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ADVICE FROM THE IAP

It has been brought to the attention of the Independent Allocation Panel (IAP) that a letter from the Department of Primary Industry (dated 27/2/18) has been circulated to eligible shareholders for species under consideration by the IAP process. The letter seeks fishing business owners to review catch data records and advise of discrepancies to remove any data entry errors in the DPI records.

As advised in the DPI letter the IAP **may or may not use catch and effort information reported to the Department.**

The IAP wishes to confirm that the process to check catch data records has been initiated by the DPI and as such, any questions relating to this letter should be directed to the Department. The IAP would like to stress that it is still in the process of consulting with eligible stakeholders and considering the many written submissions it has received as part of this process.

The **IAP has made no recommendations at this stage** in relation to the Terms of Reference (ToR) for any of the fisheries under review as part of this process.

As previously advised, the IAP will issue a 'draft report' that will be circulated to eligible shareholders for their consideration by mid-April 2018 (a little later for the Southern Fish Trawl fishery). A copy of this communication can be found at www.grantthornton.com.au/IAP.

CATCH & EFFORT REPORTING

Your Logbooks are a legal document – that is why you are required to sign these documents when you submit them. The checking process that the DPI is currently doing is to ensure that there was no input error made when DPI entered your data into their systems or coding error. **Please ensure that you check your logbook records to the records DPI have sent out.**

Keeping accurate records of your activities is **essential** – it helps ensure that you are correctly recognized for your activities...whether it is disputing seismic surveys, marine parks or quota allocations.

DPI will NOT accept arguments that a person has falsified their logbooks, even if there is proof...that would have to be taken into the legal arena to justify.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT & EXTENSION STRATEGIC PLANNING

My sincere thanks to all those who attended the Research, Development & Extension (RD&E) Strategic Planning Workshop this last week. It was 2 very full days that mentally challenged us to identify what challenges & opportunities we will face and what research could be that will help us.

The Strategic Plan will be used as a basis for setting priorities in research funding over the next five years. The plan will align with other sectoral plans (aquaculture, DPI, aquaculture) to guide investment by the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation (FRDC) into research for the fisheries and aquaculture.

Revenue for fisheries research, undertaken by the FRDC, is based on a co-funding model between the Commonwealth Government, public good funding and the commercial fishing and aquaculture sectors. I will spend the next week putting the Draft Strategic Plan together to be sent out to greater fishing industry for comment shortly thereafter. A copy will be made available through our website.

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AMSA FISHING INDUSTRY ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Australian Maritime Safety Authority's (AMSA) Fishing Industry Advisory Council is meeting next week in Canberra. I am a member of the council, so I encourage all PFA members to contact me if you have any concerns or issues we wish for me to raise at the meeting. The Agenda for the meeting includes discussions on the:

- The National Levy Bill
- National System transition
- Review of exemption 38 provision
- Float Free EPIRBS
- NSAMS Changes for M503
- Accredited Surveyors/impacts of national system on remote jurisdictions.

Marine Safety (Periodic survey, equipment certification and compass adjustment)

Exemption 2017 (Exemption 06) has also been amended to allow for an application for an extension of time for periodic survey, load line inspection and equipment certification to be made in the 90 days before or after the due date of the survey or inspection and/or the date of the expiry of the equipment certificate of currency.

Marine Safety (Temporary Operations) Exemption 2016 (Exemption 07) to improve the operational agility of the exemption in the following ways:

- allowing for accredited marine surveyors (AMS) or other persons permitted under MO503 to conduct surveys to approve temporary operations for sea trials, and after periodic and renewal surveys, including where minor non-conformances that do not jeopardise safety have been identified and are being rectified;
- providing for a limited extension of time to finalise the out of water component of a renewal survey after the certificate has expired and all other components of the renewal survey have been completed; and
- broadening the circumstances where the National Regulator may approve operation without certificates.

Both [Exemption 06](#) and [Exemption 07](#) commence on 1 April 2018 and are available on the AMSA website.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE AUSTRALIAN FISH NAMES STANDARD

The [FRDC Fish Names Committee](#) is seeking comment from all stakeholders on 20 applications to amend the [Australian Fish Names Standard](#). Public consultation is a key part of the fish names procedures. The [Fish Names Committee](#) places great importance on the feedback received from stakeholders when making a final decision on these applications. **The closing date for feedback is 14 March 2018.**

The [Fish Names Committee](#) uses a [web based procedure](#) to allow for respondents to provide feedback. Click on the [following link](#) and the data will be submitted on completion.

<https://goo.gl/forms/qkvKMqNqBKWLRzP12>

In summary, the applications are:

Group 1 Champagne Crab species

- Application 275 to add the SFN Champagne Crab for the species *Hypothalassia acerba*
- Application 276 to add the SFN Eastern Champagne Crab for the species *Hypothalassia armata*

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Group 2 Mud Crab species

- Application 256 to add the SFN Olive Mud Crab (or Brown Mud Crab) for *Scylla olivacea* (Herbst, 1796)
- Application 257 to add the SFN Serrated Mud Crab (or Giant Mud Crab) for *Scylla serrata* (Forsskal, 1775)
- Application 288 to add the SFN Keeled Mud Crab for *Scylla paramamosain* Estampador, 1949

Group 3 Sea Cucumber species

- Application 278 to add the SFN Blackspotted Sea Cucumber for the species *Pearsonothuria graeffei* (Semper, 1868)
- Application 279 to add the SFN Snakefish (Sea Cucumber) for the species *Holothuria coluber* Semper, 1868
- Application 280 to add the SFN Brownspotted Sea Cucumber for the species *Holothuria impatiens* (Forsk., 1775)
- Application 277 to add the SFN Deepwater Blackfish (Sea Cucumber) for the species *Actinopyga palauensis* Panning 1944
- Application 281 to add the SFN Selenka's Sea Cucumber for the species *Stichopus horrens* Selenka, 1868
- Application 282 to add the SFN Brown-mottled Sea Cucumber for the species *Australostichopus mollis* (Hutton, 1872)
- Application 283 to add the SFN Vastus Curryfish (Sea Cucumber) for the species *Stichopus vastus* Sluiter, 1887
- Application 284 to add the SFN Ocellated Sea Cucumber for the species *Stichopus ocellatus* Massin, Zulfigar, Tan Shau Hwai & Rizal Boss, 2002
- Application 285 to amend the SFN to Leopardfish (Sea Cucumber) from Tigerfish (Sea Cucumber) for the species *Bohadschia argus* (Jaeger, 1833)
- Application 286 to amend the SFN to Chalkfish (Sea Cucumber) from Brown Sandfish (Sea Cucumber) for the species *Bohadschia marmorata* (Jaeger, 1833)
- Application 287 to amend the SFN to Brown Sandfish (Sea Cucumber) from Chalkfish (Sea Cucumber) for the species *Bohadschia vitiensis* (Semper, 1868)

Group 4 Turban Shells and Periwinkles species

- Application 290 to add the SFN TURBAN SHELLS for Turbinidae spp
- Application 289 to add the SFN Wavy Periwinkle for the species *Lunella undulata* (Lightfoot, 1786)
- Application 292 Add the SFN Turban Sea Snail for the species *Lunella torquata* (Gmelin, 1791)

Group 5 Arctic Molva (finfish) species

- Application 291 Add the SFN Arctic Molva for the species *Molva molva* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Further information on each of the proposed amendments is available by clicking on the appropriate link within the form. Please forward this email to all other interested parties For further information or enquiries, contact the FNC Project Manager Alan Snow on -0418 199 516 or at fnc@frdc.com.au

LAST CHANCE – MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!!!

PFA BOARD NOMINATION FOR REGION 4A (WALLIS)

We have two director positions available for PFA Committee of Management (COM) to represent Region 4a (north) which includes Wallis Lake region. A minimum of **2 PFA nominations** must be received for the person to be eligible to run. If there are more than 2 nominees for the region an election process will be held (e.g. postal ballot). Nominees must come from the specific region. Please contact the PFA Office for a copy of the nomination form. Nominations must be received by the PFA office by **Friday 16th March**

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2018. Forms can be emailed to admin@pfai.com.au or posted to 69 Marina Drive, Coffs Harbour NSW 2450.

NEXT PFA COM MEETING

The next PFA Committee of Management (CoM) meeting is scheduled for Friday 23rd March at the Sydney Fish Market. Presentations will be given by DPI Fisheries, AMSA and OceanWatch Australia. PFA members are encouraged and invited to attend the meeting and discussions from 11am onwards. Lunch will be provided.

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MESSAGE FROM THE DPI FISHERIES

NSW COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

Key Dates

2 April Submissions close: public consultation paper on transitioning the NSW Southern Fish Trawl Restricted Fishery to Commonwealth management

6 April Closing date for requests to correct log sheet data entry errors made by NSW DPI (IAP share classes)

Transitioning the NSW Southern Fish Trawl Fishery to Commonwealth management

Last week a public consultation paper was released on a proposed package for transitioning the NSW Southern Fish Trawl Fishery to Commonwealth management (see <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/sft-consultation>).

Submissions can be made via email to sft.comment@dpi.nsw.gov.au. Submissions must be received by close of business **Monday 2 April 2018**.

Opportunity to review fishing activity records for species being considered by IAP

DPI has written to relevant shareholders about an opportunity to review and if necessary, request correction of any fishing activity records held by DPI for species being considered by the Independent Allocation Panel.

Corrections will only be made where a DPI employee has incorrectly entered the information supplied on a NSW DPI Daily Catch and Effort Record log sheet, and this record was supplied by 1 August 2016.

Summaries of fishing activity reported to DPI have been provided to fishing business owners. Full details of these records of fishing activity are available in FisherDirect. To login or register as a user go to: <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/commfish/fisherdirect>

The closing date for any requests to correct records is **Friday 6 April 2018**.

Independent Allocation Panel (IAP)

The IAP will be consulting interested Southern Fish Trawl fishing business owners during March 2018.

For more information on the IAP process and how to participate, please visit the Grant Thornton website at www.grantthornton.com.au/IAP

FishOnline helpline - 1300 720 662

User guides and video demonstrations are available on the DPI website:

FisherDirect - <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/commfish/fisherdirect>

FisherMobile - <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/commfish/fishermobile>

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Business Adjustment Program hotline - 1300 726 488

Ongoing assistance - please visit www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/commfish/assistance

The content of this update is provided for information purposes only. The information on these updates are provided on the basis that all persons accessing the information undertake their own responsibility for assessing the relevance and accuracy of it.