## OUTCOMES OF THE WETLINE REVIEW

The Minister for Fisheries' proposed decisions for the future management of the West Coast and Gascoyne commercial 'wetline' fisheries

## FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PAPER No. 221

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#### **FOREWORD**

This document details my proposed decisions regarding the new management arrangements for the West Coast and Gascoyne commercial "wetline" fisheries. Before finalising my position on the new management arrangements for these fisheries I invite any final comments on the proposed arrangements set out in this document. Although specific issues have been identified, your views are sought on any or all of the matters in the document of significance to you and/or your group.

To ensure your submission is as effective as possible, please:

- Make it clear and concise.
- List your points according to the topic sections and page numbers in this paper.
- Describe briefly each topic or issue you wish to discuss.
- State whether you agree or disagree with any or all of the information within each topic, or just what is of specific interest to you. Clearly state your reasons, particularly if you disagree, and give sources of information where possible.
- Suggest alternatives to address any issues that you disagree with.

Your written comments would be appreciated by 5pm, Wednesday, 28 February 2007, and should be addressed as follows:

Ref: Wetline Review Comment Department of Fisheries 3rd Floor, The Atrium 168 St George's Terrace PERTH WA 6000

Thank you.

Hon Jon Ford JP MLC Minister for Fisheries

### SECTION 1 THE REVIEW PROCESS

In 2003, the former Minister for Fisheries, Hon. Kim Chance, established two panels to conduct a review of "wetline" fishing in the West Coast and Gascoyne bioregions:

- a Management Planning Panel (MPP) was appointed to develop the specific management arrangements for the fishery; and
- a Commercial Access Panel (CAP) was appointed to devise a fair and equitable method of determining who should have access to the fishery and their level of allocation.

A two-panel system was used to separate the task of determining the management arrangements for the fishery (which requires extensive input from commercial fishers) from access and allocation (which may benefit from a more independent analysis of fairness and equity issues).

The CAP's primary responsibility was to develop criteria for access and allocation while the MPP's role was to determine a management framework which could operate effectively, whatever the outcomes of the CAP process.

The work of the CAP and MPP resulted in the production and publication of a total of six Fisheries Management Papers, and opportunities for public comment, comprising:

- Fisheries Management Paper Nos 189, 190 and 191, communicating the initial CAP and MPP proposals for the Gascoyne and West Coast Bioregions. These documents were released for public comment in early 2005.
- Fisheries Management Paper Nos 205, 206 and 207, communicating the final CAP and MPP recommendations for the Gascoyne and West Coast Bioregions. These documents were released for public comment in early 2006.

Having considered the responses to the most recent Fisheries Management Papers (Nos 205, 206 and 207) I have endeavoured to determine the most appropriate management arrangements for the West Coast and Gascoyne bioregions.

To this end, it is my intention that the commercial "wetline" fisheries in the West Coast and Gascoyne bioregions be managed in the future through separate management arrangements for:

- a) the West Coast Demersal Scalefish Fishery;
- b) the West Coast Inshore Net Fishery;
- c) the Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Fishery; and
- d) the Gascoyne Inshore Net Fishery.

The following document describes the proposed management arrangements for the four separate commercial fisheries listed above.

# SECTION 2 ARRANGEMENTS COMMON TO THE WEST COAST AND GASCOYNE BIOREGIONS

The arrangements that are to be commonly applied across both bioregions are set out below (and therefore are not repeated in each of the four separate sets of proposed management arrangements).

### 2.1 Catch History

For the purposes of the Wetline Review, any assessment of catch history will be based on annual catches recorded against an authorisation (i.e. a Fishing Boat Licence [FBL]) and will be determined on the basis of a financial year commencing 1 July in a given year and ending 30 June the following year, with the exception of the 1996/97 and 1997/98 financial years.

In recognition of the benchmark date of 3 November 1997, these years will be defined as:

- a) 1996/97 1 July 1996 through 31 October 1997; and
- b) 1997/98 1 November 1997 through 30 June 1998.

The Department of Fisheries records catch history generated by fishers using a Licensed Fishing Boat (LFB) against the relevant FBL. This means that any boat that operates under an FBL (and therefore displayed the relevant LFB numbers on the boat), over time, will further develop the catch history on that FBL.

In some cases the catch history will have been created, while the FBL was held (owned) by a range of persons. In many cases, a range of vessels will have been used to create the catch history recorded against an FBL. This is demonstrated in the many different vessels that may have displayed a set of LFB numbers over time.

This means, that where a person has "leased" an FBL by transferring their vessel onto an FBL (through boat replacement or similar) the catch history generated through the fishing operations undertaken using that boat will accrue to that FBL and, as such, may in time, provide benefit to the holder of the FBL, but not to the owner of the vessel (that has previously displayed, or currently displays, the LFB numbers for that FBL on their vessel).

#### 2.2 Area of the Fisheries

In both the West Coast and Gascoyne bioregions the fisheries will extend to the 200 nautical mile AFZ boundary, but waters outside 250m (the "offshore zone") will constitute a separate zone in each fishery.

There will be no access granted to this zone initially and it will be closed to fishing. Access to this zone will be considered through the 'Developing New Fisheries' process administered separately by the Department of Fisheries.

# 2.3 Management Arrangements – Instrument and Period of Operation

In view of the many factors that I have considered in developing my proposed management arrangements for the:

- 1. West Coast Demersal Scalefish Fishery;
- 2. Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Fishery;
- 3. West Coast Inshore Net Fishery; and
- 4. Gascoyne Inshore Net Fishery.

I have determined that the management arrangements for these fisheries will take the form of separate Management Plans (under Section 54 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*), and each will specifically declare those fisheries to be an Interim Managed Fishery.

Furthermore, each of the aforementioned Management Plans will specify a period of operation of five years from the date of commencement of operation of that Management Plan.

## 2.4 Reporting Catch

Operators in the West Coast Demersal Scalefish Fishery, West Coast Inshore Beach Net Fishery, Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Fishery, or Gascoyne Inshore Net Fishery will be required to report their catch of scalefish on a "trip by trip" basis using new daily/trip logbooks. These utilise 10nm x 10nm reporting blocks to provide much finer scale reporting and analysis.

## 2.5 Personal Consumption Limits

Commercial fishers operating in other commercial fisheries, but without any access to the West Coast Demersal Scalefish Fishery, West Coast Inshore Beach Net Fishery, Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Fishery, or Gascoyne Inshore Net Fishery will be entitled to take a limited amount of scalefish for personal consumption (i.e. they will not be permitted to sell their personal consumption catch of scalefish).

The personal consumption limit will initially be set to allow each person fishing in accordance with this arrangement to take fish for personal consumption up to the following limits and subject to the following requirements (including the boat limits noted below):

- one fish of any species of category 1 fish relevant to that bioregion;
- the equivalent of the existing bag limit for category 2 or 3 fish relevant to that bioregion; and
- a boat limit of two category 1 fish (when the boat is being used for fishing by more than two persons).

Commercial fishers taking fish for personal consumption will be required to record all "personal consumption" scalefish catch taken during commercial fishing operations (utilising a specifically-designed catch logbook and process, similar to that currently employed for commercial fisheries, but to be developed following further advice in the coming months). They will be required to comply with any specific requirements relating to fish taken for "personal consumption" (to be developed further in coming months), but most probably including that those fish are:

- marked in some way (e.g. pectoral fins removed [or similar]) so that they can be recognised as being taken for this purpose; and
- landed whole (but can be gutted and/or gilled).

## 2.6 Recreational Fishing from a Licensed Fishing Boat

A person will be permitted to use a licensed fishing boat to fish solely for recreational purposes (except for any recreational fisheries which require a person to hold a Recreational Fishing Licence [RFL]) to take fish up to the existing recreational bag limit for that species, or category of fish relevant to the bioregion, and subject to the following:

- operators undertaking this activity will be required to nominate (with details of the nomination process to be provided during 2007) prior to commencing the trip and giving details of the period over which they will be conducting a recreational fishing trip; and
- commercial operators who have nominated to utilise their licensed fishing boat to recreationally fish will not be permitted to have (or transport) rock lobster pots or other specified commercial fishing gear on board the boat.

Note: I will review the arrangements described above regarding personal consumption limits and recreational fishing from a licensed fishing boat, after the first 24 months of operation, with a view to reducing permitted levels of take, if sustainability of the demersal scalefish resource is compromised.

# 2.7 CFL Holders Permitted to Hold Recreational Fishing Licences (RFL)

Commercial Fishing Licence (CFL) holders will be permitted to apply for and be granted an RFL. However, CFL holders operating in the West Coast Rock Lobster and Abalone Managed Fisheries will not be permitted to hold an RFL to take rock lobster or abalone respectively (and therefore will not be able to hold an "umbrella" licence either).

CFL holders who have been granted an RFL under this arrangement will be permitted to undertake the activities authorised by that RFL from recreational vessels or the shore (but not from a licensed fishing boat even if it has nominated to operate recreationally for the take of scalefish or other fish not the subject of an RFL in accordance with the arrangements described above).

RFL holders fishing under these arrangements will be subject to the recreational bag, boat and possession limits and other recreational fishing rules relevant to the bioregion in which the activity is being undertaken. Note, that this initiative will require that CFLs are modified to identify whether or not the holder is operating in a fishery which takes species which are subject to a recreational fishing licence requirement.

## SECTION 3 THE WEST COAST DEMERSAL SCALEFISH FISHERY

- 1) The West Coast Demersal Scalefish Fishery (the Fishery) is to operate in the waters between 26°30'S and 115°30'E (the West Coast Bioregion) and extending out to the boundary of the Australian Fishing Zone, to take demersal scalefish by line. Fishing effort will be managed utilising an Individually Transferable Effort (ITE) framework that provides for permits with variable levels of entitlement (with units of ITE having a value in "boat fishing days" or, in the South West zone, "line fishing days").
- 2) 2) The Fishery is to be divided into inshore and offshore areas and comprise five management zones as follows: *Inshore* (out to the 250 metre depth contour\*)
  - a) Kalbarri zone (26°30'S to 28°S);
  - b) Mid-West zone (28°S to 31°S);
  - c) Metropolitan zone (31°S to 33°S); and
  - d) South-West zone (33°S to 115°30'E);

#### Offshore

e) Offshore zone (26°30'S to 115°30'E between the 250 metre depth contour and the 200 nautical mile boundary of the AFZ).

\*Note: The coordinates defining the 250 metre depth contour will be developed during 2007.

See Appendix 1 for a diagram of the boundaries and zones for the West Coast Demersal Scalefish Fishery.

3) The Offshore zone of the Fishery is to be managed in accordance with the Developing New Fisheries (DNF) policy. This zone will initially be closed to fishing; however, in time, a DNF process will provide an opportunity for all people (i.e. the holders of permits with entitlement for other zones of the fishery, and those who do not hold a permit to fish in the fishery), to apply for access to the offshore zone, separate to the rest for the fishery.

#### 3.1 Access and Allocation

4) Access to the inshore zones of the Fishery is to be determined based on catch history of demersal scalefish, taken by "open access line fishing methods", reported against an authorisation (i.e. a Fishing Boat Licence [FBL]), from the West Coast bioregion (in Catch and Effort Statistics [CAES] blocks between 26°S and 116°E) in the pre-benchmark period (financial years from 1991/92 to 1996/97 inclusive) and post-benchmark period (financial years from 1997/98 to 2002/03 inclusive).

5) Fishery permits are to be granted to Fishing Boat Licence (FBL) holders whose current FBL has reported a minimum average of 2,000kg of demersal scalefish (when averaging the best three annual catches) taken by "open access line fishing methods", in both the pre-benchmark period (financial years from 1991/92 to 1996/97 inclusive) and the post-benchmark period (financial years from 1997/98 to 2002/03 inclusive) from the West Coast bioregion.

*Note, the following definitions and principles apply:* 

- 1. "Demersal scalefish" refers to:
  - a) bony fish only, legally taken under WA law (and through "open-access" line fishing methods at the time the catch was recorded), including mackerel not already accounted for in the grant of a Mackerel Permit;
  - b) but, does not include sharks, rays, molluscs (including squid, octopus or cuttlefish), crustaceans, or tuna and tuna-like species (as defined in the Offshore Constitutional Settlement 1995 as being under Commonwealth jurisdiction with the exception of those fish taken in accordance with WA law to reflect the bycatch arrangements for these species, set out in the Offshore Constitutional Settlement 1995).
- 2. "Open access line fishing methods" will be limited to catches of demersal scalefish taken:
  - a) by line;
  - b) from a licensed fishing boat; and
  - c) does not include catches taken by demersal longlines and/or pelagic longlines.

Note: any fishing (or catch history), not involving the use of a licensed fishing boat (expected to be almost exclusively netting related) is restricted in its application to the inshore net fisheries only.

- 6) Allocation of levels of entitlement within the Fishery will be based on catch history of demersal scalefish, taken by "open access line fishing methods", reported from the West Coast bioregion (as defined at 1. above) in the post-benchmark period (financial years from 1997-98 to 2002-03 inclusive).
- 7) FBL holders qualifying for access under 5) above will be allocated entitlement in each of the four inshore zones of the Fishery (Kalbarri, Mid-West, Metropolitan and South-West) in which their FBL has reported catch in the post-benchmark period. Each allocation of entitlement will be based on the historical catch (using the average of the best three years in the post-benchmark period in each of the zones) as a proportion of the total of the average catches of all the operators that are eligible to receive an allocation in that zone.
- 8) The offshore zone of the Fishery is to be closed initially. In the longer term access may be provided through a DNF process.

## 3.2 Capacity of the Fishery

9) The Fishery will be managed to a Total Commercial Catch (TCC) comprising the sum of the TCC settings allocated for the four inshore zones. The total number of days allocated for each zone will be determined utilising the relevant TCC and Catch Per Unit Effort (CPUE) figures for each zone provided by the Department of Fisheries' Research Division.

These settings (TCC and CPUE) will be determined during 2007 as part of the process of granting entitlements. Indicative figures provided as part of the Wetline Review (as communicated in Fisheries Management Paper Nos. 206 and 207) are shown below. Note, however, that these values should <u>not</u> be used as the basis for any business decisions as the final settings will be determined during 2007.

Zone	Target Commercial Catch (TCC) in tonnes	Catch Per Unit Effort (kg/day)	Boat Fishing Days to be Allocated
Kalbarri zone	193	357	541
Mid-West zone	350	199	1,758
Metropolitan zone	116	150	766
South-West zone	98	125	784 (line fishing days*)
Offshore zone	Initially closed	NA	NA
Total Allowable Catch	757	208	3850

\*Note: a standard "boat fishing day" will permit the use of a maximum of five handlines and five droplines per day. Operators with entitlement in the South-West zone will be able to nominate the number of lines with which they intend to operate. This will determine the rate at which their entitlement in "line fishing days" is consumed. This means a fisher that is allocated 50 "line fishing days" may nominate to use the days at the standard rate of five handlines and five droplines per day for the allocated 50 days, or alternatively could nominate to use a greater number of lines (e.g. 10 handlines and 10 droplines) over 25 days.

- 10) The TCC and CPUE settings for the Fishery (and therefore the "capacity" of the fishery) will be reviewed annually and adjusted as required by the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Fisheries.
- An allocation of entitlement conferred upon a permit will be made in "units". Unit values will be determined on the basis of the relevant TCC and CPUE. The value of a unit of entitlement will be determined by dividing the capacity of the fishery (derived from the TCC and the CPUE and expressed as boat fishing days, or "line fishing days" for the South-West zone) amongst all the units of entitlement for that zone.

- 12) A unit of entitlement will take the form of:
  - "boat fishing days" for the Metropolitan, Mid-West and Kalbarri zones, and
  - "line fishing days" for the South-West zone.

#### 3.3 Permitted Gear and Activities

The Fishery will be managed utilising the Department of Fisheries' Vessel Monitoring System (VMS). Fishing Boats operating under a permit for the West Coast Demersal Scalefish Fishery will be required to fit an Automatic Location Communicator (ALC).

Note: further information regarding the timeframe for the fitting of the ALC and commencement of the VMS requirements will be provided in 2007.

Fishing Boats that operate under a permit for the Fishery will only be permitted to utilise handlines and droplines to fish in the fishery. The number of handlines and droplines they are permitted to use (and carry on board a boat – with provisions for spare gear to be provided) will be restricted to a maximum of five lines of each type (except in the South-West zone). Each line will be restricted to a maximum of 30 hooks (or gangs of hooks). In the South-West zone operators may use and/or carry more than 5 handlines and 5 droplines, but if doing so they will be debited time usage at a higher rate (line fishing days).

Note: 'Handline' means a fishing line which is attended, weighted at one end and has not more than 30 hooks (or gangs of hooks) attached. "Dropline" means a fishing line with no more than 30 hooks (or gangs of hooks) and when used for fishing is anchored by a weight at one end, buoyed at the surface and deployed vertically through the water. A minimum of one buoy, with a minimum diameter of 200mm, must be attached to the line. The buoy should be marked with the vessel's LFB number, in lettering at least 6cm high and 1cm wide.

Operators in the Fishery will be permitted to land whole fish only (noting fish may be gilled, gutted, and chilled, but not frozen). Exceptions to this (including filleting) will require that fishers apply to the Department of Fisheries for the grant of a processing authorisation by the Department of Fisheries.

### SECTION 4 THE WEST COAST INSHORE NET FISHERY

The West Coast Inshore Net Fishery (the Fishery) is to operate in the coastal waters north of Moore River, to take scalefish by net from the shore. The management arrangements for this fishery may include a range of spatial, temporal and gear controls; however at this stage the management arrangements will not provide for the holders to be allocated differing levels of entitlement.

Note: initially nets permitted to be used in the West Coast Inshore Net Fishery will be restricted to hand-hauled gill nets and seine nets. The formal definitions of these gear types will be considered in conjunction with those given access to the fishery in 2007.

- 2) Access to the Fishery is to be determined based on catch history of fish, taken by "open-access" netting methods, reported in the West Coast Bioregion (in Catch and Effort Statistics [CAES] blocks between 26°S and 116°E) in the prebenchmark period (financial years from 1991/92 to 1996/97 inclusive) and post-benchmark period (financial years from 1997/98 to 2002/03 inclusive).
- 3) Fishery permits are to be granted to Fishing Boat Licence (FBL) holders whose current FBL has reported a minimum average of 2,000kg of scalefish (when averaging the best three annual catches) taken by "open access" netting methods, in both the pre-benchmark period (financial years from 1991/92 to 1996/97 inclusive) and the post-benchmark period (financial years from 1997/98 to 2002/03 inclusive) in the West Coast Bioregion.

*Note: the following definitions and principles apply:* 

- 1. "Open-access netting" considers catches of all fish legally taken under WA law (and through "open-access" entitlement at the time the catch was recorded), by beach seine, haul netting and set (gill) netting methods (regardless of whether a fishing boat was actually used or not). It does not include catches taken offshore by open-access net (i.e. separate to the inshore net fishery).
- 2. Any fishing (or catch history), not involving the use of a licensed fishing boat (expected to be almost exclusively netting related) is restricted in its application to the inshore net fisheries only.

# SECTION 5 THE GASCOYNE DEMERSAL SCALEFISH FISHERY

The Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Fishery (the Fishery) is to operate in the waters between 23°07'S and 26°30'S (and all of the waters within Shark Bay including those extending south of 26°30'S) and extending out to the boundary of the Australian Fishing Zone, to take demersal scalefish by line. Fishing effort will be managed utilising an Individually Transferable Effort (ITE) framework that provides for permits to allocate differing levels of entitlement (with units of ITE having a value in "boat fishing days").

The Shark Bay Snapper Managed Fishery (SBSMF) will be incorporated into the Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Fishery. The take of pink snapper will be provided for by an Individually Transferable Quota (ITQ) system operating within the overall ITE system.

- 2) The Fishery is to be divided into three management zones as follows:
  - a) Inner-shelf zone (23°07'S to 26°30'S seaward out to the 150metre depth contour\*);
  - b) Outer-shelf zone (23°07'S to 26°30'S from the 150metre depth contour\* seaward out to the 250metre depth contour\*); and
  - c) Offshore zone (23°07'S to 26°30'S from the 250metre depth contour\* seaward out to the 200 nautical mile boundary of the Australian Fishing Zone

\*Note: the coordinates defining the 150 metre and 250 metre depth contours will be developed during 2007.

See Appendix 2 for a diagram of the boundaries and zones for the Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Fishery.

3) The Offshore zone of the Fishery is to be managed in accordance with the Developing New Fisheries (DNF) policy. This zone will initially be closed to fishing; however, in time, a DNF process will provide opportunity for all people (i.e. the holders of permits with entitlement for other zones of the fishery, and those who do not hold a permit to fish in the fishery), to apply for access to the offshore zone, separate to the rest for the fishery.

## 5.1 Access and Allocation

4) Access to the Fishery is to be determined based on catch history of demersal scalefish, taken by "open access line fishing methods". This catch history is to be reported against an authorisation (i.e. a Fishing Boat Licence [FBL]), from the Gascoyne bioregion (in Catch and Effort Statistics [CAES] blocks between 23°S

and 27°S) in the pre-benchmark period (financial years from 1991/92 to 1996/97 inclusive); and post-benchmark period (financial years from 1997/98 to 200203 inclusive).

Note that holders of a current SBSMF Licence (SBSMFL) to which is attached an allocation of permanent entitlement (i.e. pink snapper entitlement that has been temporarily transferred to a SBSMFL will not be considered), but which do not have wetline catch history above the access criteria, will also be granted access.

5) Permits for the Fishery based on wetline history are to be granted to:

#### a) For the inner-shelf zone

Fishing Boat Licence (FBL) holders whose <u>current FBL</u> has reported a minimum average of 2,000kg of demersal scalefish (not including pink snapper taken under the authority of a SBSMFL, or goldband snapper [as defined below]), taken by "open access line fishing methods", (when averaging the best three annual catches) in both the pre-benchmark period (financial years from 1991/92 to 1996/97 inclusive) and the post-benchmark period (financial years from 1997/98 to 2002/03 inclusive) in the Gascoyne Bioregion. Note, holders of a current SBSMFL will only be granted one permit (which will specify their entitlement for the inner and outer-shelf zones [based on the criteria for entitlement in those zones]).

#### b) For the outer-shelf zone

FBL holders whose <u>current FBL</u> has reported a minimum average of 2,000kg of catch of goldband snapper taken by "open access line fishing methods", (when averaging the best three annual catches) in the post-benchmark period only (financial years from 1997/98 to 2002/03 inclusive) in the Gascoyne Bioregion.

*Note: the following definitions and principles apply:* 

- 1. "Demersal scalefish" refers to:
  - bony fish only, legally taken under WA jurisdiction (and through "open-access" line fishing methods at the time the catch was recorded), including mackerel not already accounted for in the grant of a mackerel permit; but does not include sharks, rays, molluscs (including squid, octopus or cuttlefish), crustaceans, or tuna and tuna-like species (as defined in the Offshore Constitutional Settlement 1995 as being under Commonwealth jurisdiction with the exception of those fish taken in accordance with WA law to reflect the bycatch arrangements for these species, set out in the Offshore Constitutional Settlement 1995).
- 2 "Open access line fishing methods" will be limited to catches of demersal scalefish taken:
  - a) by line;
  - b) from a licensed fishing boat; and
  - c) does not include catches taken by demersal longlines and/or pelagic longlines.
- 3. Any fishing (or catch history), not involving the use of a licensed fishing boat (expected to be almost exclusively netting related) is restricted in application to the inshore net fisheries only.

- 4. "Goldband snapper" refers to fish of the genus Pristipomoides.
- 5. The TAC for pink snapper is currently determined in the Shark Bay Snapper Fishery Management Plan 1994. This determination will become the TACC for pink snapper within the management arrangements for the Gascoyne fishery.
- 6. The ability to exercise any allocation of pink snapper entitlement by a permit holder in the Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Fishery will be subject to a Minimum Unit Holding of 100 units of pink snapper ITQ (as explained below [apart from current exceptions in the SBSMF Plan]) and the availability of both unexhausted pink snapper entitlement and unexhausted demersal scalefish entitlement on the permit.
- 7. FBL holders applying for a permit to operate in the Gascoyne fishery will have their catch history automatically assessed against all of the access and allocation criteria for the fishery (rather than applying for specific zones/species). This means that any goldband snapper catch history meeting the access and allocation criteria for the outer-shelf zone will be used to grant entitlement for that zone. Any goldband snapper catch history not used for the grant of access and entitlement for the outer-shelf zone will be used for the purposes of determining entitlement for the inner-shelf zone where the catch meets the access criteria for the inner-shelf zone.
- 6) Allocation of entitlement within the Fishery will be based on:
  - a) for the outer-shelf zone catch history of goldband snapper taken by "open access line fishing methods" reported in the Gascoyne bioregion in the post-benchmark period (financial years from 1997/98 to 2002/03 inclusive); and
  - b) for the inner-shelf zone
    - i) catch history of demersal scalefish (which may include any goldband snapper catch not taken into account in successfully gaining access to the outer-shelf zone) taken by "open access line fishing methods" and/or taken in conjunction with pink snapper when operating under a SBSMFL\*, reported in the Gascoyne bioregion in both the pre-benchmark period (financial years from 1991/92 to 1996/97 inclusive) and the post-benchmark period (financial years from 1997/98 to 2002/03 inclusive), weighted at a ratio of 60:40 for the pre and post benchmark catches respectively, and/or
    - ii) the level of pink snapper permanent entitlement (i.e. pink snapper entitlement that has been temporarily transferred to a SBSMFL will not be considered) on a SBSMFL, at the time of applying for a Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Fishery permit.

#### Note:

1. ^When determining inner-shelf zone entitlement the demersal scalefish catch history recorded on an FBL may be the subject of adjustment by the Department of Fisheries in consideration of the conjunctional take of non-snapper species with any fishing for pink snapper, in accordance with the process set out at 7) below.

- 2. \*A person who is issued a Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Fishery permit with an allocation of pink snapper ITQ under b)ii. above, will also be eligible to receive an allocation of ITE (boat fishing days) for either the inner and/or outer-shelf zones, for their "wetline" catch, subject to meeting the access and/or allocation criteria set out in 5) and 6) above.
- 7) Further to 6) above, FBL holders qualifying for access under 5) above will be allocated entitlement in the inner-shelf and outer-shelf zones as follows:
  - a) For the inner-shelf zone:
    - i) A person who holds permanent pink snapper entitlement (in the form of pink snapper ITQ conferred by a SBSMFL), at the time of applying for a Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Fishery permit will be eligible to be issued a Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Fishery permit with:
      - an allocation of pink snapper ITQ of the same number of units as that held on the SBSMFL used in the application, and
      - an allocation of pink snapper ITE units (in boat fishing days) in proportion to the allocation of pink snapper entitlement (ITQ) issued at i) above.
    - ii) A person who is the holder of an FBL (including SBSMFL holders) which meets the access and allocation criteria set out above, will be eligible to be issued a Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Fishery permit with:
      - an allocation of the total demersal scalefish ITE units (with a value in boat fishing days) relevant to the catch history on that FBL (based on the averages for the best three years catches in both the pre-benchmark period and the post-benchmark period, weighted at a ratio of 60:40 for the pre and post benchmark catches respectively) as a proportion of the total of the average catches of all the operators that are eligible to receive an allocation, for that zone.

In making this determination catch history will be assessed to determine how much, if any, of the recorded demersal scalefish catch was taken in conjunction with pink snapper fishing operations (the "standard conjunctional non-snapper catch" being 15 per cent of recorded pink snapper catch).

b) For the outer-shelf zone:

A person who is the holder of an FBL (including those who also hold a Shark Bay Snapper Managed Fishery Licence) which meets the access and allocation criteria set out above, will be eligible to be issued a Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Fishery permit with:

• an allocation of the total ITE units (with a value in "boat fishing days") equal to the catch history (averaging the best three years' catches) on the FBL of goldband snapper taken by "open access line fishing methods" reported in the Gascoyne bioregion in the post-benchmark period, as a proportion of the total of the average catches of all the operators that are eligible to receive an allocation, for that zone.

#### Note:

- 1. A SBSMFL holder who gains entitlement in the outer-shelf zone will be able to fish for snapper in this zone. A SBSMFL holder who only gains access to the inner-shelf zone will not be able to fish in the outer-shelf zone.
- 2. The "standard conjunctional non-snapper catch" is based on historical catch data indicating that the catch rate of "other" (non-snapper) demersal scalefish equates to 15% of the total pink snapper catch taken by SBSMFL fishers.

## 5.2 Capacity of the Fishery

- 8) The Fishery will be managed to:
  - a) a Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC), for pink snapper for the fishery (i.e. both the inner and outer shelf zones [and the offshore zone if required in the future]). This will be allocated in the form of Individually Transferable Quota (ITQ);
  - b) a notional TCC for demersal scalefish, for the outer-shelf zone;
  - c) a notional TCC for demersal scalefish, for the inner shelf zone; and
  - d) a Total Allowable Effort (TAE) setting (initially allocated as ITE "boat fishing days"), for the inner-shelf zone and the outer-shelf zone (including boat fishing days for the purposes of taking pink snapper).

The total number of "boat fishing days" days allocated for the Fishery will be determined utilising the Catch Per Unit Effort (CPUE) figures determined by the Department of Fisheries' Research Division.

These settings (TACC, TCC, and CPUE) will be reviewed during 2007 as part of the process of granting units of entitlement and if necessary, a new determination will be made. However, pending that review, the indicative (but not final) settings are those described in Fisheries Management Paper No. 207 (and therefore should not be used as the basis for any business decisions), as follows:

Zone	TACC/TCC (tonnes)	Catch Per Unit Effort (kg/day)	ITE Units of Entitlement
Inner-shelf zone	117 TCC for demersal scalefish comprising 51t demersal scalefish taken in conjunction with a 338t pink snapper TAC and 66t for non-snapper associated wetline catch.	140	471* (Being; 364 for demersal scalefish taken in conjunction with SBSMFL operations, and 471 for non-SBSMFL entitlement)
Outer shelf zone	100 TCC* (goldband snapper) *based on a total demersal scalefish catch (incl. goldband snapper) of 160-180t	TBA	TBA
Pink snapper	TACC as per the TAC set in the Shark Bay Snapper Fishery Management Plan 1994 at the time the new management arrangements for the Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Fishery are implemented (and subject to review)	154 (see table below)	Examples; i) TACC of 338.25t =2,196 units* for the purposes of taking pink snapper ii) TACC of 225t =1,461 units* for the purposes of taking pink snapper
Offshore zone	Initially closed	NA	NA

<sup>\*</sup>Note that the consumption rate of units, in days, will be subject to a seasonal adjustment factor.

Recognising that a permit holder's ability to exercise their ITE in the inner or outer-shelf zones is "tied" to holding unexhausted pink snapper entitlement, the TAE for the fishery will be managed utilising "variable consumption" rates which acknowledge seasonal variations in the catchability of pink snapper.

The Consumption Rate Factor, calculated based on historical CPUE, reflects the rate at which a permit holder's ITE will be consumed at different times throughout the year, but initially will only be applied to the inner-shelf zone only.

Initial Variable Consumption Rates for the Gascovne fishery.

Period	Historical CPUE of pink snapper (kg/day)	Consumption Rate Factor (factor will be multiplied by actual days to give equivalent days) [inner-shelf zone only]
January through April	192	1.25
May and August	367	2.38
June and July	581	3.77
Sept. through Dec.	154	1

- 9) The TACC for pink snapper, TCC, TAE, ITE, ITQ (pink snapper) and consumption rate factor settings for the Fishery will be reviewed annually and adjusted as required by the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Fisheries.
- 10) An allocation of entitlement conferred upon a permit will be made in "units".
- 11) A unit of entitlement is to initially take the form of:
  - "boat fishing days" for demersal scalefish (including pink snapper) in the inner and/or outer-shelf zones (in accordance with the grant of access and entitlement); and
  - kilograms of pink snapper (which will be translated to give a number of "boat fishing days" for the purposes of pink snapper fishing, applying a "base rate" [i.e. September to December] CPUE value).

Note: the entitlement in kilograms of pink snapper will contribute to the "pool" of effort days used to determine the capacity of the Fishery for the purposes of setting a value for ITE units

- a) The value of a unit of ITE will be determined by dividing the TAE amongst all the units of entitlement for that zone.
  - b) The value of a unit of pink snapper ITQ will be determined by dividing the TACC amongst all the pink snapper units of entitlement (utilising the same number of units currently provided for in the *Shark Bay Snapper Fishery Management Plan 1994*.
- The holder of a Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Fishery permit will not be able to fish in the inner or outer-shelf zones unless they hold the Minimum Unit Holding requirement for pink snapper ITQ of 100 units (as per the current arrangements set out in the *Shark Bay Snapper Fishery Management Plan 1994*).

#### **5.3** Permitted Gear and Activities

14) The Fishery will be managed utilising the Department of Fisheries' Vessel Monitoring System (VMS). Fishing Boats operating under a permit for the Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Fishery will be required to fit an Automatic Location Communicator (ALC).

Note: further information regarding the timeframe for the fitting of the ALC and commencement of the VMS requirements will be provided in 2007.

Fishing Boats that operate under a permit for the Fishery will only be permitted to utilise handlines and droplines to fish in the fishery. The number of handlines and droplines they are permitted to use (and carry on board a boat – with provisions for spare gear to be provided) will be restricted to a maximum of five lines of each type. Each line will be restricted to a maximum of 30 hooks (or gangs of hooks).

Note; "Handline" means a fishing line which is attended, weighted at one end and has not more than 30 hooks (or gangs of hooks) attached. "Dropline" means a fishing line with no more than 30 hooks (or gangs of hooks and when used for fishing is anchored by a weight at one end, buoyed at the surface and deployed vertically through the water). A minimum of one buoy, with a minimum diameter of 200mm, must be attached to the line. The buoy should be marked with the vessel's LFB number, in lettering at least 6cm high and 1cm wide.

Operators in the Fishery will be permitted to land whole fish only (noting fish may be gilled, gutted and chilled, but not frozen). Exceptions to this (including filleting) will require that fishers apply to the Department of Fisheries for the grant of a processing authorisation by the Department of Fisheries.

### SECTION 6 THE GASCOYNE INSHORE NET FISHERY

1) The Gascoyne Inshore Net Fishery (the Fishery) will operate in the coastal waters of the Gascoyne, north of the Shark Bay Beach Seine and Mesh Net Fishery (SBBSMNF) to take scalefish by net. The management arrangements for this fishery may include a range of spatial, temporal and gear controls; however, at this stage the management arrangements will not provide for the holders to be allocated differing levels of entitlement.

Note: Initially nets permitted to be used in the Fishery will be restricted to hand-hauled gill nets and seine nets. The formal definitions of these gear types will be considered in conjunction with those given access to the fishery in 2007.

- 2) Access to the Fishery is to be determined based on catch history of fish, taken by "open-access" netting methods, reported from the Gascoyne bioregion (in Catch and Effort Statistics [CAES] blocks between 23°S and 27°S [and outside the SBBSMNF]) in the pre-benchmark period (financial years from 1991/92 to 1996/97 inclusive) and post-benchmark period (financial years from 1997/98 to 2002/03 inclusive).
- 3) Fishery permits are to be granted to Fishing Boat Licence (FBL) holders whose <u>current FBL</u> has reported a minimum average of 2,000kg of scalefish (when averaging the best three annual catches) taken by "open access" netting methods, in both the pre-benchmark period (financial years from 1991/92 to 1996/97 inclusive) and the post-benchmark period (financial years from 1997/98 to 2002/03 inclusive) in the Gascoyne bioregion.

*Note: The following definitions and principles apply:* 

- 1. "Open-access netting" considers catches of all fish legally taken under WA law (and through "open-access" entitlement at the time the catch was recorded), by beach seine, haul netting and set (gill) netting methods (regardless of whether a fishing boat was actually used or not). It does not include catches taken offshore by open-access net (i.e. separate to the inshore net fishery).
- 2. Any fishing (or catch history), not involving the use of a licensed fishing boat (expected to be almost exclusively netting related) is restricted in its application to the inshore net fisheries only.

#### **SECTION 7**

## WORKING EXAMPLES OF THE CRITERIA TO DETERMINE ENTITLEMENT TO OPERATE IN THE WEST COAST AND GASCOYNE DEMERSAL SCALEFISH FISHERIES

## 7.1 West Coast Demersal Scalefish Fishery

The values used in the examples below are for illustrative purposes only and should not form the basis for any business decisions, as the final settings will be determined during 2007.

Based on initial target commercial catch of 756 tonnes<sup>1</sup>, which, based on historic distribution of catch, should be allocated between zones as indicated in Table 1.

Table 1 The target commercial catch (tonnes); catch per unit effort; and number of fishing days recommended by the MPP for each management zone in the West Coast bioregion.

Zone	Target Commercial Catch (tonnes)	Catch Per Unit Effort <sup>2</sup>	Days to be allocated/Units of entitlement
Kalbarri	193	357	541
Mid-West	350	199	1,758
Metropolitan	116	150	766
South-West	98	125	784
TOTAL	756	208	3,850

It is important to note that the examples below are based on the proposed access and allocation criteria set out in this document. The settings for TACC, TCC, CPUE will be subject to further review in 2007.

Should any of these factors change, the allocations in the examples would change accordingly. Furthermore, any successful appeals through the State Administrative Tribunal would result in increased levels of catch history being considered and therefore a greater number of permits being issued and resulting in reduced allocations to individuals.

For the sake of continuity the following examples are based on those provided in Fisheries Management Paper No. 207.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Catch settings are those used in Fisheries Management Paper No. 207 and only used here to provide examples applying the proposed access and allocation criteria.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The Catch Per Unit Effort (CPUE) in kg/day for determining the initial capacity of the West Coast Demersal Scalefish Fishery is based on the annual average (over the three most recent years) of the top five fishers (by total wetline catch) in each management zone. The figures used in this example will be reviewed in 2007 prior to entitlements being issued.

## Example 1: A "long-term wetliner"

Kevin is a "long-term wetliner" because he has high catches both pre- and post-benchmark date.

	Catch (kg)				
Year	Kalbarri	Mid-West	Metropolitan	South-West	
1991/92	18,861	7,791			
1992/93	17,999	5,966			
1993/94	30,567		65	100	
1994/95	22,835		890	63	
1995/96	32,403	4,668			
1996/97	26,376	5,993			
1997/98	25,372	2,704			
1998/99	14,935	6,810			
1999/00	19,925	7,804			
2000/01	27,612	1,382			
2001/02	30,534				
2002/03	30,672	2,158			

The test for **access** looks at the average of Kevin's best three annual catches (across the entire fishery) in the pre- and post-benchmark periods, which at

Pre: ([30,567+65+100]+[32,403+4,668]+[26,376+5,993])/3=33,390kg, and

Post ([27,612+1,382]+30,534+[30,672+2,158])/3=30,786kg

clearly meets the 2,000 kg threshold, in both the pre and post-benchmark periods, but what and where will his allocation be?

Looking at his average catches (utilising the average of his best three years in the post-benchmark period) relative to the zones in which he fished:

	Zone	A. Total average post- benchmark catch of the Fishery	B. Kevin's average post-benchmark catch	C. Kevin's catch as a proportion of the total catch ([B/A] X 100)	D. Kevin's potential entitlement in units (C x No. of units of entitlement for the zone [in this case 541 for Kalbarri and 1758 for Mid- West]))
Post-					Unweighted
Benchmark	Kalbarri	272,612 kg	(27,612 + 30,534 + 30672) / 3 = 29,606 kg	10.86 %	59
	Mid- West	400,520 kg	(7,804 + 6,810 + 2,704) / 3 = 5,773 kg	1.44 %	25

- **A.** Total Catch of Fishery (kg) refers to total of the average catches (utilising the average of the averages of the best three years of each fisher to receive and allocation of a zone) in the post-benchmark period by zone, of all boats that meet the access criteria for the fishery.
- **B.** Kevin's Average Catch (kg) refers to the average of Kevin's best three annual catches in each zone in the post-benchmark period.
- **C.** Kevin's Catch as a Proportion of Total Catch (%) refers to Kevin's catch as a percentage of the Total Average Catch of the Fishery (kg) (in the relevant zone). Calculated = (B/A) multiplied by 100.
- **D.** Kevin's Potential Entitlement in Units is Kevin's historical proportion of the zone's post-benchmark catch applied to the total number of units for the zone.

In this example, *Kevin's Potential Entitlement in Units* is: 10.86 per cent of 541 units = 59 units = **59 days in the Kalbarri zone**, and 1.44 per cent of 1,758 units = 25 units = **25 days in the Mid-West zone**.

### Example 2: A "post-benchmark wetliner"

John is a "post-benchmark wetliner" because all of his catch was taken in the post-benchmark period.

	Catch (kg)				
Year	Kalbarri	Mid-West	Metropolitan	South-West	
1991/92					
1992/93					
1993/94					
1994/95					
1995/96					
1996/97					
1997/98					
1998/99					
1999/00		408			
2000/01		3,446			
2001/02		13,071	32		
2002/03		43,685			

The test for access looks at the average of John's best three annual catches, in both the pre and post-benchmark periods. While John's average post-benchmark catch was 20,067 kg he does not meet the minimum 2,000 kg threshold in both pre and post-benchmark periods and as such will not be eligible to gain access to the fishery.

## Example 3: A "pre-benchmark wetliner"

Dave is a "pre-benchmark wetliner" because he reported most of his wetline catch before the benchmark date.

	Catch (kg)				
Year	Kalbarri	Mid-West	Metropolitan	South-West	
1991/92		10,494			
1992/93	3,545				
1993/94	3,922	18,591			
1994/95	5,849	29,469			
1995/96	2,109	32,951			
1996/97	1,698	29,061	381		
1997/98		2,919	1,187		
1998/99		3,311	237		
1999/00	269	465	223		
2000/01	_	817			
2001/02	776	7,294			
2002/03		12,913			

The test for **access** looks at the average of Dave's best three annual catches (across the entire fishery) in the pre- and post-benchmark periods, which at

Pre: ([5,849 + 29,469] + [2,109 + 32,951] + [1,698 + 29,061 + 381]) / 3 = 33,839kg,

and

Post: ([2,919+1,187] + [776+7,294] + [12,913]) / 3 = 8,363 kg

clearly meets the 2,000 kg threshold, in both the pre and post-benchmark periods, but what and where will his allocation be?

Looking at his average catches (utilising the average of his best three years the post-benchmark period) relative to the zones in which he fished:

	Zone	A. Total average post- benchmark catch of the Fishery	B. Dave's average post- benchmark catch	C. Dave's catch as a proportion of the total catch ([B/A] X 100)	D. Dave's potential entitlement in units (C x No. of units of entitlement for the zone [in this case 541 for Kalbarri, 1758 for Mid-West and 766 for Metropolitan]))
Post-					Unweighted
Benchmark	Kalbarri	272,612 kg	348 kg	0.13 %	1
	Mid-West	400,520 kg	7,839 kg	1.96 %	34
	Metropolitan	89,714 kg	549 kg	0.61 %	5

**A.** Total Catch of Fishery (kg) refers to total average catch (utilising the average of the averages of the best three years of each fisher to receive and allocation of a zone) in the post-benchmark period by zone, of all boats that meet the access criteria for the fishery.

**B.** Dave's Average Catch (kg) refers to the average of Dave's best three annual catches in each zone in the post-benchmark period.

- **C.** Dave's Catch as a Proportion of Total Catch (%) refers to Dave's catch as a percentage of the Total Average Catch of the Fishery (kg) (in the relevant zone). Calculated = (B/A) multiplied by 100.
- **D.** Dave's Potential Entitlement in Units is Dave's historical proportion of the zone's post-benchmark catch applied to the total number of units for the zone.

In this example, *Dave's Potential Entitlement in Units* is: 0.13 per cent of 541 units = 1 unit = **1 day in the Kalbarri zone**; 1.96 per cent of 1,758 units = 34 units = **34 days in the Mid-West zone**; and 0.61 per cent of 766 units = 5 units = **5 days in the Metropolitan zone**.

## 7.2 Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Fishery

The values used in the examples below are for illustrative purposes only and should not be used as a basis for any business decisions, as the final settings will be determined during 2007.

The settings used to determine the "capacity" and total number of "boat fishing days" days allocated for the Fishery (TACC, TCC, and CPUE) will be reviewed during 2007 as part of the process of granting units of entitlement. However, pending that review, the data provided in Fisheries Management Papers No's. 205 and 207, have been used to develop working examples (but should <u>not</u> be used as the basis for any business decisions).

TCC data from Fisheries Management Papers Nos. 205 and 207 and Examples of the Fishery Capacity and Unit Allocation Process

Zone	TACC/TCC (tonnes)	Catch Per Unit Effort (kg/day)	Fishery Capacity, ITE Units Allocated and Unit Values
Inner-shelf zone	117 TCC for demersal scalefish (comprising 51t demersal scalefish taken in conjunction with a 338t pink snapper TAC and 66t for non-snapper associated wetline catch.)	140	Capacity 471 days* No of units 471 ^ (for non-SBSMFL entitlement) Unit value 1.0 days
Outer shelf zone	100 TCC* (goldband snapper) *based on a total demersal scalefish catch (incl. goldband snapper) of 160-180t	180^	Capacity 556 days^ No of units 556^ Unit value 1.0 days
Pink snapper	TACC as per the TAC set in the Shark Bay Snapper Fishery Management Plan 1994 at the time the new management arrangements for the Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Fishery are implemented (and subject to review)	154 (see table below)	1) TACC of 338.25t. Capacity of the fishery for the purposes of taking pink snapper is 2,196 days. No of units 2,196 Unit value 1.0 days  2) TACC of 225t. Capacity of the fishery for the purposes of taking pink snapper is 1,461 days No of units 1,461 Unit value 1.0 days
Offshore zone	Initially closed	NA	NA NA

<sup>\*</sup> the consumption rate of entitlement in days, will be subject to a seasonal adjustment factor.

Should any of these settings change, the allocations in the examples would change accordingly. Furthermore, any successful appeals through the State Administrative

<sup>^</sup> the setting/value used is hypothetical only and has been included purely for use in the following examples.

Tribunal would result in increased levels of catch history being considered and therefore a greater number of permits being issued, resulting in reduced levels of usable entitlement for existing permit holders.

## Example 4: A Gascoyne wetliner

Gary reported wetline catch in the Gascoyne region in the pre and post-benchmark periods. He does not hold a SBSMFL and therefore is not eligible to receive any pink snapper entitlement. His application is based entirely on his FBL catch history.

Year	Demersal Scalefish Catch	<b>Goldband Snapper Catch</b>
1991/92	Catch	
1992/93		
1993/94		
1994/95	1,345	
1995/96	1,506	
1996/97	1,458	
1997/98	2,400	
1998/99	1,832	8,365
1999/00	2,306	11,575
2000/01	1,680	12,230
2001/02	1,754	13,150
2002/03	2,820	10,208
Average of		
best three		
years'		
catches pre-	(1,345+1,506+1,458)	
benchmark	3 = 1,436kg	Not Applicable
Average of		
best three		
years'		
catches post-	(2,400 + 2,306 + 2,820) /	(11,575+12,230+13,150)/
benchmark	3 = 2,508kg	3 = 12,318kg

The test for <u>access</u> looks at inner-shelf and outer-shelf zones separately and uses:

- 1). For the outer-shelf zone the averages of Gary's best three annual catches of goldband snapper in the post-benchmark period (highlighted in bold text). In this case Gary's average catch is 1,2318kg and therefore clearly meets the access criteria for the outer-shelf zone.
- 2). For the inner-shelf zone the averages of Gary's best three annual catches in both the pre and post-benchmark periods (highlighted in bold text) are 1,436kg and 2,508kg respectively, which falls short of the requirement to have a minimum average catch of 2,000kg in both the pre and post-benchmark periods. Therefore, Gary will not be eligible to gain access to the inner-shelf zone.

#### Note:

- 1. Goldband snapper catches cannot be used to gain <u>access</u> to the inner-shelf zone.
- 2. Gary's demersal scalefish catch may contain some pink snapper taken by wetline methods north of 23°34'S.

So, what will his allocation be? Gary's allocation in the outer-shelf zone is as follows:

	Zone	A.	В.	C.	D.
		Total of the	Gary's average	Gary's catch as	Gary's entitlement in
		average post- benchmark	post- benchmark	a percentage of the total catch	units (in this example there is
		catch of the	catch in the	([B/A] X 100)	a total of
		outer-shelf	outer-shelf	([ , ] , , )	556 units for the zone)
		zone	zone		
Post-			Unweighted		
Benchmark	Outer-	120,403kg	12,318kg	10.23 %	57
	shelf				

- **A.** Total Catch of Zone (kg) is the total of all average catches in the post-benchmark period of all boats that meet the access criteria for the outer-shelf zone.
- **B.** Gary's Average Catch (kg) is the average of Gary's best three annual catches in the outer-shelf zone in the post-benchmark period.
- **C.** Gary's Catch as a Proportion of Total Catch (%) refers to Gary's catch as a percentage of the Total Average Catch of the Fishery (kg) (in the relevant zone). Calculated = (B/A) multiplied by 100.

Gary's Entitlement in Units is Gary's percentage of the total number of units for the zone. In this example, Gary's entitlement in the outer-shelf zone is 10.23 per cent of 556 units = 57 units

Based on the proposed management arrangements, Gary's allocation is then converted to a number of fishing days. At the unit value of 1.0 days Gary's usable fishing days is calculated as 57 units x 1.0 days/unit  $\Rightarrow$  57 days

Note: In order for Gary to exercise his outer-shelf entitlement he will need to hold pink snapper permanent entitlement of a minimum of 100 units. If Gary decides not to acquire 100 pink snapper units he can still transfer (permanently or temporarily) his 57 units of ITE (but only to another permit holder who has outer-shelf access and entitlement). If Gary acquires 100 units of pink snapper entitlement he will also become eligible to operate in the inner-shelf zone. However, he will also need to acquire more ITE units to make it possible for him to take his new pink snapper entitlement.

#### Example 5: A Shark Bay Snapper MFL holder with wetline catch

Mike holds a Shark Bay Snapper Managed Fishery Licence. He currently holds 240 units of permanent entitlement, having increased his level of permanent entitlement in 2005 from 150 units. He has also reported a wetline catch in the Gascoyne region in the pre and post-benchmark periods. He lodges a single application based on both his SBSMFL and FBL.

Year	Demersal Scalefish Catch	Snapper Catch	Goldband Snapper Catch	Total <sup>*</sup>
1991/92	4,305	23,800		
1992/93	3,800	20,840		
1993/94	6,110	23,100		
1994/95	12,110	21,250		
1995/96	8,850	17,600		
1996/97	7,680	18,700		
1997/98	5,500	19,260		
1998/99	4,200	17,800		
1999/00	3,900	16,900		
200001	12,680	16,450	1,254	13,934
2001/02	12,754	16,490	2,316	15,070
2002/03	10,820	16,490	2,400	13,220
Average of best three years' catches pre- benchmark (to determine access)	(12,110 + 8,850 + 7,680) / 3 = 9547kg		Not Applicable	
Average of best three years' catches post- benchmark (to determine access)	(12,680 + 12,754 + 10,20) / 3 = 1,2085kg		(12,54 + 2,316 + 2,400) / 3 = 1,990kg	
Average of best three years' catches pre- benchmark (to determine allocation)  Average of best three years' catches pre- benchmark (to determine allocation)	9,547kg (13,934 + 15,070		_	

Sum of goldband snapper and demersal scalefish catch

The test for <u>access</u> looks at inner-shelf and outer-shelf zones separately and uses:

1). For the outer-shelf zone - the averages of Mike's best three annual catches of goldband snapper in the post-benchmark period (highlighted in bold text). In this case Mike's average catch is 1,990kg and therefore does not meet the access criteria for the outer-shelf zone. Therefore, Mike will not be eligible to gain access to the outer-shelf zone.

2). For the inner-shelf zone – Mike holds a SBSMFL and gains access to the inner shelf on this basis alone. However, Mike has also reported catches of demersal scalefish which, depending on the level of catch, could also qualify Mike for access.

The averages of Mike's best three annual catches of demersal scalefish (<u>not including</u> goldband snapper [because this is the test for <u>access</u>]) in both the pre and post-benchmark periods (highlighted in bold text), is 9,547kg and 12,085kg respectively. These catches meet the requirement to have a minimum average catch of 2,000kg in both the pre and post-benchmark periods. Therefore, Mike will be eligible to gain access to the inner-shelf zone on the basis of his wetline catch.

#### Notes:

- 1. Goldband snapper catches cannot be used to gain access to the inner-shelf zone.
- 2. Mike could have put in two applications, one based on his SBSMFL and one based on his wetline catch history. While this would result in the grant of two permits, the total level of entitlement across the two permits will be the same (and one of the permits will be inoperable unless it carries a minimum of 100 units of pink snapper ITQ entitlement).

As Mike's goldband snapper catch history did not meet the access criteria for the outer-shelf zone, but he gained access to the inner-shelf zone, his goldband snapper catches can be taken into account in determining Mike's allocation of entitlement for the inner-shelf zone.

#### So, what will Mike's allocation be for the inner-shelf zone?

Mike has 240 units of pink snapper ITQ entitlement (being the same amount as he held on his SBSMFL).

His inner-shelf zone ITE entitlement to take his pink snapper ITQ is determined by dividing his holding of pink snapper ITQ units by the total number of pink snapper ITQ units, multiplied by the number of units of ITE for the purpose of taking pink snapper (21,96).

i.e.:  $(240 / 5,120) \times 2,196$  units  $\Rightarrow 103$  inner shelf zone ITE units for the purposes of taking his pink snapper ITQ

The capacity of the fishery (in fishing days at September to December values) for the take of pink snapper (and using a 338t TAC scenario) is 2,196 days and therefore the value of an ITE unit is 1.0 days.

In terms of fishing days, Mike would have a useable entitlement of 103 inner shelf zone ITE units x 1.0 days per unit  $\Rightarrow$  103 days (at September to December usage rates).

Mike also gets additional entitlement to take demersal scalefish species, although for the purposes of calculating his additional entitlement his reported total catch of demersal scalefish species is discounted by 15% of the weight of his pink snapper catch in each year. This 15% discount reflects the estimate of his "conjunctional non-snapper catch" (i.e. the demersal scalefish species that he took while fishing for pink snapper – and

which are incorporated in the ITE units he has been granted on the basis of holding 240 units of pink snapper entitlement).

## In considering Mike's potential allocation of inner-shelf zone ITE entitlement based on his demersal scalefish catch the following process is undertaken:

Year	Demersal Scalefish Catch	Pink Snapper Catch	Goldband Snapper Catch	Total wetline catch*	15% of Pink snapper catch	Total demersal scalefish for entitlement
1991/92	4,305	23,800			3,570	735
1992/93	3,800	20,840			3,126	674
1993/94	6,110	23,100			3,465	2,645
1994/95	12,110	21,250			3,188	8,922
1995/96	8,850	17,600			2,640	6,210
1996/97	7,680	18,700			2,805	4,875
1997/98	2,550	19,260			2,889	-339
1998/99	4,200	17,800			2,670	1,530
1999/00	3,900	16,900			2,535	1,365
2000/01	12,680	16,450	1,254	13,934	2,468	11,466
2001/02	12,754	16,490	2,316	15,070	2,474	12,596
2002/03	10,820	16,490	2,400	13,220	2,74	10,746

<sup>\*</sup> includes goldband not taken into account for the purposes of access to the outershelf zone

Mike's best three years pre- and post-benchmark are the same as before. To determine Mike's inner-shelf entitlement for the purpose of taking demersal scalefish the average of his adjusted demersal scalefish catch for his three best years is determined as a percentage of the total of the averages of the demersal scalefish catches (and using the adjusted values where demersal scalefish have been reported in conjunction with snapper).

<sup>^</sup> After adjustment for the conjunctional non-snapper catch. Note that any negative values will be treated as zero

To determine Mike's inner-shelf ITE entitlement:

	Zone	A.		В.	C.	D.
		Total of the	he	Mike's	Mike's adjusted	Mike's weighted
		Average	•	average	catch as a	adjusted
		catches o	of	adjusted	percentage of the	percentage
		the Fisher	ry	catch	total of the	allocation
					average catches	
						Based on 0.6
Pre-	Pro-				weighting	
Benchmark	Inner-	133,142 kg	g	6,669	5.01% (raw)	3.01%
	shelf			kg		
						Based on 0.4
Post-	<b>(-</b>				weighting	
Benchmark	Inner-	161,532 kg	g	11,602	7.18% (raw)	2.87%
	shelf			kg		
E. Mike's net percentage allocation					5.88%	
<b>F.</b> Mike's allocation of units			Total 471 units allocated		28 units	

- **A.** Total of the Average Catches of Fishery (kg) is the total of the average catches of all boats that meet the access criteria in the inner-shelf zone in the pre-benchmark or post-benchmark period (and using adjusted figures to calculate the averages where demersal scalefish species have been reported in conjunction with pink snapper).
- **B.** *Mike's Average Adjusted Catch (kg)* refers to the average of Mike's best three annual catches in the inner-shelf zone in both the pre-benchmark and post-benchmark periods (including goldband but adjusted for conjunctional non-snapper catch).
- **C.** *Mike's Catch as a Percentage of Total of the Average* Catches is the percentage that Mike's catch is of the Total Average Catch of the Fishery (kg) for both the pre and post-benchmark periods. Calculated = (B / A) multiplied by 100
- **D.** *Mike's Weighted Adjusted Percentage Allocation is* Mike's percentage of the Total of the Average Catches of the Fishery for both the pre and post-benchmark periods weighted at 60:40 for the pre and post-benchmark periods respectively.

Calculated pre-benchmark = C multiplied by 0.6. post-benchmark = C multiplied by 0.4.

- **E.** *Mike's Net Percentage Allocation* is Mike's percentage of the total ITE units available for the purpose of taking demersal scalefish not in conjunction with pink snapper and is the sum of the weighted adjusted Calculation = weighted per cent (pre) + weighted per cent (post).
- **F.** Mike's allocation of units is the total number of units available for the purpose of taking demersal scalefish not in conjunction with pink snapper is his net percentage

allocation multiplied by the number of units available to be allocated. Calculation = 5.88 per cent x  $471 \Rightarrow 28$  units

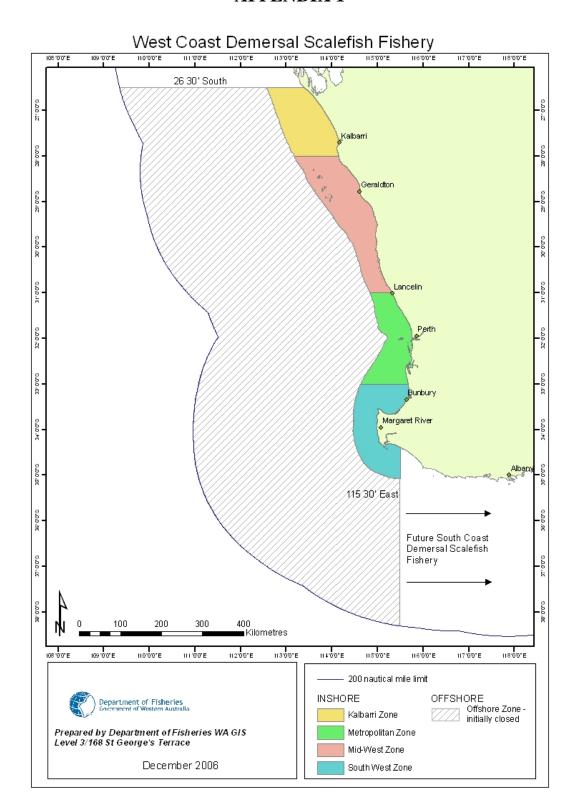
#### Notes:

- 1. At the initial allocation, ITE units will be recognised as being "for the purpose of taking pink snapper" and "for the purpose of taking demersal scalefish not in conjunction with pink snapper". However, following the initial grant, ITE units will not be characterised as "pink snapper" or "demersal scalefish" units and will simply be ITE units for the purpose of operating in the fishery.
- 2. Fishers granted access to the inner-shelf zone will only be able to take pink snapper and exercise their ITE units in the inner shelf zone. Fishers granted access to the inner and outer shelf zones will be able to take pink snapper in either zone and to exercise their ITE units in either zone (and subject to the varying seasonal usage rates where they exercise ITE units in the inner-shelf zone).
- 3. The value of ITE units (and pink snapper ITQ units) may change over time as the capacity of the fishery is varied.

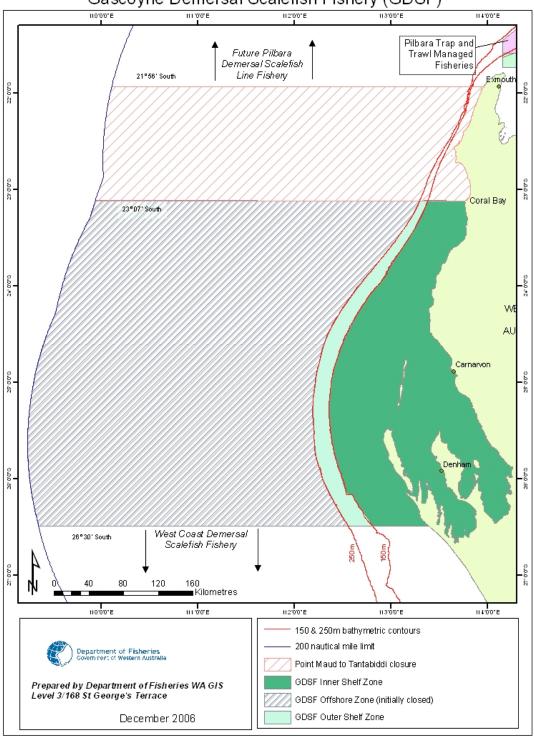
Mike's total allocation in the Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Fishery will be:

- 240 units pink snapper ITQ (= to 15,480 kg at a 66kg unit value)
- 103 + 28 = 131 ITE units ( = to 131 days at September to December values)

## **APPENDIX 1**



APPENDIX 2
Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Fishery (GDSF)



#### List of Fisheries Management Papers

Not all have been listed here. A complete list is available online at http://www.fish.wa.gov.au

- 140 Aquaculture Plan for the Recherche Archipelago, Western Australia. (June 2000)
- 141 Fish Protection Measures in Western Australia (June 2001)
- 142 Fisheries Environmental Management Plan for the Gascoyne Region (June 2002)
- 143 Western Rock Lobster. Discussion paper for seasons 2001/2002 and 2002/2003 (July 2000)
- 144 The Translocation of Brown Trout (Salmo trutta) and Rainbow Trout (Oncorhynchus mykiss) into and within Western Australia. Prepared by Jaqueline Chappell, contributions from Simon Hambleton, Dr Howard Gill, Dr David Morgan and Dr Noel Morrissy (not published, superseded by MP 156)
- 145 The Aquaculture of non-endemic species in Western Australia - Silver Perch (Bidyanus bidyanus). As amended October 2000. Tina Thorne. This replaces Fisheries Management Paper No. 107.
- 146 Sustainable Tourism Plan for the Houtman Abrolhos Islands (February 2001)
- 147 Draft Bycatch Action Plan for the Shark Bay Prawn Managed Fishery (Full Report) (April 2002)
- 148 Draft Bycatch Action Plan for the Shark Bay Prawn Managed Fishery (Summary Report) (April 2002)
- 149 Final Plan of Management for the Lancelin Island Lagoon Fish Habitat Protection Area (March 2001)
- 150 Draft Plan of Management for the Cottesloe Reef Proposed Fish Habitat Protection Area (April 2001)
- 151 Inventory of the Land Conservation Values of the Houtman Abrolhos Islands (July 2003)
- 152 Guidelines for the Establishment of Fish Habitat Protection Areas (June 2001)
- 153 A Five-Year Management Strategy for Recreational Fishing on the West Coast of Western Australia. Final Report of the West Coast Recreational Fishing Working Group (August 2001).
- 154 A Five-Year Management Strategy for Recreational Fishing in the Gascoyne. Final Report of the Gascoyne Recreational Fishing Working Group (September 2001)
- 155 Plan of Management for the Cottesloe Reef Fish Habitat Protection Area (September 2001)
- 156 The Translocation of Brown Trout (Salmo Trutta) and Rainbow Trout (Oncorhynchus mykiss) into and within Western Australia (June 2002)
- 157 Policy for the Implementation of Ecologically Sustainable Development for Fisheries and Aquaculture within Western Australia. By W.J. Fletcher (May 2002)
- 158 Draft Plan of Management for the Miaboolya Beach Fish Habitat Protection Area (March 2002)
- 159 The Translocation of Barramundi (Lates calcarifer) for Aquaculture and Recreational Fishery Enhancement in Western Australia. By Tina Thorne.
- 160 The Introduction and Aquaculture of Non-endemic Species in Western Australia: the 'Rotund' Yabby Cherax rotundus and the All-male Hybrid Yabby. A Discussion Paper. (June 2002)
- 161 Plan of Management for the Miaboolya Beach Fish Habitat Protection Area (September 2002)
- 162 Reseeding of grazing gastropods and bivalves into the marine environment in Western Australia – a discussion paper. By Jane Borg.
- 163 Review of recreational take of coral in Western Australia – a discussion paper October 2002.
- 164 Report of the Mackerel Independent Advisory Panel to the Executive Director, Department of Fisheries, on criteria for access to, and management arrangements for, the proposed Mackerel Fishery (Interim) Management Plan (November 2002)
- 165 Report to the Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries by the Integrated Fisheries Management Review Committee (November 2002)
- 166 Fisheries Statutory Management Authority Inquiry A background paper (February 2003)
- 167 Draft Fisheries Environmental Management Plan for the Northern Region (in press)
- 168 Aboriginal Fishing Strategy: Report to the Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries by the Hon E. M. Franklyn QC, Chairman of the Aboriginal Fishing Strategy Working Group (May 2003)
- 169 Hardy Inlet discussion paper (February 2004)
- 170 Management of the proposed Geographe Bay Blue

- Swimmer and Sand Crab Managed Fishery. By Jane Borg and Cathy Campbell (August 2003)
- 171 Draft Aquaculture Plan for Shark Bay (April 2004)
- 172 Draft Aquaculture Plan for Exmouth Gulf (April 2004)
- 173 Draft Plan of Management for the proposed Point Quobba Fish Habitat Protection Area (August 2003)
- 174 Translocation of Golden Perch, Murray Cod and Australian Bass into and within Western Australia for the Purposes of Recreational Stocking, Domestic Stocking and Commercial and Noncommercial Aquaculture (December 2003)
- 175 Fish Stock and Fishery Enhancement in Western Australia - a discussion paper. By Jane Borg (February 2004)
- 176 Fish Stock and Fishery Enhancement in Western Australia - a summary report. By Jane Borg (February 2004)
- 177 Fisheries Environmental Management Plan for the Gascoyne Region (In press)
- 178 Draft Plan of Management for the Kalbarri Blue Holes Fish Habitat Protection Area (March 2004)
- 179 A Draft Policy for the Translocation of Brown Trout (Salmo trutta) and Rainbow Trout (Oncorhynchus mykiss) into and within Western Australia for the Purposes of Recreational Stocking, Domestic Stocking and Commercial and Non-Commercial Aquaculture (August 2004)
- 180 The Sustainable Management of Western Australia's Temperate Shark Fisheries (July 2004).
- 181 A Quality Future for Recreational Fishing in the Pilbara/Kimberley. Proposals for Community Discussion. A five-year strategy for managing the recreational component of the catch, prepared by the Pilbara/Kimberley Recreational Fishing Working Group (July 2004)
- 182 A Quality Future for Recreational Fishing in the Southern Region of WA. Proposals for Community Discussion. A five-year strategy for managing the recreational component of the catch, prepared by the Southern Recreational Fishing Working Group (July 2004)
- 183 Final Report of the Fisheries Statutory Management Authority Advisory Committee. Published by the Department of Fisheries (in press)
- 184 South West Beach Seine Management Discussion Paper
- 185 Plan of Management for the Point Quobba Fish Habitat Protection Area (July 2004)
- 186 Management of the West Coast Rock Lobster Fishery - Advice to Stakeholders on Resource Sustainability Matters. (in press)
- 187 Proposals for community discussion on the future management of pink snapper fishing in Cockburn Sound and surrounding waters. (October 2004).
- 188 Plan of Management for the Kalbarri Blue Holes Fish Habitat Protection (in press).
- 189 Proposed Management Arrangements for the Gascoyne Commercial 'Welline' Fishery. A Discussion Paper Prepared By The West Coast And Gascoyne Wetline Review Management Planning Panel (January 2005).
- 190 Management Arrangements for the West Coast Commercial 'Wetline' Fishery. A Discussion Paper Prepared By The West Coast And Gascopne Management Planning Panel (January 2005).
- 191 Access And Allocation Arrangements For The Commercial 'Wetline' Fisheries, Proposals For Discussion. A Report To The Minister For Fisheries Prepared By The Commercial Access Panel (January 2005).
- 192 Integrated Fisheries Management Report Western Rock Lobster Resource (February 2005).
- 192A A Sustainable Future for Recreational Fishing in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands. Proposals for Community Discussion on a Five-Year Strategy for Managing the Recreational and Subsistence Catch (March 2005).
- 193 A Five-Year Management Strategy for the Pilbara/ Kimberley Region of Western Australia (June 2005).
- 194 A Five-Year Management Strategy for the South Coast Region of Western Australia (June 2005)
- 195 Nature and Extent of Rights to Fish in Western Australia (June 2005).
- 196 The Aquaculture of Live Rock, Live Sand, Coral and Associated Products (in press).

- 197 Proposed Implementation of Sea Lion Exclusion Devices in the Western Rock Lobster Fishery (June 2005). Internet publication.
- 198 A Quality Future for the Recreational Marron Fishery – Proposals for Community Discussion. A Draft Five-Year Strategy to Ensure the Long Term Sustainability of the Marron Fishery. Produced by the RFAC Recreational Freshwater Fisheries Stakeholder Sub-Committee (August 2005).
- 199 Management of the Proposed South Coast Trawl Fishery (August 2005).
- 200 Integrated Fisheries Management Draft Allocation Report for the Western Rock Lobster Resource (October 2005).
- 201 The Minister for Fisheries' Decisions in Response to the Final Report of the Pilbara/Kimberley Recreational Fishing Working Group (Fisheries Management Paper No. 193) (August 2005).
- 202 The Minister for Fisheries' Decisions in Response to the Final Report of the South Coast Recreational Fishing Working Group (Fisheries Management Paper No. 194) (August 2005).
- 203 Western Rock Lobster Fishery. Ecological Risk Assessment 2005 Report (July 2005). Internet publication.
- 204 Integrated Fisheries Management Report. Abalone Resource (September 2005).
- 205 Management Arrangements for the Gascoyne Commercial 'Wetline' Fishery. Prepared By The West Coast And Gascoyne Wetline Review Management Planning Panel (January 2006).
- 206 Management Arrangements for the West Coast Commercial 'Wetline' Fishery. Prepared By The West Coast And Gascoyne Management Planning Panel (January 2006).
- 207 Access And Allocation Arrangements For The Commercial 'Wetline' Fisheries. A Report To The Minister For Fisheries Prepared By The Commercial Access Panel (January 2006).
- 208 Review of the Fish Resources Management Act 1994. A discussion paper (May 2006)
- 209 Assessment of Western Rock Lobster Strategic Management Options. An Overview of Bio-Economic, Sociological and Comparative Analyses (Volume 1 of 4) (January 2006).
- 210 Assessment of Western Rock Lobster Strategic Management Options. A Bio-Economic Evaluation of Management Options for the West Coast Rock Lobster Fishery (Volume 2 of 4) (January 2006).
- 211 Assessment of Western Rock Lobster Strategic Management Options. A Social Assessment of Coastal Communities Hosting the Western Rock Lobster Fishing Fleet (Volume 3 of 4) (January 2004).
- 212 Assessment of Western Rock Lobster Strategic Management Options. How do Quota Management Systems Work in Rock Lobster Fisheries? (Volume 4 of 4) (January 2006).
- 213 A Draft Five-Year Strategy to Ensure the Long Term Sustainability of the Marron Fishery. Produced by the RFAC Recreational Freshwater Fisheries Stakeholder Sub-Committee (June 2006).
- 214 Integrated Fisheries Management Draft Allocation Report for Roe's Abalone – Perth Metropolitan Area (August 2006).
- 215 The Granting, Renewal and Regulation of Aquaculture Leases in Western Australia. A discussion paper (May 2006).
- 216 Proposed Fees and Charges for Section 97 Aquaculture Leases. A discussion paper (May 2006).
- 217 The Minister for Fisheries' Decisions in Response to the Final Report of the RFAC Recreational Freshwater Fisheries Stakeholder Sub-Committee on the Recreational Marron Fishery (Fisheries Management Paper No. 213) (June 2006).
- 218 Integrated Fisheries Management Allocation Report for the Western Rock Lobster Resource (July 2006).
- 219 Matters Relevant to a Sustainable Western Rock Lobster Pueruli Allocation Model – a Scoping Paper (October 2006).
- 220 Management of the Houtman Abrolhos System. A Review 2007 – 2017 (in press).
- 221 Outcomes of the Wetline Review. The Minister for Fisheries' proposed decisions for the future management of the West Coast and Gascoyne commercial 'wetline' fisheries.