the indicator may need to expand to include reference to fisheries or stocks for which there are other 'material' sectoral shares (e.g. customary fishing).

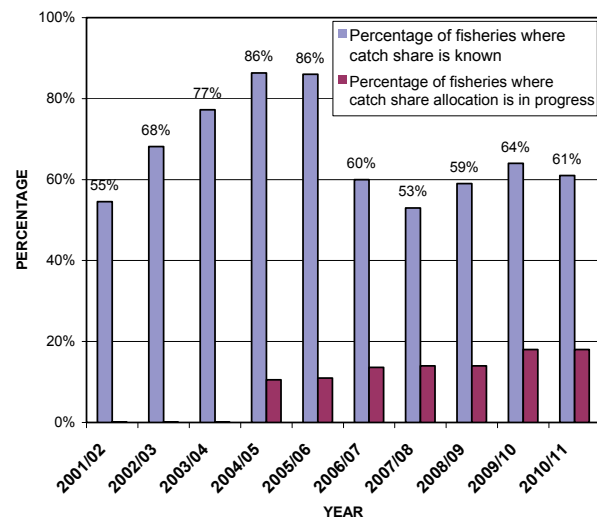
The most recent catch share data used for the first part of the indicator will be reported in the Department's [State of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Report 2010/11](#). These shares are

currently based on commercial catch data and from the results of recreational surveys undertaken by the Department's Research Division within the last five years.

The Department has made no assessment of whether these current shares are optimal or equitable with regard to community benefit and it acknowledges that this indicator does not include shares allocated implicitly or otherwise to the conservation sector (via 'no-take' areas) or to other sectors (e.g. Indigenous).

On this basis, the share of catch attributable to the commercial sector and the recreational sector for 2010/11 has been estimated for 14 of the 23 fisheries (61 per cent) (Figure 3).

The second part of the indicator only relates to those fisheries expected to have both ongoing and significant commercial and recreational sectors into the future. For these fisheries, the IFM initiative will generate explicit allocations and/or re-allocations to specific sectors using a formal and structured allocation process. This process has already been completed for western rock lobster and metropolitan abalone fisheries, is currently underway for the West Coast Demersal Scalefish Fishery and the IFM process for the Gascoyne region has now also been initiated. The proportion of fisheries or fished stocks with formal share allocations should increase over time and we are on track to meet the 2015 target level of 25 per cent.



KPI Figure 3. The proportion (%) of fisheries or fished stocks where estimates of catch shares are known and the proportion (%) of fisheries or fished stocks where catch sharing allocations are in progress or in place.

Objective 2 – Maximise the Economic Benefit to the State

2.1 The contribution to the State's gross value of output

The Department seeks to manage the State's fisheries in an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable manner. This performance indicator deals with the economic component of the 'triple bottom line' approach.

Sustainably managed commercial fisheries provide benefits to the State as a result of significant local sales and export earnings from fish and fish products. Commercial fisheries that are not managed sustainably will suffer a reduced value of production as less fish products will be available to the catching and marketing sectors.

The value, at first point of sale, of the production from WA's commercial and pearling/aquaculture sectors is published by the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES) annually, based on data supplied by industry to the Department's Research Division. Information for the years 2007/08 to 2009/10 in broad groupings is provided in Table 1. The target is for production and value to be stable or increasing.

The overall tonnage of commercially-caught crustaceans in 2009/10 was down compared to 2008/09, mainly reflecting the drop in lobster catch. The decline in production value was again exacerbated by the markets and the exchange rate affecting the value of the lobster, prawn and crab catches. Some improvements in lobster price helped to ameliorate the effects of the poor exchange rate.

The production and value of the molluscan fisheries in 2009/10 were substantially lower than obtained in 2008/09. This was primarily due to low catches of scallops, especially in the Shark Bay scallop fishery, along with the effects of the poor exchange rate.

The finfish sector is comprised of a large number of fisheries and stocks. The annual production and value in 2009/10 decreased marginally from that in 2008/09, with a value of \$31 million.

The value of pearl production rose significantly in 2009/10 and is likely to be a result of improved marketing returns to the industry, despite a continuing unfavourable global economic climate. The production level and value of non-pearl aquaculture for 2009/10 were essentially unchanged from the previous year.

In summary, due to the combination of a drop in the overall tonnage of production in 2009/10 and the lower global economic status of some commodities, the total value of WA fisheries was lower at \$367 million compared to \$394 million in 2008/09. The WA commercial fishing sector continues to be affected by a combination of significant external influences on market values and from the impacts of natural fluctuations in the abundances of key species.

KPI Table 1. Western Australian fisheries production – years 2007/08 to 2009/10

	2007/08(e)		2008/09 (e)		2009/10 (f)	
	tonnes	\$ m	tonnes	\$ m	tonnes	\$ m
Crustaceans	12,615	250	11,074	224	9,999	219
Molluscs	5,520	41	3,918	37	3,055	21
Fish	10,153	34	10,159	32	9,944	31
Other (a)	n/a	n/a	160	0.5	171	0.5
Pearling (b, c)	n/a	113	n/a	90	n/a	99
Aquaculture (d)	1,013	10	1,017	10	1,107	10
TOTAL PRODUCTION	29,301	448	26,328	394	24,276	380

Footnotes:

- (a) Miscellaneous invertebrates, e.g. beche-de-mer and sea urchins, previously reported under molluscs.
- (b) Pearl oyster products other than pearls are included under molluscs.
- (c) Method of estimating the value of pearl production has been updated.
- (d) Excludes hatchery production and algae production for beta carotene.
- (e) Figures have not been adjusted to account for late production returns and validation of databases, so may differ slightly from values published elsewhere.
- (f) Figures current as at end of financial year.

n/a Not applicable.

Tonnage values are calculated from the Catch and Effort Statistics (CAES) data supplied by fishers on a monthly/trip basis, or quota returns supplied on a daily basis. The market values (except pearls) are obtained from surveys of the main seafood purchasers/processors.

Sources: Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES); Department of Fisheries, Western Australia.

Objective 3 – Maximise the Social Benefit to the State

The Department seeks to manage the State's fisheries in an economically, social and environmentally sustainable manner. This performance indicator deals with the social component of the 'triple bottom line' approach. Sustainably managed fisheries and aquatic environments provide benefits to the State by providing a range of recreational opportunities and experiences to the community from snorkelling and just looking at fish in their natural environment to 'catching a feed' for the family.

Information for performance indicators 3.1 to 3.3 was derived from a survey to assess the level of success of the Department of Fisheries' activities and functions within the Western Australian community.

The objectives of the survey were to:

- Assess the level of recall and awareness of the Department of Fisheries' information and promotional activities.
- Assess the understanding and support of the community for the Department of Fisheries' management strategies across all four programs (Commercial Fisheries, Recreational Fisheries, Pearling and Aquaculture, and Fish and Fish Habitat Protection).
- Examine key aspects of community fishing and marine habitat appreciation.

The survey was conducted by telephone during June 2011. The telephone numbers were randomly selected from the white pages. Respondents were males and females older than 17 years residing in Western Australia. The total sample of 702 interviews comprised:

- 509 from Major Cities.
- 84 from Inner Regional.
- 109 from Outer Regional/Remote/Very Remote/Migratory.

Roy Morgan Research conducted the field-work to collect data from the community. The Stock Assessment and Data Analysis Branch of the Western Australian Fisheries and Marine Research Laboratories performed the analyses of the survey data.

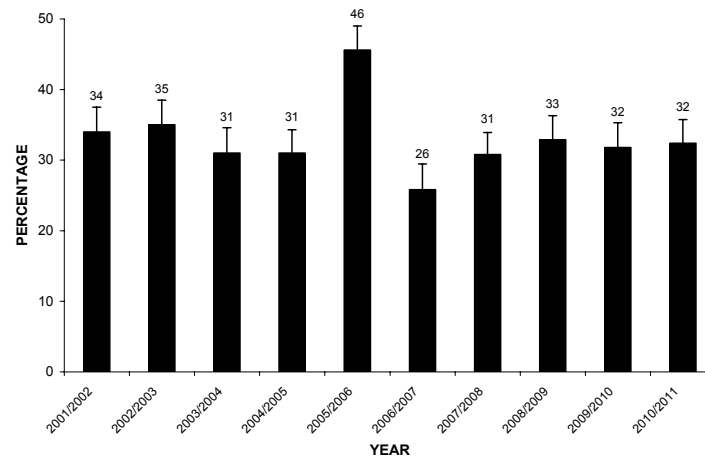
3.1 The participation rate in recreational fisheries

The Department's 2010/11 Budget Papers provide for a participation rate in recreational fisheries of 33 per cent.

The number of people in Western Australia who went recreational fishing at least once in the previous 12-month period was 594,000. This was estimated as 32 per cent of the State's population older than four years of age (using Australian Bureau of Statistics population estimates from the 2006 census). This compares with an actual participation rate of 32 per cent in 2009/10 and 33 per cent in 2008/09 (Figure 4).

The improved response rates (calculated as percentage of contacts that resulted in a completed interview) of about 20 per cent achieved since 2007/08 has provided a less biased estimate of the participation rate than for some earlier years.

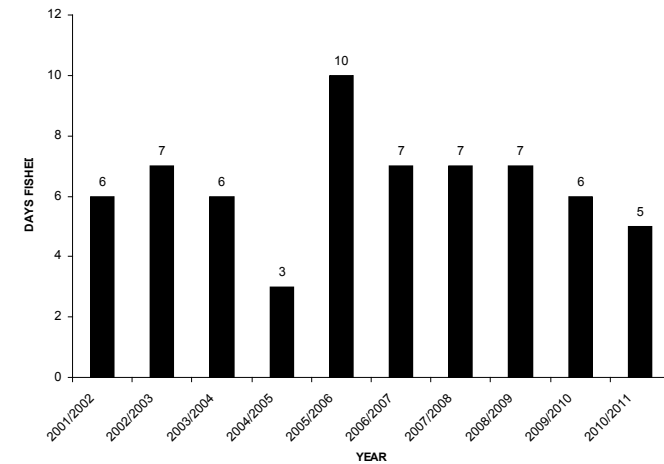
KPI Figure 4. Participation rate in recreational fisheries 2001/2002 – 2010/2011



Days Fished

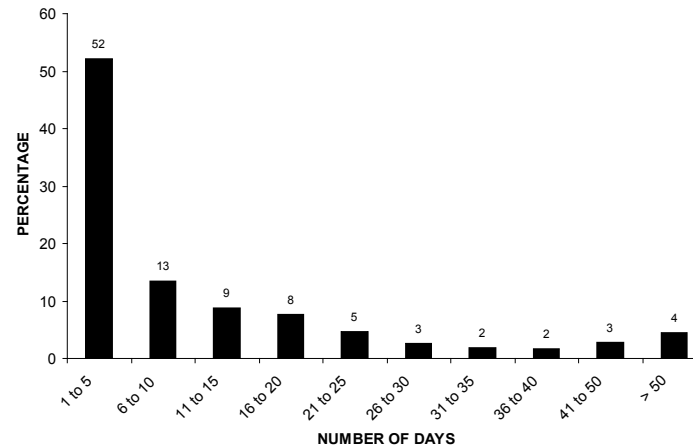
The median number of days fished by recreational fishers in the last twelve months was five days (Figure 5). The median number of days fished was six in 2009/10 and seven in 2008/09.

KPI Figure 5. Median number of days fished by recreational fishers 2001/02 – 2010/11



The number of days fished by recreational fishers in the last twelve months ranges from one to 180 days. The mean number of days fishing was 13 days. Most (52 per cent) recreational fishers in Western Australia fished between one and five days with the median number of days in 2010/11 reducing to 5 (Figure 5). However, some fished for considerably more days giving a skewed frequency distribution (Figure 6).

KPI Figure 6. Distribution for number of days fished by recreational fishers



The Perth Metropolitan area from Yanchep to Mandurah was most popular for recreational fishing with 36 per cent of effort. Other areas that people fished were West Coast other than the Perth Metropolitan area (28 per cent), South Coast – Marine (18 per cent), South Coast – Freshwater (seven per cent), Gascoyne (five per cent), Pilbara/ Kimberley – Marine (five per cent), and Pilbara/ Kimberley – Freshwater (one per cent).

3.2 Satisfaction index for persons participating in recreational fishing.

This performance indicator measures the effectiveness of the Department's recreational fisheries management strategies, by seeking to gauge the level of awareness in the community

about recreational fishing rules and the need for management – including measures such as closed seasons, bag limits, size limits, licence fees – to ensure that there are 'fish for the future'.

An overall satisfaction scoring model or index has been developed to measure and track the satisfaction of recreational fishers.

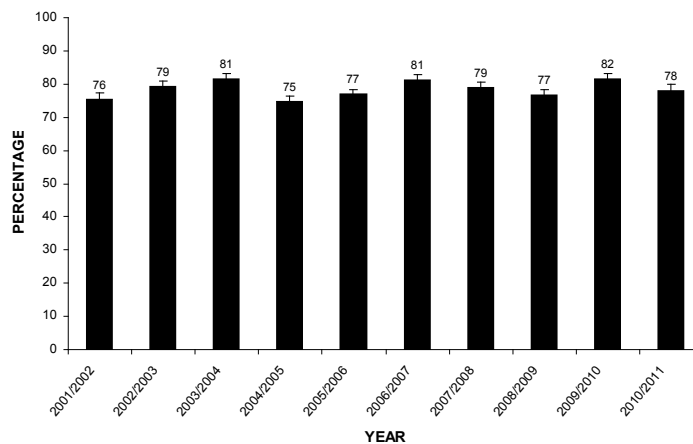
The satisfaction index is a combination of knowledge of management measures and confidence.

Management = the level of the person's awareness of rules and regulations.

Confidence = the level of the person's satisfaction with the number, size and variety of fish caught on their last trip and satisfaction with the overall fishing trip.

The above criteria were rated by each respondent on a scale of one to four, and then amalgamated to provide the satisfaction index. The satisfaction index for recreational fishing was 78.0 per cent with a 95 per cent confidence interval between 76.2 per cent and 79.7 per cent (Figure 7). The satisfaction index is marginally lower than the value of 81.6 per cent for 2009/10 which is consistent with the long-term trend for the satisfaction index to be around 80 per cent.

KPI Figure 7. Satisfaction index for persons participating in recreational fishing 2001/02 – 2010/11



3.3 Satisfaction rating of the broader community and stakeholders as to their perceptions of the extent to which the Department of Fisheries is achieving sustainable fisheries management objectives.

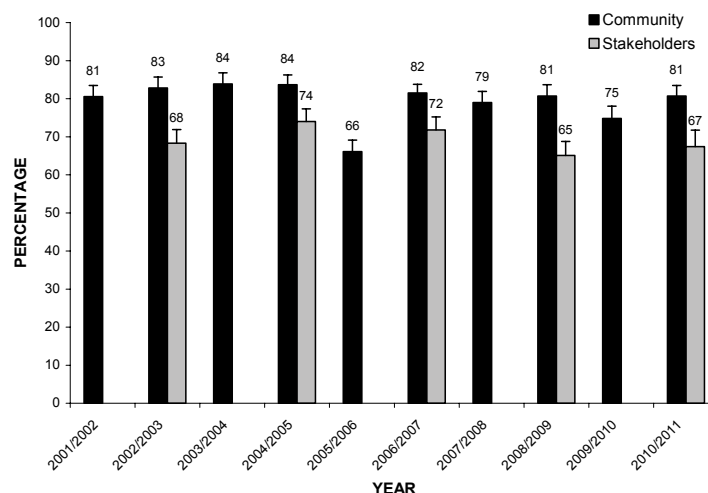
The Department of Fisheries was given a satisfaction rate of 80.7 per cent by the Western Australian public across its four service areas of commercial fishing, recreational fishing, fish and fish habitat protection, and aquaculture and pearling. The 95 per cent confidence interval for the satisfaction rate given by the community was 77.9 per cent to 83.4 per cent. Only respondents that were aware the Department of Fisheries was

responsible for a service area were asked to rate the Department's performance for that service area.

The satisfaction rating for this financial year is slightly higher than the rate of 74.8 per cent estimated for 2009/10 (Figure 8). The satisfaction ratings by the community for the Department continues to remain between about 75 and 85 per cent.

Every second year an additional survey is conducted to measure the satisfaction of Department of Fisheries by its main stakeholders. The 2010/11 survey comprised 152 interviews with representatives from commercial fisheries, recreational fisheries, fish and fish habitat protection, and aquaculture and pearling. The Department of Fisheries was given an overall satisfaction rating of 67.4 per cent by these stakeholder groups (Figure 8). This satisfaction rate is not different than the value of 65.1 per cent from the 2008 stakeholder survey (Baharthah, 2009). The longer-term trend is for this index to lie between 65 and 75 per cent.

KPI Figure 8. Satisfaction rating of the broader community and the Department's stakeholders 2001/02 – 2010/11



Efficiency Indicators

The Department’s efficiency indicators have been calculated by dividing the total service cost in a functional area by the hours delivered in that functional area.

The measures enable analysis of variance in costs from year-to-year and provide a benchmark for comparison against like service delivery.

The reported hourly cost includes a component to cover fixed indirect costs.

In calculating the efficiency indicator targets, it is assumed that the Department will operate at full capacity (i.e. all positions occupied) for the full year. This is not normally the case and consequently

the target cost per hour is normally less than the actual cost. This fact is demonstrated in the closer alignment between the actual results from one year to the next.

Explanations for those variances greater than 10 per cent have been included within each service.

Outcome: Conservation and sustainable development of the State’s fish resources

Service 1: Fisheries Management

Service Description: Fisheries management includes licensing, the development of policy and procedural frameworks for the management of the State’s fisheries, aquaculture and the aquatic environment including legislation and management plans, consultation with fishing industry stakeholders and the community.

Efficiency in Service 1 is described as the average cost per hour for services delivered excluding payments for grants and fisheries adjustment schemes.

KPI Table 2. Service 1

Service 1 Fisheries Management	Actual 2009/10	Target 2010/11	Actual 2010/11	Variance Actual	Variance Target
Average cost per hour of management (excluding grants and fisheries adjustments)	\$117	\$109	\$152	\$35	\$43

Explanation of Significant Variances

The budget hourly rate is set on the basis that full staffing levels are maintained during the year. As vacancies will invariably occur, the budget amount will in most cases be less than the actuals in any year. The 2010/11 actual hourly rate has been impacted by additional employee-related costs that resulted from a reduction in the minimum service period required to recognise long service leave liability. In addition, significant non salary-related costs were incurred in transitioning the West Coast Rock Lobster Fishery to quota and the start-up costs associated with implementing a biosecurity (marine pests) program.

Service 2: Compliance and Education

Service Description: Through the compliance and education service the Department raises community awareness and understanding of fisheries and aquatic management issues and the need to adhere to the rules governing these activities. This service enforces fishing rules and also plans and instigates investigations and enforcement strategies.

Efficiency in Service 2 is described as the average cost per hour for services delivered as outlined in the following table.

KPI Table 3. Service 2

Service 2 Compliance and Education	Actual 2009/10	Target 2010/11	Actual 2010/11	Variance Actual	Variance Target
Average cost per hour of compliance and education.	\$164	\$134	\$186	\$22	\$52

Explanation of Significant Variances

The budget hourly rate is set on the basis year. As vacancies will invariably occur, the budget amount will in most cases be less than the actuals in any year. The 2010/11 actual hourly rate has been significantly impacted by reduced number of hours delivered and additional employee-related costs that resulted from a reduction in the minimum service period required to recognise long service leave liability. In addition a significant increase in depreciation expense has impacted on this service in 2010/11.

Service 3: Research and Monitoring

Service Description: The research and monitoring service provides scientific knowledge for the sustainable management of the State's fisheries and aquatic resources and the associated environment.

Efficiency in Service 3 is described as the average cost per hour for services delivered as outlined in the following table.

KPI Table 4. Service 3

Service 3 Research and Monitoring	Actual 2009/10	Target 2010/11	Actual 2010/11	Variance Actual	Variance Target
Average cost per hour of research and monitoring	\$118	\$116	\$126	\$8	\$10

Explanation of Significant Variances

The budget hourly rate is set on the basis that full staffing levels are maintained during the year. As vacancies will invariably occur, the budget amount will in most cases be less than the actuals in any year. The 2010/11 actual hourly rate has been impacted by additional employee-related costs that resulted from a reduction in the minimum service period required to recognise long service leave liability. In addition significant non salary-related costs were incurred for recreational surveys.

Service 4: Marine Safety

Service Description: The marine safety service is delivered on behalf of the Department of Transport. This service includes checks by Fisheries and Marine Officers of recreational boats to ensure compliance with the safety requirements.

Efficiency in Service 4 is described as the average cost per hour for services delivered as outlined in the following table.

KPI Table 5. Service 4

Service 4 Marine Safety	Actual 2009/10	Target 2010/11	Actual 2010/11	Variance Actual	Variance Target
Average cost per hour for delivery of marine safety services	\$143	\$116	\$134	(\$11)	\$18

Explanation of Significant Variances

The budget hourly rate is set on the basis that full staffing levels are maintained during the year. As vacancies will invariably occur, the budget amount will in most cases be less than the actuals in any year. The 2010/11 actual hourly rate when compared to budget hourly rate has been impacted by additional employee-related costs that resulted from a reduction in the minimum service period required to recognise long service leave liability and a significant reduction in the level of services delivered. The 2010/11 actual has reduced compared to the 2009/2010 actual, as the reduced service delivery in this area in 2010/11 has resulted in a reduction in the non salary-related expenses.

Other Legal Requirements

Advertising

In compliance with section 175ZE of the *Electoral Act 1907*, the Department of Fisheries is required to report on expenditure incurred during the financial year in relation to advertising agencies, market research organisations, polling organisations, direct mail organisations and media advertising organisations.

The details of the report are as follows:

Expenditure with advertising agency – Adcorp	\$86,092.61
Expenditure with market research agencies	\$0.00
Expenditure with polling agencies	\$0.00
Expenditure with direct mail agencies	\$0.00
Expenditure with media advertising agencies – Media Decisions	\$181.82
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$86,274.43

Disability Access and Inclusion Plan

Through its Disability Access and Inclusion Plan, the Department of Fisheries is committed to delivering services for people with disabilities. The Disability Access and Inclusion Plan ensures equal access to the Department's services that include fisheries management, compliance and education, research and monitoring, and marine safety.

The Disability Access and Inclusion Plan ensures that people with disabilities:

- Have the same opportunities as other people to access the services of, and any events organised by, the Department of Fisheries.
- Have the same opportunities as other people to access the buildings and other facilities of the Department.
- Receive information from the Department in a format that will allow ready access to it.
- Receive the same level and quality of service from the Department.
- Have the same opportunities as other people to make complaints to the Department.
- Have the same opportunities as other people to participate in any public consultation by the Department.

The Disability Access and Inclusion Plan identifies six outcomes for the Department of Fisheries to achieve:

Outcome 1

The Department is committed to ensuring all events are planned using the Accessible Events Checklist, which is available on the Department's Intranet.

The Department has developed standard wording for all information bulletins and event invitations, to enable attendees to indicate the nature of any access requirements they have.

Outcome 2

The Department has undergone ongoing audits to identify any access barriers to its premises.

Outcome 3

The new redevelopment of the Department's of Fisheries main website will ensure compliance with the WA Government's Website Governance Framework including its accessibility and recordkeeping requirements (including W3C, WCAG, and the *Records Keeping Act*). The Department continues to be committed to improving community awareness of departmental information by making it available in alternative forms.

Outcome 4

The Department is committed to improving staff awareness of disability and access

issues with the aim of providing improved service delivery.

Outcome 5

The Department is committed to ensuring that current complaints, policies and procedures are accessible to people with disabilities.

Outcome 6

The Department monitors the progress of its Disability Access and Inclusion Plan. The Department will continue to progress improvements in its delivery of services and, in particular, to the special needs of those with a disability.

The Department also supports the fishing workshops for the disabled operated by the Fishers with Disabilities Association Incorporated and provides a grant to assist the association meet its administration and insurance costs.

In addition to initiating the fishing workshops program for Fishers with Disabilities several years ago through its volunteer program, the Department of Fisheries contributes several members of staff to the board of the association. The Department allows these board members to attend board meetings and conduct association-related business during working hours while employed

by the Department. The Department has also similarly supported employees who have volunteered to assist in conducting fishing workshops operated by the association.

Human Resources Management Standards and Ethical Codes

The Department of Fisheries' Human Resource Management policies are written to support the achievement of its human resources strategy and to comply with the Human Resource Management Standards for Western Australia's public sector.

All human resource policies, including the Conduct and Behaviour Guide, are available to staff via the Department's Intranet. The Department continues to have very low numbers of claims relating to breaches of standards and ethical codes.

The Conduct and Behaviour Guide has been reviewed and discussed at visits by human resources staff to all regional centres. Completion rates for the online training course continue to improve.

For 2010/11 the Department reported the following compliance issues:

Compliance issues	Reported for 2010/11
Public Sector Standards in Human Resource Management Breach Claims	One claim against the Recruitment, Selection and Appointment Standard was received in 2010/11 but is not yet resolved.
Non-compliance with the WA Code of Ethics	No reports of non-compliance with the Code of Ethics were submitted.
Allegations of Misconduct under the Disciplinary provisions of the <i>Public Sector Management Act 1994</i>	Two cases were reported within the 2010/11 year, but no breaches of discipline were found. No cases remain to be carried forward to 2011/12.

Compliance with Relevant Written Laws

Enabling Legislation

The Department of Fisheries is established under Section 35 of the *Public Sector Management Act 1994*.

Legislation Administered

The Department of Fisheries assists the Minister in the administration of legislation under five State Acts of Parliament (see the 'Profile of the Department of Fisheries' section of this Annual Report).

The Department also manages the majority of fishing adjacent to Western Australia in the Australian Fishing Zone under the provisions of Part 5 of the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* of the Commonwealth and Part 3 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.

Legislation Affecting Department Outcomes

In the performance of its functions, the Department of Fisheries complies with the following relevant written laws:

- *Animal Welfare Act 2002*
- *Auditor General Act 2006*
- *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984*
- *Corruption and Crime Commission Act 2003*
- *Credit Act 1984*
- *Disability Services Act 1993*
- *Electronic Transactions Act 2003*
- *Environmental Protection Act 1986*
- *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*
- *Equal Opportunity Act 1984*
- *Financial Management Act 2006*
- *Firearms Act 1973*
- *Freedom of Information Act 1992*
- *Government Employees' Housing Act 1964*
- *Government Financial Responsibility Act 2000*
- *Industrial Relations Act 1979*
- *Minimum Conditions of Employment Act 1993*
- *New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act 1999*
- *Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984*
- *Occupiers Liability Act 1985*
- *Public and Bank Holidays Act 1972*
- *Public Interest Disclosures Act 2003*
- *Public Sector Management Act 1994*
- *Salaries and Allowances Act 1975*
- *Spent Convictions Act 1988*
- *State Administrative Tribunal Act 2004*
- *State Records Act 2000*
- *State Superannuation Act 2000*
- *State Supply Commission Act 1991*
- *State Trading Concerns Act 1916*
- *Trade Practices Act 1974*
- *Volunteers and Food and Other Donors (Protection from Liability) Act 2002*
- *Western Australian Marine Act 1982*
- *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*
- *Working with Children (Criminal Record Checking) Act 2004.*

Numerous other State and Federal laws also affect the Department's activities. These are listed in Appendix 3.

Reporting on Record Keeping Plans

(State Records Act 2000, Section 61 and State Records Commission Standards, Standard 2, Principle 6)

The Department of Fisheries is committed to the development and implementation of good record keeping practices and meeting our legislative requirements of the *State Records Act 2000* and the State Records Commission Standard 2, Principle 6.

In accordance with section 28 of the *State Records Act 2000* and the expiry of the 2008 Recordkeeping Plan, the Department was required to review and submit its amended Recordkeeping Plan in 2011. The plan was formally submitted to the State Records Commission for approval and approved in April 2011. The approved recordkeeping plan, with actions and deliverables, will help the Department to achieve its recordkeeping goals and is effective until April 2016.

The Department's functional Retention and Disposal schedule requires amendment and submission to the State Records Commission for approval during financial year 2011/12.

The Department is currently operating in a paper-based environment that has been recently reviewed. As a consequence of this review, it was decided that the effectiveness and efficiency of the Department's record keeping system needed to be overhauled. The Corporate Information section is making progress to develop, and will ultimately

implement, an Electronic Document and Records Management System (EDRMS), inclusive of a Business Classification scheme. The creation and appointment of the position of Chief Information Officer to support this initiative should see an EDRMS delivered in the 2012/13 financial year.

Following a review of the Department's record keeping training program, a new program was developed in 2010/11. The new program covers essential information specific to the Authority's Record Keeping Plan, records management policies, business processes and information management initiatives. Approximately 90 per cent of current staff have completed and passed the online Record Keeping Awareness Training Course.

As part of their induction, new staff members are required to complete the training within two weeks of commencing at the Department of Fisheries. In addition, new staff members are provided with one-on-one training by Corporate Information staff that includes an introduction to the record keeping practices at the Department.

Public Interest Disclosures

(Public Interest Disclosures Act 2003, S23 (1) (f))

The *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2003* came into effect on 1 July 2003, requiring the Department of Fisheries to:

- Facilitate the disclosure of public interest information.

- Provide protection for those who make disclosures.
- Provide protection for those who are the subject of a disclosure.

In accordance with the Act, the Department has duly appointed Public Interest Disclosure Officers and has published internal policies and procedures related to its obligations.

Nil public interest disclosures were received during 2010/11.

Government Policy Requirements

Substantive Equality

Since 2006 the principles of Substantive Equality have been adopted by the Department of Fisheries through the development of an Aboriginal Fishing Strategy and the adoption of a Customary Fishing Policy.

The Department has also met its Substantive Equality responsibilities with the production of recreational fishing information written in the Vietnamese language. An example includes *Crabbing for Blue Swimmer Crab Stocks in the West Coast Region* that is currently posted on the Department's website.

The Department has identified that the next stage of the priority service area will be a *Needs and Impact Assessment* regarding the licensing of aquatic charter activities of Aboriginal and minority ethnic groups. A preliminary scoping document was developed during 2009/10 outlining the background to current management arrangements for Aboriginal fishing tour operators. The *Needs and Impact Assessment* work will be undertaken as part of the

overall review of the aquatic charter industry that is due to be completed by the end of 2011.

Public Sector Compliance and Ethical Codes

The Department of Fisheries' Human Resource Management (HRM) policies are written to support the achievement of its HR strategy and to comply with the HRM standards for WA's public sector. All HR policies, including the Conduct and Behaviour Guide, are available to staff via the Department's Intranet. The Department continues to have very low numbers of claims relating to breaches of standards and ethical codes.

The Conduct and Behaviour Guide has been promoted and discussed at visits by HR staff to all regional centres and completion rates for the online training course continue to improve.

For 2010/11 the Department reports the following compliance issues:

Compliance issues	Reported for 2010/11
<i>Public Sector Standards in Human Resource Management Breach Claims</i>	One claim against the Recruitment, Selection and Appointment Standard was received in 2010/11.
<i>Non-compliance with the WA Code of Ethics</i>	No reports of non-compliance with the Code of Ethics were submitted
<i>Allegations of Misconduct under the Disciplinary provisions of the Public Sector Management Act 1994</i>	Two cases were reported and finalised within the 2010/11 year however no breaches of discipline were found.

Occupational Safety and Health and Injury Management

The Department of Fisheries is committed to ensuring the health, safety and welfare of all its employees and others who may be affected by its operational activities. The Department aims to engage in 'best practice' safety and health management practices, including education, training, reporting and accountability. The Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Committee meets bi-monthly and comprises regional and metropolitan representatives. Safety and Health issues can be raised with these representatives through the Department's Hazard Accident Incident Report (HAIR) process.

To ensure employees are kept informed about OSH matters, the Intranet is regularly updated and the OSH bulletin is distributed to all staff following each OSH committee meeting.

Several achievements in the area of Occupational Safety and Health in 2010/11 are worthy of note including:

- Pia Carter, a Fisheries Management Officer based in the Northern Region, was nominated and won a Work Safety Award in the category of 'Best individual contribution to safety and health (a) No Formal OSH Responsibilities' for her work in improving safe work practices at the Broome Aquaculture Park.
- Corporate Health Expos were held in Perth, Hillarys and Broome. Participants were provided with a broad range of health and wellness information and were able to participate in some basic health checks and fitness assessments. More Expos are planned for regional offices in 2011/12.
- Establishment of a Suicide Prevention and Awareness working group that will lead implementation of a Suicide Prevention Strategy in support of the Government Plan for 2009 – 2013.

Table 25. Occupational Safety and Health and Injury Management Performance against Key Indicators

Measure	Actual Results		Results Against Target	
	2009/10	2010/11*	Target	Comments
Number of fatalities	Zero	Zero	Zero	Target achieved
Lost time injury/disease (LTI/D) incidence rate	1	1.2	Zero or 10% reduction on previous year	The Department had five lost time injuries for the year which increased the incidence rate slightly above the target.
Lost time injury severity rate	25	40	Zero or 10% improvement on previous year	Two of the five lost time injuries had lost time exceeding 60 days. The stress claim and hearing claim both have complex injury management factors.
Percentage of injured workers returned to work within 28 weeks	75%	60%	Actual percentage results to be reported	Outside of the two severe claims (above) lost time was minimal for the remaining injured workers. However, the percentage presents as being higher due to the small number of lost time injuries (five) in total.
Percentage of managers trained in occupational safety, health and injury management responsibilities	20%	32%	Greater than or equal to 50%	Additional supervisory OSH training has been delivered through 2010/11 however the bulk of the supervisor/manager training has been scheduled to take place in 2011/12. As such, the Department is on track to meet this target in 2011/12.

* Actual results for 2010/11 are based on calculations of 419 FTE and five lost time injuries. Two of those injuries resulted in lost time exceeding 60 days with workers not returning to work within 28 weeks.

Ministerial Directives

No Ministerial directives were received during the financial year.

Governance Disclosures

Contracts with Senior Officers

At the date of reporting, other than normal contracts of employment of service, no senior officers, or firms which senior officers are members, or entities which senior officers have substantial interests, had any interests in existing or proposed contracts with the Department of Fisheries and senior officers.



Twenty-three new trainee Fisheries and Marine Officers were recruited during 2010/11, strengthening the Department's compliance and educational services.

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APPENDIX 1

Advisory Committees

Aquatic Advisory Committee

Chair: Mr Robert Fisher AM

Non-Statutory Management Advisory Committees

(Section 41 and 42, Fish Resources Management Act 1994)

- Integrated Fisheries Allocation Advisory Committee
- Abrolhos Islands Management Advisory Committee

Voluntary Fisheries Adjustment Scheme Committee of Management

(Section 11, Fisheries Adjustment Schemes Act 1987)

- South West Coast Salmon and Related Fisheries Voluntary
- Adjustment Scheme Committee of Management
- West Australian Trawl and Related Fisheries Voluntary Fisheries Adjustment Scheme Committee of Management
- West Coast Demersal Gillnet and Longline Fishery Voluntary Fisheries Adjustment Scheme Committee of Management
- Wetline and Related Fisheries Voluntary Fisheries Adjustment Scheme of Management

APPENDIX 2

Major Publications Produced by the Department of Fisheries during 2010/11

Websites

There are currently eight websites coordinated, designed and maintained by the Department of Fisheries that form the backbone of its communications – visually and textually. The eight web sites are:

Department of Fisheries (corporate website)

www.fish.wa.gov.au

 www.youtube.com/user/fisherieswa

Naturaliste Marine Discovery Centre

www.nmdc.com.au

MarineWATERS (Western Australian Teacher Education Resources) (An initiative of the Department of Fisheries and Woodside Energy)

marinewaters.fish.wa.gov.au

 www.facebook.com/marinewaters

The Perth Beachcombers Education Kit (Designed to help users discover and understand Western Australia's coastal and marine environments, it contains activities, worksheets and other related resources useful for parents, children, community groups, educators and anyone interested in beachcombing).

www.fish.wa.gov.au/beachcombers-kit

Seafood Western Australia.net

www.seafoodwesternaustralia.net

The national fisheries website for Ecological Sustainable Development (Sponsored by the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation)

www.fisheries-esd.com

Freshwater Fish Distribution in Western Australia

freshwater.fish.wa.gov.au

'Sharing the Fish' Conference

www.fishallocation.com

The Department of Fisheries' websites form a key element in its communication. The main departmental corporate website experienced over two million page views (one user loading a page of the website) in 2010/11, with 3.92 pages viewed on average by each user, who spent an average of over three minutes on the site. 675 GB of information was downloaded from the site during the year.

Over 60 per cent of the page views were made during business hours (9am-5pm), over 33 per cent of visitors were classified as returning visitors to the site and 95 per cent were made without using the site's search function.

During 2010/11, 29,839 people accessed the main corporate website using their mobile phones. There were 18,419 visits for the first six months of 2011 versus 5,513 for the first six months of 2010 – showing a 334 per cent increase in visits from mobile devices.

Publications

The Department publishes a suite of publications, in both print and e-media format, which are produced/ reviewed on an annual basis. These include:

Annual Report to Parliament

www.fish.wa.gov.au/docs/ar/index.php?0706

'State of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources' annual report

www.fish.wa.gov.au/docs/sof/index.php?0706

Recreational Fishing Guides

www.fish.wa.gov.au/sec/about/pubs/index.php?0706

Species Identification Guides

www.fish.wa.gov.au/sec/about/pubs/index.php?0706

Licensed Recreational Fisheries Brochures (rock lobster, abalone, marron, net fishing, recreational fishing from boat)

www.fish.wa.gov.au/sec/about/pubs/index.php?0706

Fisheries Fact Sheets

www.fish.wa.gov.au/docs/pub/FactSheets/index.php?0706

In addition, the Department also publishes a range of management and research documents each year – these are listed below for 2010/11.

Fisheries Occasional Publications

- No. 80** North coast fish identification field guide (September 2010).
- No. 81** Western rock lobster international stock assessment and modelling workshop report (August 2010).
- No. 82** ASFB 2009 Workshop – Biodiversity of aquatic ecosystems – What to measure and monitor for fisheries and ecosystem management. FRDC Project No. 2008/353 (October 2010).
- No. 83** Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Managed Fishery. An operator's guide to the management arrangements 1 November 2010 – 31 August 2011 (October 2010).
- No. 84** Catch monitoring system guide for fishers and registered receivers (November 2010).
- No. 85** Resource Assessment Framework for finfish resources in Western Australia (January 2011).
- No. 86** Recreational fishing – fish identification southern guide (March 2011).
- No. 87** Recreational fishing - fish identification northern guide (March 2011).
- No. 88** Research and Development Plan 2010 – 2011 (January 2011).
- No. 89** Western rock lobster ecology – The state of knowledge. Marine Stewardship Council – Principle 2: Maintenance of ecosystem. December 2010 – *draft* (April 2011).
- No. 90** West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery E-Log (electronic log).

- No. 91** A report of the Effects of Fishing Advisory Group meeting (2 - 3 November 2010) and the Western Rock Lobster Ecological Effects of Fishing Research Plan revised and updated by the Effects of Fishing Advisory Group (2 - 3 November 2010) – *draft* (February 2011).
- No. 92** Fishing location guide (March 2011)
- No. 93** Impact of the proposed Kimberley LNG Precinct on customary fishing in the vicinity of James Price Point (April 2011).
- No. 94** Proceedings of the workshop on reallocation mechanisms, February 2011 (February 2011).
- No. 95** Western Rock Lobster Environmental Management Strategy 2010 – 2015 (April 2011).
- No. 96** Governance of the western rock lobster fishery and Marine Stewardship Council - Principle 3: Effective Management (April 2011).
- Fisheries Management Papers**
- No. 247** Integrated Fisheries Management Resource Report – West Coast Demersal Scalefish Resource (July 2010).
- No. 248** Developing mechanisms for the transfer and/or adjustment of rock lobster shares between sectors in Western Australia and South Australia (May 2011).
- Fisheries Research Reports**
- No. 208** Review of the exploitation of marine resources of the Australian Indian Ocean Territories: the implications of biogeographic isolation for tropical island fisheries.
- No. 209** Evaluating source-sink relationships of the western rock lobster fishery using oceanographic modelling.
- No. 210** Protecting inshore and demersal finfish – identification of critical habitats for juvenile dhufish.
- No. 211** Evaluation of the recreational marron fishery against environmental change and human interaction.
- No. 212** Ranked risk assessment for bycatch in multiple fisheries: a bioregional risk assessment method.
- No. 213** Fisheries-dependent indicators of climate change in Western Australia
- No. 214** Human capacity building for introduced marine pest monitoring in Western Australia.
- No. 215** Development of an ecosystem approach to the monitoring and management of Western Australian fisheries. FRDC Report – Project 2005/063.
- No. 216** Quantifying recreational fishing catch and effort: a pilot study of shore-based fishers in the Perth Metropolitan area.
- No. 217** Draft stock assessment for the West Coast Rock Lobster Fishery
- No. 218** Assessing possible environmental causes behind the reduced colonisation of western rock lobster puerulus collectors by a wide suite of species.

APPENDIX 3

Legislative Amendments and New Legislation

1. Fish Resources Management Act 1994

Fish Resources Management Amendment Act 2009. No. 37 of 2009

Proclamation

The Governor signed this proclamation on 27 July 2010. Published on 30 July 2010 in Government Gazette Number 144 on page 3493.

2. Fisheries Adjustment Schemes Act 1987

Shark Bay Prawn Managed Fishery Voluntary Fisheries Adjustment Scheme Notice 2010

The purpose of this gazettal was to establish this fisheries adjustment scheme. Published on 12 November 2010 in Government Gazette Number 213 on pages 5669-5670.

Abrolhos Islands and Mid West Trawl Managed Fishery Voluntary Fisheries Adjustment Scheme Amendment Notice 2010. The purpose of this gazettal was to vary the existing scheme to allow additional licences to be offered to the scheme. Published on 24 December 2010 in Government Gazette Number 246 on page 6831.

Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery Voluntary

Fisheries Adjustment Scheme Notice 2010.

The purpose of this gazettal was to establish a Voluntary Fisheries Adjustment Scheme for the Shark Bay Scallop Fishery. Published on 24 December 2010 in Government Gazette Number 246 on pages 6831-6832.

Wetline and Related Fisheries Voluntary Fisheries Adjustment Scheme Variation Notice 2011. The purpose of this gazettal was to approve an extension to the scheme. Published on 24 March 2011 in Government Gazette Number 47 on page 1091.

3. Regulations

Fish Resources Management Amendment Regulations (No. 3) 2010. Amendment regulations to prescribe a nationally agreed list of high risk species as noxious fish. Published on 23 July 2010 in Government Gazette Number 141 on page 3402-3406.

Fish Resources Management Amendment Regulations (No. 6) 2010. Amendment regulations to amend the fee payable for the grant or renewal of a West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery

authorisation, increase the escape gap size and revoke regulations 33 and 34. Published on 27 August 2010 in Government Gazette Number 165 on page 4106-4111.

Fish Resources Management Amendment Regulations (No. 7) 2010. Amendment regulations to amend the fee payable for the grant or renewal of a Kimberley Gillnet and Barramundi Managed Fishery authorisation and a South West Trawl Managed Fishery authorisation. Published on 10 September 2010 in Government Gazette Number 172 on page 4347.

Fish Resources Management Amendment Regulations (No. 8) 2010. Amendment regulations to reduce the 2010 Perth Metropolitan Roe's Abalone Recreational Fishery season to five (previously six) one-hour sessions held on consecutive Sundays commencing 7 November 2010. Published on 8 October 2010 in Government Gazette Number 187 on page 5134-5135.

Fish Resources Management Amendment Regulations (No. 9) 2010. Amendment regulations to amend the fee payable for the grant or renewal of a managed fishery licence in a number of managed fisheries. Published on 2 December 2010 in Government Gazette Number 227 on pages 6031-6034.

Fish Resources Management Amendment Regulations 2011. Amendment regulations to remove regulation 64(5A) relating to the provision of weekly processor's returns for rock lobster. Published on 1 March 2011 in Government Gazette Number 28 on page 667.

Fish Resources Management Amendment Regulations (No. 2) 2011. Amendment regulations relating to the use of release weights, boat limits, leasing Aquatic Tour Operator Licences and the use of fishing gear on charter boats. Published on 1 March 2011 in Government Gazette Number 28 on pages 668-673.

Fish Resources Management Amendment Regulations (No. 3) 2011. Amendment regulations to require that all rock lobster pots used in the Abrolhos Islands (Easter Group and Pelsaert Group) be fitted with sea lion exclusion devices. Published on 1 March 2011 in Government Gazette Number 28 on pages 673-675.

Fish Resources Management Amendment Regulations (No. 4) 2011. Amendment regulations to remove the minimum commercial size limits for various species; correct the scientific name of northwest snapper; and remove pink snapper from the table for special risk finfish in regulation 14. Published on 29 March 2011 in Government Gazette Number 51 on pages 1151-1153.

Fish Resources Management Amendment Regulations (No. 5) 2011. Amendment regulations to increase of fees. Published on 6 May 2011 in Government Gazette Number 74 on pages 1609-1612.

4. Management Plans

West Coast Rock Lobster Management Plan Amendment (No. 9) 2010. Management plan amendment to replace the Rock Lobster Industry Advisory Committee with the Western Australian Fishing Industry Council Inc. as the

body to be consulted before the plan is amended or revoked. Published on 6 July 2010 in Government Gazette Number 133 on page 3227.

Shark Bay Crab Fishery (Interim) Management Plan Amendment 2010. Management plan amendment to extend the expiry date of the interim plan until 31 August 2011. Published on 17 August 2010 in Government Gazette Number 161 on pages 4050-4051.

West Coast Rock Lobster Management Plan Amendment (No. 10) 2010. Management plan amendment relating to:

- Introduce individual catch limits for each licence in the fishery based on the number of units held on the licence and consistent with the approved Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC) for each zone of the fishery.
- Provide that the quantity of gear able to be used in the fishery and the catch limit should be fixed, based on the current unit entitlement on a licence (the number of units after temporary transfers to and from the licence) as at a specified date prior to the start of the season in each zone (Zone B, Zone C and Abrolhos Islands Area).
- Provide the opportunity for industry to be able to soak a number of pots at the Abrolhos Islands before the start of the season which is representative of the quantity of gear they are able to fish once the season opens.
- Remove the restriction on Zone A licence holders operating in inshore waters which are less than 20 fathoms in depth (the “20 fathom line”).

- Align the season start date for Zones B and C at 15 November.
- Extend the season in all zones by two months to 31 August.
- Adjust the capacity of the fishery such that the unit value in all zones is 0.5 pots per unit all season.
- Prohibit fishing on Saturdays and Sundays, but permits fishing on Fridays where this is currently prohibited.
- Include penalties and a defence in respect to exceeding catch limits.

Published on 10 September 2010 in Government Gazette Number 172 on pages 4358-4362.

West Coast Estuarine Fishery (Interim) Management Plan Amendment 2010.

Management plan amendment to extend the expiry date for the plan until 7 November 2011, to allow sustainable operation of the fishery while consultation with stakeholders on future management is undertaken. It also implements the fee in accordance with the arrangements for commercial fisheries access fees in WA. Published on 3 November 2010 in Government Gazette Number 204 on page 5523.

West Coast Rock Lobster Management Plan Amendment (No. 11) 2010. Management plan amendment to implement a quota system for the fishery from the commencement of the 2010-11 season. Published on 5 November 2010 in Government Gazette Number 208 on pages 5589-5601.

West Coast Demersal Scalefish (Interim) Management Plan Amendment 2010.

Management plan amendment to introduce new fees that will be payable on renewal of a permit for the 2011 fishing season. Published on 3 December 2010 in Government Gazette Number 229 on pages 6064-6065.

Mackerel Fishery (Interim) Management Plan Amendment 2010. Management plan amendment to introduce new fees that will be payable on renewal of a permit for the 2011 fishing season. Published on 3 December 2010 in Government Gazette Number 229 on page 6065.

West Coast Deep Sea Crustacean Fishery (Interim) Management Plan Amendment 2010. Management plan amendment to introduce new fees that will be payable on renewal of a permit for the 2011 fishing season. Published on 3 December 2010 in Government Gazette Number 229 on pages 6065-6066.

Cockburn Sound Crab Fishery Management Plan Amendment 2010. Management plan amendment to amend clause 16 regarding minimum size. Published on 10 December 2010 in Government Gazette Number 234 on page 6287.

West Coast Rock Lobster Management Plan Amendment 2011. Management plan amendment to implement rules for rock lobster fishing at the Abrolhos Islands. Published on 11 March 2011 in Government Gazette Number 35 on pages 822-833.

West Coast Demersal Gillnet and Demersal Longline Fishery (Interim) Management Plan Amendment 2011. Management plan

amendment to allow for the operations of the west coast fishery to continue, and provide sufficient time to undertake the work required to transition the west coast fishery to fully managed status. Published on 1 April 2011 in Government Gazette Number 52 on page 1191.

Joint Authority Southern Demersal Gillnet And Demersal Longline Managed Fishery Management Plan Amendment 2011. Management plan amendment to bring the fee setting arrangements for the fishery in line with the State's other managed fisheries. Published on 6 May 2011 in Government Gazette Number 74 on page 1625.

Pilbara Fish Trawl Fishery (Interim) Management Plan Amendment 2011. Management plan amendment to extend the life of the plan for two years until 30 June 2013. Published on 10 May 2011 in Government Gazette Number 76 on page 1670.

West Coast Rock Lobster Management Plan Amendment (No. 2) 2011. Management plan amendment to:

- remove the current closure to fishing on Saturdays and Sundays effective from 25 June 2011 until the end of the current season; and
- correct an administrative error that relates to the boundaries of the area that is closed for research purposes described in Schedule 12 of the Plan.

Published on 17 June 2011 in Government Gazette Number 97 on pages 2181-2182.

5. New Management Plans

Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Management Plan 2010. New management plan for the fishery. This plan came into operation on 1 November 2010. Published on 22 October 2010 in Government Gazette Number 194 on pages 5271 to 5282.

6. Orders

Prohibition On Recreational Fishing For Crabs (Cockburn Sound) Amendment Order 2010. This order extends the recreational crabbing season in Cockburn Sound by one-month and increases the opportunity for recreational fishers to participate in crabbing activities during the Easter period. Published on 10 December 2010 in Government Gazette Number 234 on page 6287.

7. Amendments to Existing Orders

Prohibition On Commercial Fishing (South-West Coast Beach Bait Net) Order 2010

Order No. 3 of 2010

This order prohibits beach bait net fishing between Tim's Thicket and Black Point, and permit beach bait net fishing between Tim's Thicket and Port Geographe to authorised Fishing Boat Licence holders only. Published on 13 July 2010 in Government Gazette Number 136 on page 3295-3297.

Prohibition On Fishing For Rock Lobster Order (No. 6) 2010. This order removes the duplication of existing legislation that provides for the 'season' for the fishery by ensuring that the dates for prohibition on fishing are contained in the West Coast Rock Lobster Management Plan only, and repealing Notice 389 which also referred to

dates when fishing is prohibited. Published on 10 September 2010 in Government Gazette Number 172 on page 4362.

Northern Demersal Scalefish Fishery Management Plan 2000. Determination Of The Capacity Of Area 2 Of The Northern Demersal Scalefish Managed Fishery For The 2011 Licensing Period. This determination provides that the capacity of Area 2 of the fishery shall be limited to 985.6 fishing days for the period commencing 1 January 2011 and ending on 31 December 2011. Published on 7 December 2010 in Government Gazette Number 231 on page 6101.

8. Revoked Orders

Shark Bay Snapper Management Plan Revocation 2010-11-25. This order revokes the Shark Bay Snapper Management Plan 1994. Published on 22 October 2010 in Government Gazette Number 194 on page 5269.

9. Notices

Joint Authority Southern Demersal Gillnet and Demersal Longline Managed Fishery Management Plan 1992. Closure of an area within the fishery. Notice No. 1 of 2010. This notice prohibits fishing by the use of a demersal gillnet or demersal longline at any time during the period commencing on 16 August 2010 and ending on 15 October 2010. Published on 9 July 2010 in Government Gazette Number 134 on page 3249.

West Coast Demersal Gillnet And Demersal Longline (Interim) Managed Fishery Management Plan 1997. Closure of an area within the fishery. Notice No. 1 of 2010. This notice prohibits fishing by the use of a demersal gillnet or demersal

longline at any time during the period commencing on 16 August 2010 and ending on 15 October 2010. Published on 9 July 2010 in Government Gazette Number 134 on page 3249-50.

Kimberley Prawn Managed Fishery Management Plan 1993. Areas closed to fishing for prawns. Notice No. 3 of 2010. This notice prohibits fishing for prawns in Kimberley Prawn Managed Fishery during certain times and dates. Published on 23 July 2010 in Government Gazette Number 141 on page 3408-3409.

Broome Prawn Managed Fishery Management Plan 1999. Areas closed to fishing for prawns. Notice No. 2 of 2010. This notice prohibits fishing for prawns during certain times and dates. Published on 10 August 2010 in Government Gazette Number 154 on page 3749.

Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995. Approved Directions. This notice approves the documents listed in Schedule 1 as approved directions for the installation, use and testing of approved automatic location communicators. Published on 20 August 2010 in Government Gazette Number 163 on page 4078.

Determination Under Clause 9 Of The Shark Bay Scallop Management Plan 1994. To give notice that a new determination (Determination No. 2 of 2010) has been made of dates, times and areas that fishing is prohibited in the Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery over the period commencing from the date of gazettal of this notice and ending on 1 June 2011. Published on 10 September 2010 in Government Gazette Number 172 on page 4363.

Determination No. 2 Of 2010 Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery Management Plan 1994. This determination cancels Determination No. 1 of 2010 dated 5 March 2010, and prohibits fishing for scallop in all of the waters of the Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery from the date of gazettal of this notice until 0800 hours on 1 June 2011. Published on per notice above on 10 September 2010 in Government Gazette Number 172 on page 4363.

Determination of the Capacity of the Mackerel Interim Managed Fishery For The 2011 Permit Period. Determination of the quantity of mackerel that may be taken during the 2011 permit year. Published on 22 October 2010 in Government Gazette Number 192 on page 5233.

Shark Bay Line Fishing (Amendment And Revocation Of Orders) Order 2010, Order No. 2 Of 2010. Amendments and revocations as a result of the commencement of the Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Management Plan and to delete obsolete references to "Oyster Fishing Licences" that were repealed in 2007. Published on 22 October 2010 in Government Gazette Number 194 on page 5270.

Determination Of The Capacity Of The Pilbara Trap Managed Fishery For The 2011 Licensing Period. Determination of the capacity of the Pilbara Trap Managed Fishery being 5456 trap days for the period commencing 1 January 2011 and ending 31 December 2011. Published on 19 November 2010 in Government Gazette Number 216 on page 5758.

Abalone Management Plan 1992

Determination. A determination in regard to the maximum quantity of abalone that may be taken from the relevant areas of the Abalone Managed Fishery during the licensing period commencing on 1 April 2011. Published on 22 February 2011 in Government Gazette Number 24 on page 624.

Shark Bay Scallop Management Plan 1994

Closure of areas within the fishery. The dates, times and areas that fishing is prohibited. Published on 25 February 2011 in Government Gazette Number 27 on page 660.

Shark Bay Prawn Management Plan 1993

Closure of areas within the fishery. The dates, times and areas that fishing is prohibited. Published on 25 February 2011 in Government Gazette Number 27 on page 660.

Shark Bay Scallop Management Plan 1994

Closure of areas within the fishery. The dates, times and areas that fishing is prohibited. Published on 25 March 2011 in Government Gazette Number 48 on page 1097.

South Coast Purse Seine Managed Fishery

Approved receivers of small pelagic fish. Approve receivers of small pelagic fish. Published on 1 April 2011 in Government Gazette Number 52 on page 1189.

Kimberley Prawn Managed Fishery Management Plan 1993.

Notice of areas closed to fishing for prawns. Notice No. 1 of 2011. Change to the dates and period that fishing is prohibited. Changes to the waters described above. Published on 1 April 2011 in Government Gazette Number 52 on page 1190.

Broome Prawn Managed Fishery Management Plan 1999. Areas closed to fishing for prawns.

Notice No. 1 of 2011. Prohibit fishing for prawns as described in Schedule 2 of the plan, from the date of gazettal until 19 May 2011; and prohibit fishing for prawns during the period commencing 0800 hours WST on 5 September 2011. Published on 29 April 2011 in Government Gazette Number 70 on pages 1537-1538.

Joint Authority Southern Demersal Gillnet And Demersal Longline Managed Fishery Management Plan 1992. Closure Of An Area Within The Fishery.

Notice No. 1 of 2011. Prohibit fishing during the period commencing on 16 August 2011 and ending on 15 October 2011 in that area of the fishery specified in the schedule, for the purposes of protecting breeding stocks of whiskery shark. Published on 24 May 2011 in Government Gazette Number 85 on pages 1902-1903.

West Coast Demersal Gillnet And Demersal Longline (Interim) Managed Fishery Management Plan 1997. Closure of an area within the fishery

Notice No. 1 of 2011. Prohibit fishing during the period commencing on 16 August 2011 and ending on 15 October 2011 in that area of the fishery specified in the schedule, for the purposes of protecting breeding stocks of whiskery shark. Published on 24 May 2011 in Government Gazette Number 85 on page 1903.

10. Pearling Act 1990 Regulations

Pearling (General) Amendment Regulations 2011.

The purpose of this regulation is to increase a range of fees payable under the *Pearling Act 1990*. Published on 15 April 2011 in Government Gazette Number 64 on pages 1415-1417.

Pearling (General) Amendment Regulations (No. 2) 2011.

The purpose of this regulation is to amend the definition of “medical practitioner” to ensure consistency of terminology with the new *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (Western Australia) Act 2010*. Published on 29 April 2011 in Government Gazette Number 70 on page 1523.

11. Pearling Act 1990 Notices

Grant Of A Pearl Oyster Hatchery Licence (For Propagation) Cygnet Bay, King Sound, Broome. Notice of the grant of a pearl oyster hatchery licence at Cygnet Bay, King Sound, Broome to Cygnet Bay Pearls. Published on 6 July 2010 in Government Gazette Number 133 on page 3228.

Pearling (Annual Fees) Notice 2010. Annual fees for farm leases, pearling licences, hatchery licences and permits. Published on 14 December 2010 in Government Gazette Number 235 on pages 6305-6306.

Restriction Of Pearling And Hatchery Activities (Mangrove Island) Notice.

Restriction Of Pearling And Hatchery Activities (Eighty Mile) Notice.

Restriction Of Pearling And Hatchery Activities (Whalebone Island) Notice.

Restriction Of Pearling And Hatchery Activities (Dailey Shoal) Notice.

Restriction Of Pearling And Hatchery Activities (Red Bluff) Notice.

Restriction Of Pearling And Hatchery Activities (North Turtle Island) Notice.

Restriction Of Pearling And Hatchery Activities (Weld Island) Notice.

Transition of pearling regulation 45(e) on pearl holding sites (for the above seven sites). Published on 21 December 2010 in Government Gazette Number 244 on pages 6768-6771.

Grant Of Pearl Oyster Farm Lease. Paspaley Pearling Co Pty Ltd, Roebuck Pearl Producers Pty Ltd, Pearls Pty Ltd and the Australian South Sea Pearl Co Pty Ltd issued with a pearl oyster farm lease. Published on 25 March 2011 in Government Gazette Number 48 on page 1097.

Restriction Of Pearling and Hatchery Activities (La Grange Bay) Notice 2011. Restriction of pearling and hatchery activities at La Grange Bay. Published on 1 April 2011 in Government Gazette Number 52 on page 1191.

12. Pearling Act 1990 Revocations

Restriction Of Pearling And Hatchery Activities (North Turtle Islet) (Revocation) Notice. Revocation Notice. Published on 9 July 2010 in Government Gazette Number 134 on page 3250.

13. Gazettal not required

Nichol Bay Prawn Managed Fishery Management Plan – Notice Of Areas Closed To Fishing For Prawns – Notice No. 1 Of 2011. Cancellation of Notice No. 1 of 2010 dated 4 March 2010 and prohibit fishing for prawns in those parts of the fishery between new times and dates provided.

Shark Bay Prawn Managed Fishery Management Plan 1993. Determination Of Areas Closed To Fishing For Prawns. Determination No. 1 Of 2011.

Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery Management Plan 1994. Determination Of Areas Closed To Fishing For Scallops. Determination No. 2 Of 2011.

Abrolhos Islands And Mid West Trawl Managed Fishery Management Plan 1993. Notice Of Areas Open Or Closed To Fishing For Prawns And Scallops. Notice No. 1 Of 2011

Onslow Prawn Managed Fishery Management Plan 1991. Notice Of Areas Closed To Fishing For Prawns. Notice No. 1 Of 2011

Exmouth Gulf Prawn Managed Fishery Management Plan 1989. Notice Of Permitted And Prohibited Areas To Fishing For Prawns. Notice No. 1 Of 2011

APPENDIX 4

State Register of Authorisations, Exemptions and Aquaculture Leases

The State Register of Authorisations, Exemptions and Aquaculture Leases is available to the public on application to the Registrar and payment of appropriate fees – see section 125 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994 (FRMA)*.

One aquaculture lease has been granted during the reporting period.

At 30 June 2011, there were 136,315 recreational fishing licences recorded on the register. Although details of recreational licences are recorded on the State Register, the Registrar is prohibited from making these available for public search – see section 125(6) of the *FRMA*.

At 30 June 2011, there were 441 aquaculture licences recorded on the State Register.

At 30 June 2011, there were 5,901 commercial authorisations recorded on the State Register. The commercial authorisations on the State Register were made up of the following:

Interim Managed Fishery Licences	178
Mackerel Fishery	66
Pilbara Fish Trawl	11
Shark Bay Crab	5
West Coast Deep Sea Crustacean	7
West Coast Demersal Gillnet & Demersal Long Line	17
West Coast Estuarine	12
West Coast Demersal Scalefish	60
Managed Fishery Licences	1,212
Abalone	45
Abrolhos Mid-Trawl	10
Broome Prawn	5
Cockburn Crab	12
Cockburn Fish Net	1
Cockburn Line & Pot	13
Cockburn Mussel	2
Esperance Rock Lobster	8
Exmouth Prawn	15
Kimberley Gill Net & Barramundi	7
Kimberley Prawn	126
Marine Aquarium Fish Corporate	1
Marine Aquarium Fish Individual	11
Nickol Bay Prawn	14
Northern Demersal	15
Onslow Prawn	30
Pilbara Trap	6

Shark Bay Beach Seine	11
Shark Bay Prawn	18
Shark Bay Scallop	29
Shark Bay Snapper	47
South Coast Estuarine	25
South Coast Purse Seine	33
South Coast Salmon	18
South West Salmon	6
South West Trawl	14
Southern Demersal Gillnet and Demersal Longline	50
Specimen Shell	33
Warnbro Crab	0
West Coast Beach Bait Fish	1
West Coast Purse Seine	12
Windy Harbour/Augusta Rock Lobster	2
West Coast Rock Lobster	592
Other Licences	4,511
Commercial Fishing Licence	2,204
Fish Processing (Land)	121
Fish Processing (Sea)	112
Fishing Boat Licence	1,400
Aquatic Eco Tour	6
Fishing Tour Operators Licence	223
Restricted Fishing Tour	30
Permit to Construct a Fish Processing Establishment	387
Rock Lobster Pot Licence	28
Transactions on the Register	919
Extracts	467
Searches	58
Notation of security interest	150
Removal of security interest	228
Variation of security interest	16

Fees to access the State Register and obtain copies of entries in, and extracts from, the register are prescribed in Schedule 1 Part 1 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*.

The Registrar recorded 12 convictions against 23 authorisations in the relevant period, pursuant to the statutory obligation under section 224 (1) of the *FRMA*.

There were no authorisations cancelled (under section 224 (2) of the *FRMA*) as a result of the recording of three convictions within 10 years against the authorisation.

The Registrar provided certificates under section 212 of the *FRMA* for the purposes of proceedings for offences under the *FRMA* on three occasions.

State Register of Exemptions 2010/11

Exemption No: 1793

Applicant: Fremantle Octopus Pty Ltd

Period of Exemption: 14/07/2010 – 31/01/2015

Provisions: Clause 2 of the Fish Trap Prohibition Notice.

Purpose: Explore and/or develop the octopus fishery and fishing technology.

Exemption No: 1794

Applicant: Sinclair Knight Mertz

Period of Exemption: 01/08/2010 – 31/01/2013

Provisions: Prohibition on Fishing (Coral, 'Live Rock' and Algae) Order 2007 (Order No 11).

Purpose: To provide information on coral reproduction and to contribute to research towards understanding the impact of plumes (associated with port related dredging activity) on coral spawning.

Exemption No: 1795

Applicant: Persons listed in Schedule 1
 Period of Exemption: 06/09/2010 – 11/09/2010
 Provisions: Sections 46(a), 46(b), 50(3) and 51(2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and regulation 16D of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995* which would otherwise prevent those persons from lawfully undertaking the research activities.
 Purpose: To assist the Research Division, Department of Fisheries, to undertake a pink snapper stock assessment survey in Freycinet Estuary, Shark Bay.

Exemption No: 1796

Applicant: Sinclair Knight Mertz
 Period of Exemption: 06/09/2010 – 31/12/2011
 Provisions: Prohibition on Fishing (Coral, 'Live Rock' and Algae) Order 2007 (Order No 11).
 Purpose: To provide information on coral reproduction and to contribute to research towards understanding the impact of plumes (associated with port-related dredging activity) on coral spawning.

Exemption No: 1797

Applicant: Steve McLeary on behalf of Department of Fisheries' Research Division
 Period of Exemption: 26/09/2010 – 1/10/2010
 Provisions: Section 74 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* which would otherwise prevent that person from lawfully undertaking the research activities.
 Purpose: To assist the Research Division, Department of Fisheries, in conducting the annual independent breeding stock survey required to monitor the sustainability of the rock lobster fishery.

Exemption No: 1798

Applicant: James Chandler on behalf of the Department of Fisheries' Research Division
 Period of Exemption: 26/09/2010 – 16/10/2010
 Provisions: Section 74 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* which would otherwise prevent that person from lawfully undertaking the research activities.
 Purpose: To assist the Research Division, Department of Fisheries, in conducting the annual independent breeding stock survey required to monitor the sustainability of the rock lobster fishery.

Exemption No: 1799

Applicant: Nils Stokke on behalf of the Department of Fisheries- Research Division
 Period of Exemption: 26/09/2010 – 01/10/2010
 Provisions: Section 74 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* which would otherwise prevent that person from lawfully undertaking the research activities.
 Purpose: To assist the Research Division, Department of Fisheries, in conducting the annual independent breeding stock survey required to monitor the sustainability of the rock lobster fishery.

Exemption No: 1800

Applicant: Master and crew of the vessel Alcyone on behalf of the Department of Fisheries' Research Division

Period of Exemption: 01/09/2010 – 15/10/2010

Provisions: Sections 46 and 173 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and clauses 6, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 21 and 22 of the Pilbara Trap Management Plan 1992.

Purpose: To enable the research personnel of the Department of Fisheries to undertake aquatic scientific research involving the collection of fish from areas within the Pilbara Trap Managed Fishery and including areas closed to commercial trap and trawl fishing.

Exemption No: 1801

Applicant: All persons on-board a boat that is specified on a Fishing Tour Operator's Licence

Period of Exemption: 02/03/2010 - 30/06/2011

Provisions: Regulation 124B of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*.

Purpose: Exempt persons on-board a Fishing Tour Operator's licenced vessel from the requirement to hold a recreational (boat) fishing licence.

Exemption No: 1802

Applicant: Terry Ash

Period of Exemption: 27/10/2010 – 1/11/2010

Provisions: Section 74 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.

Purpose: To assist the Research Division, Department of Fisheries, in conducting the annual independent breeding stock survey required to monitor the sustainability of the rock lobster fishery.

Exemption No: 1803

Applicant: Kimberley Prawn Company (Australia) Pty Ltd

Period of Exemption: 02/07/2010 – 30/06/2010

Provisions: Sections 90 and 91 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.

Purpose: The engagement in the aquaculture of barramundi, green mudcrab, brown mudcrab, white banana prawn, grooved tiger prawn and silver cobble.

Exemption No: 1804

Applicant: Kimberley College of TAFE

Period of Exemption: 16/06/2010 – 30/06/2010

Provisions: Sections 46 and 47 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and regulations 10, 15, 39 and 40 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*. Notice 618.

Purpose: The taking of species as listed in Schedule 4 for aquaculture purposes collected in zones outlined in Schedule 5, using methods outlined in Schedule 6.

Exemption No: 1805

Applicant: Marine Produce Australia Limited

Period of Exemption: 02/07/2010 – 31/12/2012

Provisions: Sections 50, 51, 90 and 91 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and regulations 117 and 121 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*.

Purpose: To collect cobia and barramundi for use as broodstock for aquaculture purposes.

Exemption No: 1806

Applicant: Kimberley Prawn Company (Aust) Pty Ltd
Period of Exemption: 02/07/2010 – 30/06/2013
Provisions: Sections 90 and 91 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.
Purpose: To engage in the aquaculture of barramundi, mud crab, prawn and cobbler.

Exemption No: 1807

Applicant: Murdoch University – Science and Engineering Division
Period of Exemption: 05/05/2010 - 05/05/2012
Provisions: Section 90 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*
Purpose: Research and Development trials to assess the feasibility of growing saline micro-algae in outdoor ponds for bio-diesel production.

Exemption No: 1808

Applicant: Andrew Joseph and Tracey Lee Basile
Period of Exemption: 24/09/2010 – 30/09/2013
Provisions: Sections 43, 46, 50 and 51 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and regulations 117 and 121 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995* to the extent that they would otherwise prevent the activities.
Purpose: To collect those species listed in Schedule 4 for use as broodstock for aquaculture purposes.

Exemption No: 1809

Applicant: Danny Wimpress
Period of Exemption: 01/10/2010 – 31/12/2010
Provisions: Section 43(3) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* which would otherwise prevent that person from lawfully undertaking the research activities.
Purpose: To assist the Research Division, Department of Fisheries, in collecting required data for biological analysis.

Exemption No: 1810

Applicant: Ryan Lewis Thipthorp
Period of Exemption: 01/10/2010 – 31/12/2010
Provisions: Sections 43(3) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* which would otherwise prevent that person from lawfully undertaking the research activities.
Purpose: To assist the Research Division, Department of Fisheries, in collecting required data for biological analysis.

Exemption No: 1811

Applicant: Master and crew of all vessels authorised to operate in the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery
Period of Exemption: 15/11/2009 – 30/08/2011
Provisions: Sections 46(a), 46(b), 46(d) and 74 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*.
Purpose: To enable members of the commercial fishing industry to assist the Research Division, Department of Fisheries.

Exemption No: 1812

Applicant: All Fisheries Officers and those assisting Fisheries Officers.

Period of Exemption: 28/09/2010 – 29/09/2999

Provisions: Sections 43, 46, 47, 50, 51, 74, 79, 82, 86, 88, 172 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and sections 12, 14, 15, 16, 16b, 16e, 22, 31, 32, 35, 36, 38d, 38h, 38i, 38j, 38k, 38l, 38m, 38n, 38o, 41, 42, 45, 61, 63, 64, 64c, 64e, 64o, 64oaa, 64od, 64s, 117, 121, 123, 124, 124b 125 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*.

Purpose: To allow Fisheries and Marine Officers to undertake activities that may be required in order to investigate possible breaches of Fisheries legislation.

Exemption No: 1813

Applicant: All Fisheries Officers and those assisting Fisheries Officers.

Period of Exemption: 28/09/2010 – 29/09/2999

Provisions: Sections 43, 46, 50 and 51 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and regulations 12, 16e, 38d, 38h, 38i, 38j, 38k, 38l, 38m, 38n, 38o, 44, 63, 64f, 64k, 64o, 64od, 64s, 123 and 176 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*.

Purpose: To allow Fisheries and Marine Officers to relocate fish when necessary.

Exemption No: 1814

Applicant: Licensed Rock Lobster Processors

Period of Exemption: 15/11/2010 – 31/08/2011

Provisions: Section 46(b) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* which would otherwise prevent those persons from lawfully undertaking the research activities.

Purpose: By allowing those persons to have in their possession tagged lobsters that are below the legal minimum size and/or are setose or berried.

Exemption No: 1815

Applicant: Steven Da Silva

Period of Exemption: 12/03/2010 – 12/03/2011

Provisions: *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*, the Warnbro Sound Crab Management Plan 1995, and any other subsidiary legislation to the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.

Purpose: The purpose of this Instrument is to permit Mr Steven Da Silva to continue his commercial crab fishing operation in the waters of the Warnbro Sound Crab Managed Fishery as described in Schedule 4 without a Warnbro Sound Crab Managed Fishery Licence.

Exemption No: 1816

Applicant: Department of Fisheries

Period of Exemption: 20/10/2010 – 31/08/2012

Provisions: Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Management Plan 2010.

Purpose: To allow continued commercial near-shore net fishing in waters north of Long Point at Shark Bay and south of Red Bluff.

Exemption No: 1817

Applicant: Department of Fisheries
 Period of Exemption: 20/10/2010 – 01/11/2012
 Provisions: Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Management Plan 2010.
 Purpose: To permit the continued take and landing of non pink snapper demersal scalefish from prawn trawl nets in Shark Bay, following the implementation of the Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Fishery.

Exemption No: 1818

Applicant: Department of Fisheries
 Period of Exemption: 20/10/2010 – 01/11/2012
 Provisions: Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Management Plan 2010.
 Purpose: To allow Fishing Boat Licence 1056 to continue to commercially fish out of Coral Bay without the need to hold a pink snapper entitlement.

Exemption No: 1819

Applicant: Milari Aboriginal Corporation
 Period of Exemption: 21/10/2010 – 26/10/2010
 Provisions: Clause 4 of the Fish Traps Prohibition Notice 1994 (Notice No. 677) and regulations 64L(2), 117 and 118 of the *Fish Resource Management Regulations 1995*.
 Purpose: To take brown mud crabs (*Scylla olivacea*) and green mud crabs (*Scylla serrata*) with a combined maximum of twenty crab traps and drop nets.

Exemption No: 1820

Applicant: Antonino Paratore
 Period of Exemption: 27/10/2010 – 1/11/2010
 Provisions: Section 74 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.
 Purpose: To assist the Research Division, Department of Fisheries, in conducting the annual independent breeding stock survey required to monitor the sustainability of the rock lobster managed fishery.

Exemption No: 1821

Applicant: Antonino La Macchia and Carmelo La Macchia
 Period of Exemption: 11/12/2009 – 30/06/2010 – Revoked New Exemption Issued
 Provisions: Regulations 31, 36, 117(1), 117(4), 117(6) and 121 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*. Clause 4 and 7 of the West Coast Rock Lobster Management Plan 1993, Fish Trap Prohibition Notice 1994, and Fish Traps Restrictions Notice 1990.
 Purpose: To operate in the area described as Zone C of the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery.

Exemption No: 1822

Applicant: Antonino La Macchia and Carmelo La Macchia
 Period of Exemption: 23/03/2010 – 30/06/2010
 Provisions: Regulations 31, 36, 117(1), 117(4), 117(6) and 121 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*. Clause 4 and 7 of the West Coast Rock Lobster Management Plan 1993, Fish Trap Prohibition Notice 1994, and Fish Traps Restrictions Notice 1990.
 Purpose: To operate in the area described as Zone C of the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery.

Exemption No: 1823

Applicant: All persons in Schedule 1 – University of Sydney

Period of Exemption: 01/11/2010 – 30/04/2011

Provisions: Sections 50(3) and 51(2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*, regulations 16D and 64F of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*, North West and Kimberley Recreational Netting Restrictions Notice 1995 (Notice 691) and Notice 197.

Purpose: University of Sydney research project on the effects of cane toads on catfish at Lake Argyle, WA.

Exemption No: 1824

Applicant: The holders of Managed Fishery Licence No. 2678 and persons acting on their behalf.

Period of Exemption: 05/11/2010 – 05/11/2011

Provisions: Northern Demersal Scalefish Management Plan 2000 and Exemption No. 373

Purpose: Taking fish in connection with an Authority to Take Fish for Scientific Purposes granted pursuant to Regulation 178 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*.

Exemption No: 1825

Applicant: Ian John Rowland – Revoked New Exemption Issued

Period of Exemption: 01/10/2010 – 30/09/2011

Provisions: Regulations 31, 36, 117(1), 117(4), 117(6) and 121 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*; clause 4, 7 12 and 12A of the West Coast Rock Lobster Management Plan 1993; the Fish Traps Prohibition Notice 1994 ; and the Fish Traps Restricted Notice 1990

Purpose: To operate in the areas described as Zones A and B in the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery as if Mr Ian John Rowland was the holder of a licence in the fishery.

Exemption No: 1826

Applicant: Mr Antonino La Macchia and Mr Carmelo La Macchia – Revoked New Exemption Issued

Period of Exemption: 01/10/2010 – 30/09/2011

Provisions: Regulations 31, 36, 117(1), 117(4), 117(6) and 121 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*; clause 4, 7 12 and 12A of the West Coast Rock Lobster Management Plan 1993; the Fish Traps Prohibition Notice 1994 ; and the Fish Traps Restricted Notice 1990

Purpose: To operate in the area described as Zone C of the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery as if Mr Antonino La Macchia and Mr Carmelo La Macchia were the holders of a licence in the fishery.

Exemption No: 1827

Applicant: Commercial rock lobster fishers as described in Schedule 1.

Period of Exemption: 15/11/2010 – 31/08/2011

Provisions: Regulation 38(2) of the *Fish Resources Regulations 1995* and clause 14 of the West Coast Rock Lobster Management Plan 1993.

Purpose: To assist the Research Division, Department of Fisheries, in determining the complete size-range of lobsters present in the various water depths and areas of the fishery.

Exemption No: 1828

Applicant: All persons acting under the authority of a West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery Licence

Period of Exemption: 11/11/2010 – 30/06/2011

Provisions: Clause 17 of the West Coast Demersal Scalefish Interim Management Plan 2007, clause 22 of the West Coast Demersal Scalefish Interim Management Plan 2007 and regulation 45 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*.

Purpose: To permit a person specified in Schedule 1 to store and transport demersal scalefish taken as bycatch in a rock lobster pot.

Exemption No: 1829

Applicant: Terry Cockman
 Period of Exemption: 22/11/2010 – 31/10/2011
 Provisions: Sections 43, 46, 50, 51 and 74 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and regulations 12(1) and (2) of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*.
 Purpose: For the purposes of assisting the Fisheries Research Division in determining the dietary preferences of western rock lobsters in a range of depths in the centre of the fishery.

Exemption No: 1830

Applicant: Ian John Rowland – Revoked New Exemption Issued
 Period of Exemption: 22/11/2010 – 30/09/2011
 Provisions: Regulations 31, 36, 117(1), 117(4), 117(6) and 121 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*, clause 4, 7 12 and 12A of the West Coast Rock Lobster Management Plan 1993; the Fish Traps Prohibition Notice 1994 (as amended); and the Fish Traps Restrictions Notice 1994.
 Purpose: To operate in the areas described as Zones A and B of the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery as if Mr Ian John Rowland was the holder of a licence in the fishery.

Exemption No: 1831

Applicant: Holders of a Fish Processors Licence.
 Period of Exemption: 15/11/2010 – 31/08/2010
 Provisions: Regulation 64 (5A)
 Purpose: To exempt the holder of a Fish Processors Licence authorised to process western rock lobsters from submitting a weekly processors return as required under regulation 64 (5A)

Exemption No: 1832

Applicant: Ian John Rowland – Revoked New Exemption Issued
 Period of Exemption: 14/11/2010 – 30/09/2011
 Provisions: Regulations 31, 36, 117(1), 117(4), 117(6) and 121 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*; clause 4, 7 12 and 12A of the West Coast Rock Lobster Management Plan 1993; the Fish Traps Prohibition Notice 1994; and the Fish Traps Restrictions Notice 1994.
 Purpose: To operate in the areas described as Zones A and B of the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery as if Mr Ian John Rowland was the holder of a licence in the fishery.

Exemption No: 1833

Applicant: Antonino La Macchia and Carmelo La Macchia – Revoked New Exemption Issued
 Period of Exemption: 15/11/2010 – 30/09/2011
 Provisions: Regulations 31, 36, 117(1), 117(4), 117(6) and 121 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*; clause 4, 7, 12 and 12A of the West Coast Rock Lobster Management Plan 1993; the Fish Traps Prohibition Notice 1994; and the Fish Restrictions Notice 1994.
 Purpose: To operate in the areas described as Zones A and B of the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery as if Antonino La Macchia and Carmelo La Macchia were the holder of a licence in the fishery.

Exemption No: 1834

Applicant: Cowaramup District High School
 Period of Exemption: 29/11/2010 – 02/12/2010
 Provisions: Regulation 123 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*.
 Purpose: Recreational fishing by means of a line in a dam (known as Duggan's Dam) on lot 302, Treeton Road, Cowaramup, as part of the Cape-to-Cape Catchment Council's Community 'fish-down' program.

Exemption No: 1835

Applicant: Kimberley College of TAFE
 Period of Exemption: 01/12/2010 – 30/11/2013
 Provisions: Sections 46 and 50 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*; regulations 16E, 16M, 17A, 39(1), 64K, 64L(2), 64OB 64X, 64ZG and 64ZK; clause 5 of Kimberley Gillnet Management Plan; clause 5 of the Specimen Shell Management Plan 1995; and clause 5 of the North West and Kimberley Recreational Netting Notice.
 Purpose: The taking of the specified number or quantity of the fish listed in the following table, from the collection area described, using the method described.

Exemption No: 1836

Applicant: Jennifer Kelley and Monica Gagliano
 Period of Exemption: 06/12/2010 - 13/12/2010
 Provisions: Section 50(3) and 51(2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and regulations 64F, 64K, 64OB and 123 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*.
 Purpose: Determining whether natural shoals of rainbowfish are assorted by their colour patterns, and for molecular studies of fish colour vision.

Exemption No: 1837

Applicant: Ron Young
 Period of Exemption: 20/12/2010 – 21/01/2011
 Provisions: Section 50 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and regulation 64ZAA of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*.
 Purpose: For the purposes of investigating the levels of heavy metals (mercury, cadmium and lead) in the tissue of the bivalve, *Katelysia scalarina*.

Exemption No: 1838

Applicant: Guiseppe Pittorini
 Period of Exemption: 17/12/2010 – 31/08/2011
 Provisions: Sections.43, 50(2), 51(3) and section 74 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.
 Purpose: To retain and land sharks taken as bycatch in rock lobster pots while fishing for rock lobster under the authority of West Coast Rock Lobster Management Plan 1993.

Exemption No: 1839

Applicant: West Coast Demersal Scalefish Licence Holders
 Period of Exemption: 21/12/2010 – 31/12/2011
 Provisions: West Coast Demersal Scalefish Interim Management Plan 2007, Prohibition on Commercial Fishing (South West Coast Beach Bait Net) Order 2010.
 Purpose: To permit the persons listed in Schedule 1 to carry out the activity described in Schedule 2, pursuant to section 7(2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.

Exemption No: 1840

Applicant: Fremantle Port Authority
 Period of Exemption: 22/12/2010 – 01/11/2011
 Provisions: Section 50(3) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*, regulations 63 and 64L of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*, the Recreational Fishing (Permitted Fishing Methods) Order 1991 Order No. 527, and the Fish Traps Prohibition Order 1994 Order No. 6.
 Purpose: For the purposes of assisting the Research Division, Department of Fisheries, to monitor for introduced marine pest crab species at Fremantle Port.

Exemption No: 1841

Applicant: Port Hedland Port Authority
 Period of Exemption: 22/12/2010 – 01/11/2011
 Provisions: Section 50(3) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*, regulations 63 and 64L of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*, the Recreational Fishing (Permitted Fishing Methods) Order 1991 Order No. 527, and the Fish Traps Prohibition Order 1994 Order No. 6.
 Purpose: For the purposes of assisting the Research Division, Department of Fisheries, to monitor for introduced marine pest crab species at Port Hedland.

Exemption No: 1842 – Cancelled**Exemption No: 1843**

Applicant: Dampier Port Authority
 Period of Exemption: 22/12/2010 – 01/11/2011
 Provisions: Section 50(3) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*, regulations 63 and 64L of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*, the Recreational Fishing (Permitted Fishing Methods) Order 1991 Order No. 527, and the Fish Traps Prohibition Order 1994 Order No. 6.
 Purpose: For the purposes of assisting the Research Division, Department of Fisheries, to monitor for introduced marine pest crab species at Dampier Port.

Exemption No: 1844

Applicant: Department of Fisheries/Australian Institute of Marine Science/University of Western Australia
 Period of Exemption: 29/12/2010 – 15/01/2012
 Provisions: Schedule 1 from the provisions of Section 46 and 47 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and regulation 10 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*.
 Purpose: For the purposes investigating the macro-algal and seagrass ecology of the Montgomery Reef and Kimberley coastline.

Exemption No: 1845

Applicant: Department of Fisheries / UWA
 Period of Exemption: 29/12/2010 – 31/05/2011
 Provisions: Schedule 1 from the provisions of Sections 43, 46, 50(3) and 51(2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and regulations 64F, 64K, 64OB and 123 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*.
 Purpose: For the purposes of generating a novel understanding of the physiological trade-offs and costs underlying animal adaptation to variable environments.

Exemption No: 1846

Applicant: Ms Holly Hunter and Dr Mike van Keulen of the University of Western Australia

Period of Exemption: 31/12/2010 – 30/04/2011

Provisions: Schedule 1 from the provisions of Section 46 and 47 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and regulation 10 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*.

Purpose: For the purposes of developing a hard coral species list, determining the percentage cover for each species and assessing coral spawning.

Exemption No: 1847

Applicant: Mr Wally Gibb, Dr James O'Shea and Mr Tom Stewart of the University of Western Australia

Period of Exemption: 30/12/2010 - 22/01/2011

Provisions: Schedule 1 from the provisions of Section 50(3) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and regulation 123 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*.

Purpose: To collect up to a total of 100 juvenile sharks using 4 to 4.5-inch mesh monofilament gill nets set close to shore in shallow sandy areas near the mangrove zone in Giralia Bay, Exmouth.

Exemption No: 1848

Applicant: Coral World Australia PTY LTD

Period of Exemption: 24/12/2010 - 31/12/2015

Provisions: Sections 43(3), 46, 50(3) and 51(2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.

Purpose: Fishing for and taking of fish from Western Australian waters, including fish smaller than the sizes set out in subdivision 2 of schedule 2 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*, of the number/s and scientific classification/s as listed in Annex 1.

Exemption No: 1849

Applicant: All Holders of a Recreational Boat Fishing Licence

Period of Exemption: 01/01/2011 - 31/12/2011

Provisions: Section 46 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.

Purpose: To bring pink snapper of a length equal to, or greater than, 410mm when taken from the waters north of 31 degrees 0 minutes south latitude onto land that is south of 31 degrees 0 minutes south latitude.

Exemption No: 1850

Applicant: Charlotte Johansson and Dr Martial Depczynski

Period of Exemption: 01/02/2011 - 31/03/2012

Provisions: Sections 50(3) and 51(2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.

Purpose: To collect up to a maximum of 500 sea urchins and macro-algae by tethering techniques and filming predation and feeding events.

Exemption No: 1851 – Cancelled**Exemption No: 1852 – Cancelled****Exemption No: 1853 – Cancelled****Exemption No: 1854 – Cancelled**

Exemption No: 1855

Applicant: Department of Water employees as described in Schedule 1.

Period of Exemption: 01/02/2011 - 31/05/2011

Provisions: Schedule 1 from the provisions of Sections 43, 46(a) and (b), 50 (3) and 51 (2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.

Purpose: To sample by trapping, fyke nets and electro-fishing, using Department of Fisheries/ Department of Environment and Conservation-developed 'turtle safe methods', the Gingin Brook and Lennard Brook for the species listed in Schedule 2.

Exemption No: 1856

Applicant: Department of Water employees as described in Schedule 1.

Period of Exemption: 01/02/2011 - 31/05/2011

Provisions: Schedule 1 from the provisions of Sections 43, 46(a) and (b), 50(3) and 51(2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.

Purpose: To sample by trapping, fyke nets and electro-fishing, using Department of Fisheries/ Department of Environment and Conservation-developed 'turtle safe methods', the following river systems for the species listed in Schedule 2.

Exemption No: 1857

Applicant: Department of Water employees as described in Schedule 1.

Period of Exemption: 01/04/2011 - 28/02/2013

Provisions: Schedule 1 from the provisions of Sections 43, 46(a) and (b), 50(3) and 51(2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.

Purpose: To sample by trapping, fyke nets and electro-fishing, using Department of Fisheries/ Department of Environment and Conservation-developed 'turtle safe methods', the Swan-Canning catchments listed in Schedule 2 for the species listed in Schedule 2.

Exemption No: 1858

Applicant: Marine Farms Ltd

Period of Exemption: 08/02/2011 - 10/05/2013

Provisions: Sections 50 and 51 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and regulations 117 and 121 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*.

Purpose: Collect coral trout, barcheek coral trout, bluespotted coral trout and mangrove jack by hook and line; collect octopus by hand, scoop net or hooked instrument held by hand or traps for broodstock purposes; to revoke Marine Farms Ltd previous exemption

Exemption No: 1859

Applicant: Employees of the Water Corporation

Period of Exemption: 11/02/2011 - 18/11/2011

Provisions: *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and its subsidiary legislation.

Purpose: The take, landing and possession of any number of marron, of any carapace size, including 'berried' females, by any means.

Exemption No: 1860

Applicant: Curtin University Staff

Period of Exemption: 14/02/2011 - 30/06/2011

Provisions: Section 43, 50(3) and 51(2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.

Purpose: To collect, by snorkelling, 50 whelks at each of the sites described in Schedule 2.

Exemption No: 1861

Applicant: Allegretta Holdings Pty Ltd – Revoked
 Period of Exemption: 08/07/2010 - 10/07/2011
 Provisions: *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*, the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995* and the Cockburn Sound (Line and Pot) Management Plan 1995 and any subsidiary legislation.
 Purpose: For the purpose of using a boat which is licensed in the Cockburn Sound (Line and Pot) Managed Fishery but which is greater, in measured length, than that provided for in the Cockburn Sound (Line and Pot) Management Plan 1995.

Exemption No: 1862

Applicant: Annette Koenders, laboratory technician, demonstrator and students of Unit SCB3322 from Edith Cowan University.
 Period of Exemption: 01/03/2011 - 31/05/2011
 Provisions: Section 43, 50 and 51 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.
 Purpose: Collection by hand at low tide of a maximum of 12 specimens each of molluscs (except abalone), annelids, echinoderms and ascidians from Yanchep Lagoon.

Exemption No: 1863 – Cancelled**Exemption No: 1864**

Applicant: Andrew Heyward, James Gilmour, Kin Brooks, Jamie Colquhoun, Tim Cooper and Paul Tinkler of the Australian Institute of Marine Science
 Period of Exemption: 17/02/2011 - 30/06/2011
 Provisions: Section 43, 50(3) and 51(2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.
 Purpose: For purposes of assessing the status of shallow water biological communities at Seringapatam Reef and Scott Reef.

Exemption No: 1865

Applicant: Peter Coulson of Murdoch University
 Period of Exemption: 17/02/2011 - 30/04/2011
 Provisions: Section 46, 50 and 51 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and South West Trawl Management Plan (Notice No. 403), the Recreational Fishing (Permitted Fishing Methods) Notice 1991 and Notice No. 527.
 Purpose: For the purposes of determining the age, growth and reproductive biology of the longspine flathead (*Platycephalus longispinis*).

Exemption No: 1866

Applicant: Department of Fisheries staff
 Period of Exemption: 04/03/2011 - 04/03/2012
 Provisions: Sections 43, 46, 50 and 51 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and regulations 38G, 38H, 38I, 38K, 38L, 38M, 38O, 43, 44, 53, 64F, 64O, 64S, 64T, 64ZH, 124 & 176 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*.
 Purpose: For the purpose of de-stocking marron from Samson Brook Dam and moving them to Drakes Brook Dam. Then moving marron from Drakes Brook Dam to Samson Brook Dam, following return of sufficient water levels in Samson Brook Dam.

Exemption No: 1867 – Cancelled

Exemption No: 1868

Applicant: Mr Wally Gibb, Dr Jennifer Rodger and Mr Tom Stewart of the University of Western Australia

Period of Exemption: 21/03/2011 - 25/03/2011

Provisions: Sections 43(3), 46, 50 and 51 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.

Purpose: To collect a maximum of eight of each of the following species - black bream, Perth herring, yellowtail, mullet and toadfish - using nets from a boat in the Swan River, in the vicinity of Shelley Traffic Bridge

Exemption No: 1869

Applicant: Craig Astbury

Period of Exemption: 14/03/2011 - 30/06/2011

Provisions: Section 50(3) and 51(2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.

Purpose: To take and retain invertebrate and algal specimens collected during diving activities. The collection entails divers scraping off biofouling, containing invertebrates and algae, from pylons and other wharf structures within port waters.

Exemption No: 1870

Applicant: Dr Thomas Wernberg, Tim Langlois, Thibault de Bettignies, Margie Mohring and Matt Fraser.

Period of Exemption: 22/03/2011 - 05/05/2011

Provisions: Sections 50(3) and 51(2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and regulation 113A (1) and (2) of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*.

Purpose: To collect by hand while snorkelling one each of red, brown and green algae per student from the Cottesloe Fish Habitat Protection Area.

Exemption No: 9901

Applicant: Ian John Rowland

Period of Exemption: 01/10/2010 - 30/09/2011

Provisions: Regulations 31, 36, 117(1), 117(4), 117(6) and 121 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*; clause 4, 7 12 and 12A of the West Coast Rock Lobster Management Plan 1993; the Fish Traps Prohibition Notice 1994 ; and the Fish Traps Restricted Notice 1990.

Purpose: To operate in the areas described as Zones A and B in the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery as if Mr Ian John Rowland was the holder of a licence in the fishery.

Exemption No: 9902

Applicant: Antonino La Macchia and Carmelo La Macchia

Period of Exemption: 01/10/2010 - 30/09/2011

Provisions: Regulations 31, 36, 117(1), 117(4), 117(6) and 121 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*; Clause 4, 7 12 and 12A of the West Coast Rock Lobster Management Plan 1993; the Fish Traps Prohibition Notice 1994 ; and the Fish Traps Restricted Notice 1990.

Purpose: To operate in the areas described as Zones A and B in the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery as if Mr Ian John Rowland was the holder of a licence in the fishery.

Exemption No: 1871 – revoked

Applicant: Ngalang Boodja Enterprises Pty Ltd

Period of Exemption: 09/03/2011 - 10/03/2012

Provisions: Sections 46, 47, 50, 51 and 90 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and regulation 10, Schedule 2 Part 1 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*.

Purpose: For the purposes of enabling the harvesting and sale of marron (*Cherax cainii*) without an Aquaculture Licence.

Exemption No: 1872

Applicant: Mr Steven Da Silva
 Period of Exemption: 22/03/2011 – 12/03/2013
 Provisions: *Fish Resources Management Act 1994, the Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995, the Warnbro Sound Crab Limited Entry Fishery Notice 1995 and the Fish Traps Prohibition Notice 1994 No. 677.*
 Purpose: To permit the applicant to undertake crab potting in the Warnbro Sound Crab Managed Fishery without a Managed Fishery Licence.

Exemption No: 1873

Applicant: Glen Whisson and Simon Longbottom of Curtin University
 Period of Exemption: 13/03/2011 - 30/06/2012
 Provisions: Sections 46, 50(3) and 51(2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.
 Purpose: For the purposes of investigating macro-invertebrate diversity in deep water off Rottneest Island using artificial habitat collectors.

Exemption No: 1874

Applicant: Mark Langdon and Dr Mike van Keulen of Murdoch University
 Period of Exemption: 01/05/2011 - 31/12/2011
 Provisions: Section 50(3) and 51(2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.
 Purpose: For the purposes of studying the various factors affecting the ecology of urchins in the lagoonal coral reef habitats of the Ningaloo Marine Park.

Exemption No: 1875

Applicant: NM and AM Lucas
 Period of Exemption: 01/04/2011 - 31/03/2014
 Provisions: Fish Traps Prohibition Notice 1994 (Notice No. 677) and the Fish Traps Restriction Notice 1990 (Notice No. 462).
 Purpose: To explore and/or develop the crab fishery and fishing technology of that activity under the provision of Section 7(3)(c) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.

Exemption No: 1876

Applicant: Adrian Neil Templeman
 Period of Exemption: 01/04/2011 - 31/03/2014
 Provisions: Fish Traps Prohibition Notice 1994 (Notice No. 677) and the Fish Traps Restriction Notice 1990 (Notice No. 462).
 Purpose: To explore and/or develop the crab fishery and fishing technology of that activity under the provision of Section 7(3)(c) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and to gather baseline data about inshore crab stocks in the waters of the Mandurah to Bunbury

Exemption No: 1877

Applicant: Stephen Conrad Steward Chase and Glen Underhay of Worley Parsons Pty Ltd
 Period of Exemption: 06/04/2011 - 30/06/2011
 Provisions: Section 50(3) and 51(2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1995*.
 Purpose: For the purpose of assisting the Research Division, Department of Fisheries, to monitor for introduced marine pest species at the Dampier and Port Hedland ports.

Exemption No: 1878

Applicant: West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery
Licence numbers 1060, 1095, 1152, 1159, 1161, 1229, 1312, 1400, 1414, 1447, 1597, 1647, 1786, 1873, 2232, 2233, 2241 and 2245.

Period of Exemption: 22/03/2011 - 30/09/2011

Provisions: Regulation 117(1) of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995* and clauses 4(1)b, 12 and 12A of the West Coast Rock Lobster Management Plan 1993.

Purpose: To allow the holder of a West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery Licence to operate in the fishery when the usual entitlement is less than 63 units.

Exemption No: 1879

Applicant: Lance Litchfield

Period of Exemption: 11/04/2011- 21/04/2011

Provisions: Regulation 38(2) of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995* and clause 14 of the West Coast Rock Lobster Management Plan 1993.

Purpose: For the purposes of assisting the Research Division, Department of Fisheries, in conducting a small-scale stock assessment of the nearshore reef system.

Exemption No: 1880

Applicant: Dr David Morgan
Stefania Basile
Dr Alan Lymbery
Dr Stephen Beatty
Mark Allen
Michael Kluzinger
James Keleher

Period of Exemption: 12/04/2011 - 01/03/2012

Provisions: Section 50(3) and 51(2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.

Purpose: For the purposes of determining the ecological impacts of the introduced parasite *Lemaea cyprinacea* on native and feral fishes of the south-west of Western Australia.

Exemption No: 1881

Applicant: Jane Prince
Wally Gibb
Tom Stewart

Period of Exemption: 12/04/2011 - 01/05/2011

Provisions: Sections 43, 50(3) and 51(2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and regulation 38D of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*.

Purpose: For the purposes of collecting specimens for undergraduate teaching.

Exemption No: 1882

Applicant: Staff members of the CSIRO and Olivier Lasbouygues from AgroParis Tech, France

Period of Exemption: 15/04/2011 - 31/12/2012

Provisions: Sections 43, 46, 50(3) and 51(2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*, and regulations 38D and 123 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*.

Purpose: To characterise key habitats and associated flora and fauna at risk of rising sea levels, and develop models to predict the effects of changing climate on the Shark Bay World Heritage Area.

Exemption No: 1883

Applicant: Staff members of CSIRO and Olivier Lasbouygues from AgroParis Tech, France

Period of Exemption: 15/04/2011 - 01/06/2011

Provisions: Sections 43, 46, 50(3) and 51(2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and regulations 38D, 38E and 123 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*.

Purpose: To look at the use of biochemical tracers to predict ecological interactions.

Exemption No: 1884

Applicant: Danielle Lucock of Murdoch University

Period of Exemption: 15/04/2011 - 10/12/2011

Provisions: Section 50(3) and 51(2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.

Purpose: For the purposes of studying the effects of atmospheric carbon dioxide on epiphytes residing on one seagrass species in shallow waters.

Exemption No: 1885

Applicant: Malcolm McCulloch, Alex Piekutowski, Jessie Short and Taryn Foster of the University of Western Australia.

Period of Exemption: 03/05/2011 – 01/05/2014

Provisions: Sections 43, 50(3) and 51(2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.

Purpose: For the purposes of obtaining *in situ* calcification rates of corals and calcifying algae in Western Australia.

Exemption No: 1886

Applicant: Fernando Smilovitis

Period of Exemption: 03/05/2011 – 31/12/2011

Provisions: Sections 79 and 82 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.

Purpose: To permit the processing of fish other than rock lobster, prawns and abalone at 4 Wandeara Crescent, Mundaring, without the establishment having a Fish Processing Permit and a Fish Processor's Licence.

Exemption No: 1887

Applicant: Emama Nguda Aboriginal Corporation

Period of Exemption: 11/05/2011 - 01/05/2014

Provisions: Clause 4 of the Fish Traps Prohibition Notice 1994 (Notice No. 677).

Purpose: To enable Emama Nguda Aboriginal Corporation to continue fishing for mud crabs until alternative management arrangements for commercial mud crab fishing are implemented.

Exemption No: 1888

Applicant: Peter Coulson, Elena Sulin, Ben French, David Fairclough, Mark Davidson, Kim Clayton and Tim Leary

Period of Exemption: 06/05/2011 - 31/12/2011

Provisions: Sections 50(3) and 51(2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.

Purpose: For the purposes of investigating the biological characteristics of Bight redfish, longsnout boarfish, yellow-spotted boarfish and knifejaw assemblages in southern Western Australia.

Exemption No: 1889

Applicant: David Morgan and Brendan Ebner
 Period of Exemption: 16/05/2011 - 01/06/2011
 Provisions: Sections 43, 46, 50(3) and 51(2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and regulations 44, 64F, 64H, 64K, 64O, 123 and 124 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*.
 Purpose: For the purpose of establishing the importance of the fish community in the Pentecost River including Emma Gorge. These data will enable assessment of 'before-and-after' cane toad impacts including in the context of cane toad exclusion areas (Emma Gorge).

Exemption No: 1890

Applicant: Ian Dapson, Jenifer Verduin, Mike van Keulen, Mike Taylor, Steven Goynich, Rhiannon Jones and others.
 Period of Exemption: 16/05/2011 - 01/02/2012
 Provisions: Sections 50 (3), 51 (2) and 46(a) and (b) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.
 Purpose: For the purposes of studying the return of ecosystem functionality within transplanted seagrass through the return of invertebrate fauna.

Exemption No: 1891

Applicant: Abrolhos Pearls (WA) Pty Ltd
 Period of Exemption: 23/05/2011 - 01/05/2012
 Provisions: Sections 90 and 91 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.
 Purpose: For the purposes of conducting hatchery operations for pearl oyster spat on a barge.

Exemption No: 1892

Applicant: Michael Allen, Terry Brooks, Shepherd Chipfunde and Gregory Warburton
 Period of Exemption: 26/05/2011 - 30/06/2011
 Provisions: Section 43, 46(a) & (b), 50 (3) and 51 (2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and regulations 38H, 38M, 38O, 44, 64 and 123 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*.
 Purpose: For the purposes of assessing the ecological impact of sediment removal from Gwambygine Pool on the Avon River.

Exemption No: 1893

Applicant: West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery holder numbers 1060, 1095, 1152, 1159, 1161, 1229, 1312 and 1400, 1414, 1447, 1597, 1647, 1786, 1873, 2232, 2233, 2241 and 2245
 Period of Exemption: 22/03/2011 - 30/09/2011
 Provisions: Regulation 117(1) of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*, clause 4(1)b of the West Coast Rock Lobster Management Plan 1993 and clause 12 and 12A of the West Coast Rock Lobster Management Plan 1993.
 Purpose: Operating in the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery when the usual entitlement on the Managed Fishery Licence is less than 63 units.

Exemption No: 1894

Applicant: Ngalang Boodja Enterprises Pty Ltd
 Period of Exemption: 27/05/2011 - 31/05/2012
 Provisions: Sections 46, 47, 50, 51 and 90 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and regulation 10, Schedule 2 Part 1 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*.
 Purpose: For the purposes of enabling the harvesting and sale of marron (*Cherax cainii*) without an Aquaculture Licence.

Exemption No: 1895

Applicant: Dr Miles Parsons, David Fairclough, Ian Keay, Brett Crisafulli, Paul Lewis and Simon Longbottom.

Period of Exemption: 03/06/2011 - 31/05/2012

Provisions: Sections 46(a) and (b), 50(3) and 51(2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and regulations 45, 123 and 124B of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*.

Purpose: For the purposes of studying passive acoustic techniques to monitor aggregations of sound producing fish species

Exemption No: 1896

Applicant: Professor Shaun Collin
Professor Ian Potter
Dr David Morgan
Dr Howard Gill
Dr Stephen Beatty
Professor David Hunt
Associate Professor Nathan Hart
Miss Simone Niedermueller (PhD student)
Miss Caroline Kerr (Research Associate)
Miss Fanny de Busserolles (PhD student)
Mr. Eduardo Garza Gisholt (PhD student)
Miss Amy Newman (PhD student)
Mr. Ryan Kempster (PhD student)
Miss Barbara Wueringer (PhD student)
Mr. Joao Paulo Coimbra (PhD student)
Dr Shelby Temple
Mr. Carlos Salas Lopez (PhD student)
Mr. Lee Fletcher (Hans student)

Period of Exemption: 03/06/2011 - 31/05/2013

Provisions: Sections 50 (3) and 51 (2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and regulations 640, 123 and 124 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*.

Purpose: For the purposes of studying the evolution of vertebrate light detection.

Exemption No: 1897

Applicant: Mike van Keulen

Period of Exemption: 18/06/2011 - 29/06/2011

Provisions: Sections 50(3) and 51(2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.

Purpose: To collect by hand, net or light trap, only those amounts of macroalgae and benthic and planktonic invertebrates necessary to develop group reference collections for identification and physiological work, from Ningaloo Marine Park.

Exemption No: 1898

Applicant: Western Australia 2011 Pty Ltd
 Period of Exemption: 12/11/2010 - 19/12/2010
 Provisions: Order number 11 of 2007 - Prohibition on Fishing (Coral, 'Live Rock' and Algae) and Clause 5 and 10 of the South West Trawl Management Plan.
 Purpose: Taking by trawl, sea-grass, kelp and other marine plants and algae from the area adjacent to Fremantle in Western Australia.

Exemption No: 1899

Applicant: Fishing Boat Licence numbers 1005, 1292, 1363, 1938, 2348 and 2451
 Period of Exemption: 10/06/2011 - 10/06/2014
 Provisions: Schedule 4 of the Notice Number 366, and only clause 2 of the Prohibition on Fishing (Diving) Order 1999 (Order Number 3 of 1999)
 Purpose: To explore and/or develop the Beche de Mer Fishery and associated fishing technology under the provision.

Exemption No: 1900

Applicant: Alex Hesp, Ben French, Emily Fisher, Alan Cottingham, Lauren Veale, Peter Coulsen, Chris Hallett, James Tweedley, David Fairclough, Ian Keay and other Department of Fisheries finfish staff
 Period of Exemption: 13/06/2011 - 01/07/2012
 Provisions: Sections 46(a) and (b), 50(3) and 51(2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and regulations 16E (2) and (3), 45 (2) and 124B of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995* and Order No. 24 of 2005.
 Purpose: For the purposes of biological studies, including detailed analysis of dietary compositions, of the silver trevally (*Pseudocaranx georgianus*), snapper (*Chrysophrys auratus*) and harlequin fish (*Othos dentex*).

Exemption No: 1901

Applicant: Fishing Boat Licence numbers 1005, 1292, 1363, 1938, 2348 and 2451
 Period of Exemption: 10/06/2011 - 10/06/2014
 Provisions: Clause 2 of the Prohibition on Fishing (Diving) Order 1999 (Order Number 3 of 1999).
 Purpose: To explore and/or develop the Beche de Mer Fishery and fishing technology of that activity under the provision of Section 7(3)(c) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and to gather baseline data about the beche de mer stocks in Western Australia.

Exemption No: 1902

Applicant: Jessie Short, Professor Malcolm McCulloch, Professor Gary Kendrick, Taryn Foster
 Period of Exemption: 01/09/2011 - 31/08/2012
 Provisions: Sections 43, 50(3) and 51(2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.
 Purpose: For the purposes of studying the effects of ocean acidification on calcification rates of corals and coralline algae in Western Australia.

Exemption No: 1903

Applicant: Kellie O'Neil, Timothy Storer, Lynette Galvin, Gillian White, Dominic Heald, Sam Norton, Bronwyn Rennie, Emma Christie, Kieryn Kilminster, Georgina Evans, Emma Van Looij and other Dow staff.
 Period of Exemption: 01/04/2011 - 28/02/2013
 Provisions: Sections 43, 46(a) and (b), 50(3) and 51(2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.
 Purpose: For the purposes of quantitatively sampling both the fish and crayfish populations in the Swan-Canning tributaries.

Exemption No: 1904

Applicant: All officers of the Research Division of the Department of Fisheries and masters of their vessels.

Period of Exemption: 01/07/2011 - 30/06/2013

Provisions: From all of those provisions of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and regulations.

Purpose: To enable the research personnel of the Department of Fisheries to undertake aquatic science research projects to provide scientific knowledge for the sustainable management and development of the State's fish resources and the protection of fish habitats.

Exemption No: 1905

Applicant: Monica Gagliano, Jennifer Kelley and Martial Depczynski

Period of Exemption: 24/06/2011 - 29/06/2011

Provisions: Provisions of Sections 43, 46, 50(3) and 51(2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and regulations 64F, 64K, 640B and 123 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*.

Purpose: For the purposes of generating a novel understanding of the physiological trade-offs and costs underlying animal adaptation to variable environments.

Exemption No: 1906

Applicant: Lauren Veale, Ian Potter, Peter Coulsen, Elena Sulin, James Tweedley, Elaine Lek and Alan Cottingham.

Period of Exemption: 24/06/2011 - 31/01/2012

Provisions: Sections 50(3) and 51(2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and regulations 64F, 1264K, 124 and 124B of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*.

Purpose: For the purposes of general biological studies of six-lined trumpeter (*Pelates sexlineatus*).

Exemption No: 1907

Applicant: Paul Greenwood

Period of Exemption: 24/06/2011 - 30/06/2012

Provisions: Section 51(2) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.

Purpose: For the purposes of assisting the Research Division, Department of Fisheries, in collecting required samples for biological analysis and monitoring the rebuilding of West Coast demersal fish stocks.

Exemption No: 1908

Applicant: Clay Bryce, Phillipe Bouchet, Ellen Strong, Barry Wilson, Hugh Morrison, Brian Cleaver and Derrick Mead Hunter.

Period of Exemption: 18/11/2011 - 12/12/2011

Provisions: Sections 46(a) and (b), 50 and 51 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and regulations 38D, 124 and 124B of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*.

Purpose: For the purposes of examining the molecular phylogeny of a wide range of south-west WA molluscs using bar coding techniques.