



Queensland
Government



Dear TS Licence holder

Making of new Fisheries Management Instruments for the Torres Strait Fisheries

I am writing to advise you that the Protected Zone Joint Authority (PZJA) has adopted a number of Fisheries Management Instruments (FMIs) and the Fisheries Logbook Instrument outlined below.

Torres Strait Fisheries Logbook Instrument No. 1 – Torres Strait Prawn, Tropical Rock Lobster and Finfish Fisheries

The new logbook instrument has been made to replace the expired notices (8, 11, 12, 13 and 16) and include provisions for electronic logbooks in the Torres Strait Prawn, Tropical Rock Lobster and Finfish (Spanish Mackerel and Reef Line) Fisheries.

Fisheries Management Instrument No. 6 – Prohibitions on Taking, Processing and Carrying of Coral and Live Rock – Coral Fishery

FMI No. 6 introduces regulations to avoid the potential for unregulated and unsustainable coral collecting activities in the future by prohibiting the take of coral and live rock in the Torres Strait Protected Zone.

Fisheries Management Instrument No. 7 – Prohibition on Taking, Processing and Carrying of Pearl Shell (Gear and Size Restrictions) - Torres Strait Pearl Shell Fishery

FMI No. 7 revokes FMN No. 69 and is a modified version of that notice to include the genus *Pteria*. The same restrictions that currently apply to the genus *Pinctada* will now apply to the genus *Pteria* including limited entry into the fishery and gear restriction to diving or hand collection.

Fisheries Management Instrument No. 8 – Prohibition Relating to Taking, Processing And Carrying of Finfish (Gear, Size and Area Restrictions and Take and Carry Limit) - Finfish Fishery

FMI No. 8 revokes FMN No. 78 and is a modified version of that notice to introduce a mesh size restriction for traditional fishing, remove restrictions on the retention of live fish and introduce a maximum legal size limit for leopard/square tail coral trout.

Fisheries Management Instrument No. 9 – Prohibition Relating to the Taking, Processing and Carrying of Tropical Rock Lobster (Gear And Size Restrictions) - Torres Strait Tropical Rock Lobster Fishery

FMI No. 9 revokes FMN No. 80 to correct an administrative error that prohibits Papua New Guinean (PNG) endorsed vessels access to the Torres Strait Tropical Rock Lobster Fishery and to ensure consistency in management arrangements for both Torres Strait communities and Papua New Guinean fishers.

The four Fisheries Management Instruments provide for regulation of catches of previously unregulated species and ensure consistency in management arrangements with fisheries for both Torres Strait communities and Papua New Guinean fishers.

Fisheries Management Instruments No. 6, 7, 8 and 9 and Torres Strait Fisheries Logbook Instrument No. 1 are **now in effect**.

The FMI's and Fisheries Logbook Instrument can be obtained from the PZJA website (www.pzja.gov.au). For further information about the new FMIs and Logbook Instrument, please contact Sarah Kirkcaldie, Senior Management Officer, Torres Strait Fisheries, AFMA, on 02 6225 5304 or at sarah.kirkcaldie@afma.gov.au.

Yours Sincerely,

Melissa Brown

Senior Manager Northern Fisheries