

**Harvest Strategy Working group**  
**West Coast Demersal Scalefish Resource**  
**Meeting No.3 – 6 October 2020**

The third meeting of the Harvest Strategy Working Group (HSWG) was held at Hillarys on Tuesday, 6 October 2020. HSWG members from each sector proposed economic and social objectives for inclusion in the draft harvest strategy and the HSWG reviewed the current draft document.

When considering the economic and social objectives for each fishing sector, HSWG members from each sector proposed operational objectives and performance indicators that reflect their aspirations within the constraints of ecological sustainability and catch share allocations. The commercial sector proposed operational objectives aimed at maximising fisher efficiency and profit and maximising the flow of commercial fishing related economic benefit to the broader community. The recreational (including charter) sector focused on improving fishing experiences with proposed operational objectives aimed at:

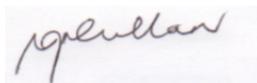
- improving cultural, recreational and lifestyle benefits for recreational fishing participants;
- providing flexible opportunities to ensure charter operators can maintain or enhance their livelihood and
- maximising the flow of recreational (including charter) fishing tourism related economic benefit to the broader community.

DPIRD drafted a harvest strategy consistent with the outcomes of previous HSWG meetings and circulated the draft to HSWG members for their consideration ahead of this meeting. The HSWG considered a range of changes to the draft harvest strategy including refinements to the spawning biomass reference points for indicator species, additional consideration for catch share allocations and providing flexibility in the event of any future reallocation.

The HSWG has agreed to deal with any outstanding issues out of session however, if not completely resolved, the HSWG will reconvene for another meeting prior to the release of the draft harvest strategy for public consultation. If outstanding issues are addressed out of session, the next meeting will be scheduled following the public consultation process. This will allow the HSWG to review the outcomes of this process and adopt any changes to the draft harvest strategy.

DPIRD offered to provide briefings to fishers to support the public consultation process where requested by peak sector representative bodies.

Once supported by the HSWG, the final harvest strategy will be provided to the Minister for Fisheries for consideration and approval.



Michael McMullan  
HSWG Chair