

Statewide Fisheries

There are a small number of fisheries which operate across all bioregions of the State. Information on these minor fisheries is reported under this 'statewide' category.

MARINE AQUARIUM MANAGED FISHERY

Management Summary

The Marine Aquarium Managed Fishery comprises 13 licensees who operate throughout Western Australian waters under the Marine Aquarium Fishery Management Plan.

The fishery targets in excess of 250 different species of fish for the marine aquarium industry, but catches are relatively low in volume because of the special handling requirements of live fish. Fish caught in the fishery may not be used for food purposes. Operators cannot take juvenile specimens of the commercially exploited species where there are specific size limits, and are not permitted to take species for which there are specific management arrangements or management plans.

The fishery's management plan establishes the legislative controls on the number of licences, boat replacement size and the permitted means of capture. Other legislation imposes constraints on the areas in which commercial collecting of marine aquarium species can be undertaken.

There are reporting requirements to Environment Australia in relation to the commercial harvest of syngnathids to maintain the 'Approved Wildlife Trade' status which allows these species to be exported. A proposal to provide for all licensees in the fishery to take limited quantities of 'live rock', 'live sand', coral and selected invertebrates is under development.

Governing Legislation/Fishing Authority

Marine Aquarium Fishery Management Plan 1995
Marine Aquarium Managed Fishery Licence

Consultation Process

Department–industry meeting

SPECIMEN SHELL MANAGED FISHERY

Management Summary

The Specimen Shell Managed Fishery comprises 34 licensees who operate under the Specimen Shell Management Plan. The fishery targets a range of specimen shell species along the entire Western Australian coastline, except where there are specific closures, for example within some marine parks and aquatic reserves.

The management plan establishes the legislative controls for the number of licences issued, boat replacement size and permitted fishing methods.

There are reporting requirements to Environment Australia to maintain the 'Approved Wildlife Trade' status which permits the continued export of specimen shells taken in the fishery. Ongoing management will focus on the level of exploitation of several nominated species and an assessment of the risk of stock depletion associated with levels of catch at both a regional and local scale.

Governing Legislation/Fishing Authority

Specimen Shell Management Plan 1995
Specimen Shell Managed Fishery Licence

Consultation Process

Department–industry meeting