

TROPICAL ROCK LOBSTER RESOURCE ASSESSMENT GROUP (TRL RAG)	MEETING No. 10 23-24 August 2011
Update on each jurisdiction Torres Strait (AFMA)	Agenda Item 2.1: FOR NOTING

PURPOSE

To inform the TRL RAG of:

1. Provisional catch records for the TRL Fishery in Torres Strait to date for 2011;
2. Summarised catch records from 2010.

DISCUSSION

The Total Allowable Catch (TAC)* for 2011 recommended by the TRL RAG based on a Preliminary TAC was 803t (median TAC) for the whole Torres Strait Protected Zone (TRLRAG 9).

Australia would be entitled to 542t of this TAC under current agreed shares of the resource.

Recorded catch in Australian waters reported in docketbooks and logbooks to date are:

Sector	Catch (t)	Sector TAC [†]	%sector TAC	% Live
TIB	97t [‡]	290t	33%	~24% (cf 36% 2020)
TVH	298t [§]	252t	118%	~55% (cf 76% 2010)
Australia	386	542	71%	

PNG vessels cross-endorsed to fish for lobster in Australian waters fished a total of 343 dory days of their allocated days fishing 18 August 2011. PNG were allocated 968 days (dory days) of fishing in Australian waters in 2011 at the 2010 Fisheries Bilateral meeting.

The recorded catch from these trips is around 19t (whole weight).

A summary of 2010 catch records for Australian Fishers are provided in the separate information sheet (Attachment 2.1) provided to TRL RAG members.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

* Note that a TAC is not implemented for the Torres Strait Tropical Rock Lobster Fishery at this time.

[†] Sector TAC presented here is for whole of the Protected Zone.

[‡] Catch records up to mid June 2011 only. Records from docket books are voluntary and these figures are therefore preliminary. Tails converted to whole weights using conversion factor 2.677.

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