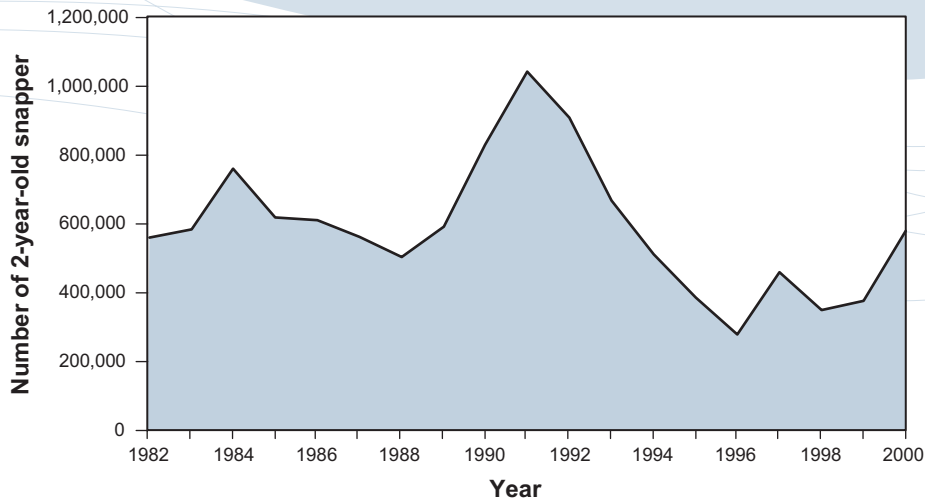


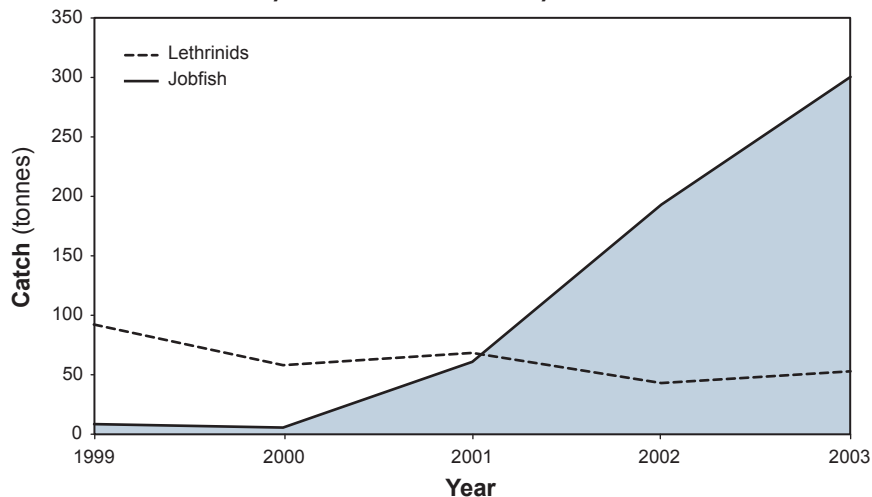
### Shark Bay Snapper 2-year-olds



SHARK BAY SNAPPER FIGURE 3

Estimates of numbers of juvenile snapper (i.e. 2-year-olds) in the Shark Bay oceanic stock, from cohort analysis of commercially caught fish approximately 5 years and older: (Note cohorts for years 2001 onwards have not yet reached the fishery.)

### Gascoyne Demersal Fishery Annual Catch



SHARK BAY SNAPPER FIGURE 4

The increasing catches of deep-water snappers ('jobfish', mainly goldband snapper) and continuing low catches of emperors (lethrinids) taken between 23° S and 26° S by both the SBSF and the wetline fishery in the Gascoyne region, illustrating the shift of focus from the inner to the outer shelf.

## Wetline Fishing

The CAES database indicates that around 14% of the state's wetline catch was reported from the Gascoyne coast bioregion during 2002/03. The top 12 species comprised goldband snapper (*Pristipomoides multidentis*) 144 t, pink snapper (*Pagrus auratus*) caught outside of the Shark Bay Snapper Managed Fishery 44 t, rosy jobfish (*Pristipomoides filamentosus*) 36 t, Spanish mackerel (*Scomberomorus commerson*) 33 t, unspecified tuna (Scombridae) 22 t, sea mullet (*Mugil cephalus*) 12 t, grey-banded cod (*Epinephelus septemfasciatus*) 9 t, ruby snapper (*Etelis carbunculus*) 9 t, grey mackerel (*Scomberomorus semifasciatus*) 8 t, cobia

(*Rachycentron canadus*) 7 t, red emperor (*Lutjanus sebae*) 6 t and pearl perch (*Glaucosoma scapulare*) 6 t.

An interim management plan for the troll fishery for mackerel, details of which are reported under the north coast bioregion (pp. 141-146), will commence later in 2004. Most of the other demersal species are taken by vessels targeting pink snapper in the region's oceanic managed fishery for that species (see pp. 93-97), with the deep-water species assuming far greater prominence in the 2002/03 catch. The majority of the mullet catches were reported from the area between the northern boundary of the beach seine fishery and Carnarvon.