

Gulf of Carpentaria Line Fishery 2011

Progress against SEWPaC conditions and recommendations



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Progress in implementing Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (SEWPaC) conditions and recommendations for the Gulf of Carpentaria Line (Spanish mackerel and other fin fish) Fishery.

SEWPaC made a range of conditions and recommendations to Fisheries Queensland, part of the Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation during its third assessment of the Gulf of Carpentaria Line (Spanish mackerel and other fin fish) Fishery (GOCLF), in order to address perceived risks or uncertainties. The 2010 assessment report along with documentation relating to the previous two assessments for the GOCLF can be found at <http://www.environment.gov.au/coasts/fisheries/qld/line/index.html>

Details of the progress Fisheries Queensland has made in relation to the current conditions and recommendations (as of October 2011) are outlined in this document.

Condition 1:

Operation of the fishery will be carried out in accordance with the GOCLF management regime in force under the Queensland *Fisheries Act 1995* and the Queensland *Fisheries Regulation 2008*.

Progress: Ongoing

Operation of the fishery in 2010 was carried out in accordance with the GOCLF management regime in force under the Queensland *Fisheries Act 1994* and the Queensland Fisheries Regulation 2008.

Condition 2:

Fisheries Queensland to inform SEWPaC of any intended changes to management arrangements that may affect the assessment of the fishery against the criteria on which *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) decisions are based.

Progress: Ongoing

No changes to management arrangements were made in 2010–11 that negatively impacted on resource sustainability.

Condition 3:

Fisheries Queensland to produce and present reports to SEWPaC annually as per Appendix B to the *Guidelines for the Ecologically Sustainable Management of Fisheries—2nd Edition*.

Progress: Ongoing

The 2010 Annual Status Report for the GOCLF was published in October 2011. Copies of this and previous reports can be found at http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au/28_19512.htm

Recommendation 1:

In reviewing the PMS for the GOCLF, Fisheries Queensland to give consideration to:

- a) development of an improved PMS measure for Spanish mackerel sustainability; and
- b) incorporation of timeframes for response to review events.

Fisheries Queensland to continue to monitor the status of the fishery in relation to the performance measures and report annually against those measures, including any management actions implemented in response to performance triggers and the rationale for any nil management response.

Progress: In progress

The development of new sustainability reference points for Spanish mackerel in the GOCLF PMS is dependent on the availability of annual age estimates and the development of an estimate of total mortality. These are expected to be available in 2012.

