

LIST OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation 1

The Committee recommends that the Northern Prawn Fishery Amendment Management Plan 1999 be adopted without further amendment.

Recommendation 2

The Committee recommends that AFMA monitor the impact of the amendment management plan on shore based activity as well as off-shore activities, noting that if the impact is sufficiently severe, it may be necessary for the Commonwealth to provide strategic adjustment assistance.

Recommendation 3

The Committee recommends that the proposal for an industry-funded research vessel for the CSIRO be adopted to assist in further research into the level of overfishing and effort creep in the northern prawn fishery.

Recommendation 4

The Committee recommends that AFMA/NORMAC consider including factors that remove effort in the fishery in the calculation of effort creep.

Recommendation 5

The Committee recommends that further research be undertaken by CSIRO, in conjunction with the DJ Sterling Trawl Gear Services and the Australian Maritime College, into the prawn trawling performance prediction model developed by Mr Sterling, and its implications for gear SFR management.

Recommendation 6

The Committee recommends that an industry poll be conducted, possibly by AFMA, to ascertain the level of support for a continuation of the 1993 levy to raise funds for voluntary buy-outs.

Recommendation 7

The Committee also recommends that AFMA investigate the use of time units as an alternative to season closures.

Recommendation 8

The Committee recommends the endorsement of the proposed one-to-one translation from Class A SFRs to gear SFRs as the only legally defensible means of translation.

Recommendation 9

1.1 The Committee recommends that, during the next two years, AFMA:

- a) Undertake thorough research to calculate the ability of the Northern Prawn Fishery Amendment Management Plan to deliver the long term sustainability of the fishery;
- b) Undertake an assessment of the proposed effort units management proposal to ascertain the ability of the proposal to deliver sustainable management of the fishery; and
- c) Commission research to ascertain the future economic impact of the Northern Prawn Fishery Amendment Management Plan on the operators in the fishery.