

TABLE OF CONTENTS

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE	III
TERMS OF REFERENCE	IV
CONDUCT OF THE INQUIRY.....	V
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	VII
ABBREVIATIONS	IX
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.....	XI
LIST OF RECOMMENDATIONS	XIII
CHAPTER ONE.....	1
BACKGROUND TO THE NORTHERN PRAWN FISHERY	1
Introduction	1
The Fishery	1
Historical Management of the Fishery	5
The Gear SFR Management Proposal	8
CHAPTER TWO.....	15
THE EXTENT OF OVERFISHING IN THE NORTHERN PRAWN FISHERY....	15
Introduction	15
Overfishing	15
Effort Creep	19
Effort Reduction	20

CHAPTER THREE	23
GEAR STATUTORY FISHING RIGHT MANAGEMENT.....	23
Introduction	23
Gear SFR Management and Swept Area Performance	23
Further Gear Restrictions	27
Alternatives to Gear SFR Management.....	28
CHAPTER FOUR	35
EQUITY OF THE TRANSLATION ARRANGEMENTS.....	35
Introduction	35
Small Operators	35
Structural Impact of the Amendment Management Plan	38
Current Uncertainty in the Industry.....	43
CHAPTER FIVE.....	45
CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.....	45
Committee Findings	46
ADDITIONAL COMMENTS.....	51
APPENDIX 1: LIST OF SUBMISSIONS.....	53
APPENDIX 2: LIST OF WITNESSES.....	57
APPENDIX 3: CURRENT MEMBERSHIP OF NORMAC	59

ABBREVIATIONS

AAP	Allocation Advisory Panel
AFC	Australian Fisheries Council
AFMA	Australian Fisheries Management Authority
CPUE	Catch per unit of effort
CREDC	Cairns Region Economic Development Corporation
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
NFCA	Northern Fishing Companies Association
NORMAC	Northern Prawn Fishery Management Advisory Committee
NORPAC	Northern Prawn Management Advisory Committee
NPF	Northern Prawn Fishery
NPFAG	Northern Prawn Fisheries Assessment Group
NPF (Qld) TA	Northern Prawn Fishery (Qld) Trawl Association
NTTOA	Northern Territory Trawl Owners Association
SFR	Statutory Fishing Right
WANTOA	Western Australian Trawl Owners Association