



WESTERN ROCK LOBSTER FISHERY STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

ANNUAL STAKEHOLDER MEETING

Tuesday 17 November 2015

BACKGROUND

In 2000 Western Australia's Western Rock Lobster Fishery became the first fishery in the world to receive Marine Stewardship Council certification and hence independent recognition as a sustainable and well managed fishery. In early 2015 the fishery celebrated a historic 15 years of continuous certification and will commence its 3rd recertification process in early 2016.¹

As part of the process of ensuring that the Western Rock Lobster Fishery is achieving world's best practice with regard to stakeholder engagement, the Department of Fisheries (<http://www.fish.wa.gov.au/>) and the Western Rock Lobster Council (<http://wrlc.com.au/>) are jointly convening a stakeholder consultation meeting. The meeting will consist of a briefing covering:

- the current status of western rock lobster stocks, e.g. exploitation rates, catch and fishing effort as well as breeding stock and recruitment levels,
- the fishery's harvest strategy, potential catch levels and quota setting process,
- ecological impacts of the fishery, e.g. interaction with habitat, communities and protected species, such as sea lions and whales, and
- management/governance issues, including the fishery's stakeholder consultation processes.

At the end of the briefing there will be an opportunity for participants to raise any additional issues for discussion.

Meeting

Location: Fisheries and Marine Research Laboratories (First floor)
39 Northside Drive, Hillarys, Western Australia

Time: 08.45 for a 09.00 start. Close 12.45

Date: Tuesday 17 November 2015

Agenda: Please see below

RSVP: Sarah Winslade-Mullane (Ph: 08 9482 7246,
Sarah.WinsladeMullane@fish.wa.gov.au) by 10 November 2015.

¹ Recertification is due to be completed by 11 March 2017

For further information please follow the links below.

A description of the Western Rock Lobster Fishery, including history, catch, fishing effort and recruitment (puerulus settlement) levels

<http://www.fish.wa.gov.au/Species/Rock-Lobster/Pages/default.aspx>

The Marine Stewardship Council's Certification of the Western Rock Lobster Fishery

<https://www.msc.org/track-a-fishery/fisheries-in-the-program/certified/south-atlantic-indian-ocean/western-australia-rock-lobster>

Australia's Western Rock Lobster Fishery a finalist for UN Environmental Day Awards

https://www.msc.org/newsroom/news/australias-western-rock-lobster-council-finalist-for-un-world-environment-day-awards?fromsearch=1&isnewssearch=1&b_start:int=10

The western rock lobster fishery's assessment under the Commonwealth Department of Sustainability and Environment's *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). <http://www.environment.gov.au/topics/marine/fisheries/wa/rock-lobster>

The EPBC Act requires the Australian Government to assess the environmental performance of all Australia's export fisheries and those managed by the Commonwealth Government.

AGENDA

Questions will be taken during and at the end of each presentation.

Western Rock Lobster Fishery Stakeholders Consultation Meeting Tuesday 17 November 2015		
Time	Topic	Presenter
09.00 to 09.10	Welcome Purpose of meeting	Chairperson – Nathan Harrison Department of Fisheries (DoF) John McMath, CEO Western Rock Lobster Council
09.10 to 09.25	Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) The MSC and its consultation process	Matt Watson MSC representative in WA
09.25 to 10.25 10.25 to 10.40	Western Rock Lobster Fishery: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stock status,• Environmental considerations• Interaction with protected species	Department of Fisheries Research Scientists
10.40 to 11.00	Morning tea.	
11.00 to 11.30	Management of the fishery <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Over-arching legislation and controls used to manage the fishery.• Harvest Strategy/Quota setting• Current issues	Jo Kennedy DoF
11.30 to 11.45	Recfishwest	Dr Andrew Rowland
11.45 to 12.30	Open discussion	Chairperson
12.30 to 12.45	Discussion regarding most effective form of stakeholder consultation.	Chairperson / Jo Kennedy / John McMath
12.45	Close	Chairperson