

*Fish for the future*

## About this annual report

This annual report provides an overview of the Department and its operations for the financial year ended 30 June 2013. It has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Financial Management Act 2006*, the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and the *Public Sector Commission's Annual reporting framework – 2012/13 reporting year*.

A copy of this document is available from the Department of Fisheries website at [www.fish.wa.gov.au](http://www.fish.wa.gov.au)

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Annual reports for previous years may also be found on the website.

This annual report can also be made available in other formats to assist people with sight impairment in accordance with *The State Government Access Guidelines for Information, Services and Facilities*.

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## To the Hon Troy Buswell MLA BEc Minister for Fisheries

Sir

In accordance with section 61 of the *Financial Management Act 2006* and section 263 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* (FRMA), I submit for your information and presentation to Parliament, the Annual Report of the Department of Fisheries for the financial year ending 30 June 2013.

The Department also produces the companion *Status Reports of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources of Western Australia*, as required by section 263 of the FRMA. This annual report includes a table on stock status and catch ranges for major commercial fisheries, derived from the *Status Reports of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources of Western Australia 2012/13*.



**Stuart Smith**  
Director General

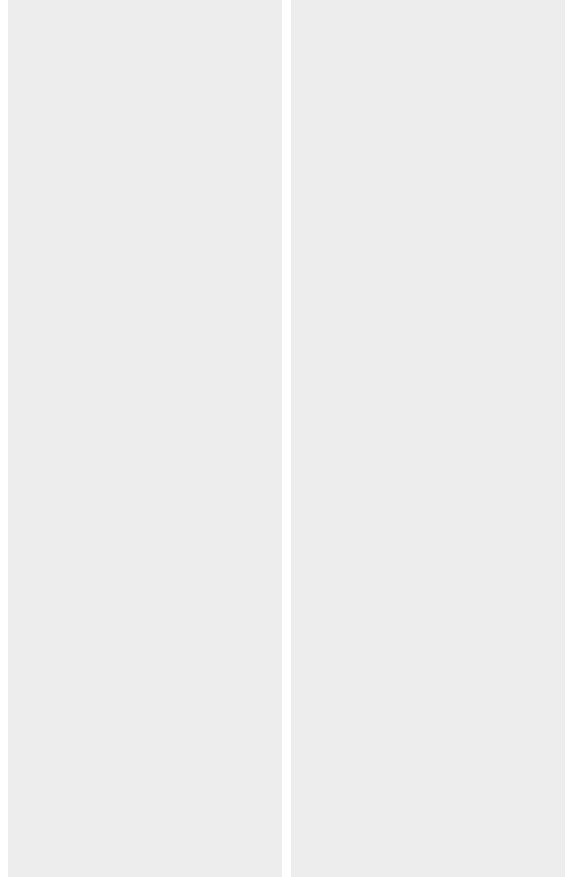
# Contents

<b>Departmental overview</b> .....	<b>1</b>	<b>Case studies</b> .....	<b>46</b>
About the Department of Fisheries .....	2	Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management (EBFM) in focus .....	47
From the Director General .....	4	Recreational fishing in focus.....	50
Our bottom line .....	7	Aquaculture in focus .....	54
Governance structure.....	9	<b>Significant issues impacting the Department</b> .....	<b>57</b>
Organisational chart .....	12	Currents and undercurrents .....	58
Legislation administered .....	13	<b>Disclosures and legal compliance</b> .....	<b>60</b>
Operations .....	15	Financial statements .....	61
Performance management framework .....	17	Key performance indicators .....	124
Performance evaluation and reporting .....	19	Other financial disclosures .....	142
<b>Departmental performance</b> .....	<b>21</b>	<b>Other legal and Government policy requirements</b> .....	<b>144</b>
Departmental services.....	22	Other legal requirements.....	145
Corporate Services .....	28	Government policy requirements.....	151
Milestones.....	30	<b>Appendices</b> .....	<b>153</b>
Outcomes .....	32	Appendix 1 – Advisory committees.....	154
Financial targets: Actual performance compared to budget targets .....	41	Appendix 2 – State Register of authorisations, exemptions and aquaculture leases.....	155
Summary of results against key performance indicator (KPI) targets .....	43	Appendix 3 – Department of Fisheries offices and addresses.....	176

## Departmental overview



Photo: Shannon Conway



[About the Department](#) | [From the Director General](#) | [Our bottom line](#) | [Governance structure](#) | [Organisational chart](#) | [Legislation administered](#) | [Operations](#) | [Performance management framework](#) | [Performance evaluation and reporting](#)

## About the Department of Fisheries

**The Department of Fisheries is responsible for the sustainable development and management of the State's aquatic resources, fisheries and aquaculture in accordance with its governing legislation.**

By agreement with the Commonwealth, the Department's fisheries management responsibilities extend seaward beyond the three nautical mile limit of the State to the 200 nautical mile limit of the Australian Fishing Zone.

To address the complex range of environmental, social and economic issues involved in the conservation and sustainable development of the State's aquatic resources, the Department uses an Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management (EBFM) approach across six management bioregions (for more information on EBFM, see Case Study 1 on page 47).

The Department provides management, licensing (where applicable), research, and compliance and education services for commercial fisheries, recreational fisheries, customary fishing, pearling and aquaculture in all State waters (including marine parks), and the fish processing and charter boat industries.

Other Departmental responsibilities include the management of the Abrolhos Islands near Geraldton, overseeing biosecurity in the State's aquatic environment and at-sea marine safety compliance services on behalf of the Department of Transport.

The Department is also responsible for providing fisheries management and education services to the communities at the Cocos (Keeling) Islands and Christmas Island, on behalf of the Commonwealth Government, under legislation that mirrors the provisions of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.

The Department licenses operators in commercial fisheries, the pearling industry, charter boat and aquatic eco-tour industries and the fish processing sector.

The Department also issues recreational fishers with licences for fishing for western rock lobster, abalone, marron, inland freshwater species and for fishing from a powered boat or with a net.

Aboriginal people, however, are not required to hold a recreational fishing licence when fishing in accordance with continuing Aboriginal tradition and custom.

### Strategic Plan

The following section is an extract from the Department's Strategic Plan.

#### Our vision

World-class management of fisheries and aquatic ecosystems.

#### Our mission

To conserve, sustainably develop and share the use of the State's aquatic resources and their ecosystems for the benefit of present and future generations.

## Our values

- **Respect** – acting with integrity and courtesy
- **Innovation** – finding new and better ways
- **Leadership** – showing the way

## Objectives

- **Sustainability** – to ensure WA's fisheries and aquatic resources are sustainable and provide services based on risk to ensure fish for the future and support the maintenance of healthy aquatic ecosystems.
- **Community outcomes** – to achieve an optimum balance between economic development and social amenity in accordance with a framework to achieve sustainability.
- **Partnerships** – to promote effective strategic alliances and community stewardship.
- **Agency management** – to deliver services on behalf of Government in accordance with the Department's statutory requirements to achieve effective and efficient use of resources that support the delivery of our strategy.

## Stakeholders

The Department regards all those who value Western Australia's extensive and diverse aquatic environments as stakeholders. Stakeholders have a role to play in ensuring fish stocks and their habitats are protected, now and into the future. The Department encourages stakeholders to participate in consultation about the

management and use of aquatic resources to ensure outcomes that are sustainable and balanced.

The Department of Fisheries identifies the following groups as its stakeholders with an interest in ensuring 'fish for the future':

- the community of Western Australia;
- commercial, recreational and customary fishers;
- the pearling and aquaculture industries;
- charter fishing and aquatic eco-tour operators;
- fish processors and others involved in the commercial use of Western Australia's aquatic resources;
- fisheries volunteers;
- environmental groups and passive users;
- businesses and communities directly and indirectly dependent upon fishing and aquaculture activities;
- the offshore oil and gas sector; and
- other state, national and international government agencies and tertiary institutions.

## From the Director General

**The Department of Fisheries has long recognised that healthy marine ecosystems are fundamentally important to sustainable fisheries production.**

Western Australia's largely pristine marine environment is testament to the foresight shown by fisheries managers over the last 130 years in protecting marine and estuarine habitats through the successive banning of destructive fishing practices such as the use of explosives, poisons and dredges.

Today, the Department continues to set rigorous standards for fisheries management and stewardship of the marine environment. It is therefore not surprising that a recent Departmental assessment found that effectively all of the State's marine ecosystems were sufficiently protected under fisheries legislation to qualify as marine protected areas using the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's benchmark criteria.

On another positive front, the Department's 2012/13 annual fisheries stock and ecosystem assessments confirm that the vast majority of Western Australia's fisheries are being managed at sustainable levels.

These are significant achievements in a world where many fisheries and environments are not given the same degree of protection.

The challenge for the Department into the future is to maintain the good status of the State's fisheries and aquatic ecosystems in the face of rapid population and industrial growth, the proliferation

of efficient and affordable fish-finding technology and the changing global environmental conditions that are affecting Western Australia's aquatic ecosystems.

The Department is already working to meet this challenge. Western Australia was one of the first jurisdictions in the world to adopt an Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management (EBFM) framework that monitors and reports on the effectiveness of its management strategies in delivering sustainable outcomes for both fish stocks and their ecosystems across WA's six bioregions. The Department's EBFM assessments are pivotal in driving the Department's future management, research and compliance priorities based on identified risk.

Government funding of \$14 million over four years is enabling the Department to work with the WA Fishing Industry Council to assess the State's commercial fisheries against the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) standard for independent sustainability certification. The MSC assessment process is considered to be the world's most rigorous and takes into account stock assessments and harvest strategies, the impacts on the wider ecology, such as habitat and non-target species, and the robustness of the fisheries management framework.

In 2000, the State's Western Rock Lobster Fishery became the first fishery in the world to receive MSC sustainability certification following, an industry-driven initiative. It is also the world's first fishery to maintain its MSC certification over three successive five-year periods. Since 2000, more than 100 fisheries

worldwide – representing 12 per cent of the landings for human consumption – have received MSC certification and the MSC program has significantly raised consumer awareness worldwide about the need to source fish from sustainably managed stocks.

The Department looks forward to more of the State's fisheries being independently assessed as sustainable by the MSC and earning the right to display the prestigious blue MSC eco-label on their products.

Although WA's marine environment remains mostly pristine with only a few known marine pests, increased vessel movements to WA from interstate and overseas bring biosecurity risks. In WA's south-west rivers, there are 14 introduced fish species compared with just 11 native fish species. It is difficult and expensive to contain an introduced or established pest population in freshwater or marine ecosystems. Early detection and eradication are the most effective means of dealing with aquatic biosecurity threats and it is pleasing to note that this year the Department's Biosecurity Program won the Premier's Award in the 'Managing the Environment' category for its innovative work.

New legislation aimed at improving the management and protection of the State's aquatic resources at the ecosystem level, with an increased capacity to detect and deal with biosecurity threats, is being prepared for introduction to Parliament during 2013. Other regulatory reforms progressed by the Department include better definition of sectoral fishing rights, simplified recreational fishing rules that now (mostly) apply Statewide, developing a framework for minimum effective regulation in consultation with industry, work on the establishment of aquaculture development zones in the marine environment and the adoption of a State Government Fisheries Policy.

The year also saw the West Coast Rock Lobster Fishery complete its transition to quota management. Early indications are that licensees are benefiting from higher prices for rock lobster and lower operating costs with the flexibility to now adjust fishing effort to meet market demand and pricing signals.

Recreational fishers are continuing to benefit from government policy requiring that all recreational fishing fees are invested in the management of recreational fishing, including important initiatives for recreational fishers through the Recreational Fishing Initiatives Fund.

Recreational fishing opportunities in the State's South West were enhanced during the year with the construction and deployment of two artificial reefs in Geographe Bay. Both of the reefs have been placed on sandy substrates that are relatively unproductive as part of a pilot project to test the effectiveness of the reinforced concrete structures in boosting fish stocks and the abundance of fish species. This is the first time that these artificial reef designs, proven to be effective nationally and internationally, have been used in WA. The Department will be closely monitoring their effectiveness in attracting and supporting fish populations and will consider deploying artificial reefs in other locations in future.

Other key recreational fishing initiatives include the release of 30,000 barramundi into Lake Kununurra and projects to restock mulloway into the ocean near Perth and western school prawns into the Swan River.

The year also saw the successful roll-out of the Department's new Navigate licensing system as a key component of the Department's Fish Eye project. When fully functional, this system will provide online and mobile services that will enable the fishing industry to transact with the Department online for the first time.



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The Navigate system replaces the Department's Fisheries Licensing and Management System (FLAMS) and will also transform the way the Department collects commercial fisheries catch monitoring data crucial to the long-term sustainability of Western Australia's aquatic resources.

Other recent service delivery reforms include the construction of new Marine Operations Centres at Denham and South Perth, new vessels, mobile patrols and additional capacity in regional locations like Kununurra.

I am confident that our investments in the areas outlined above are improving the Department's delivery of sustainable management of the State's aquatic resources ensuring there will be fish for the future.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Hon. Norman Moore for his guidance and support as Minister and wish him a long and happy retirement and to welcome to the portfolio the new Minister for Fisheries, the Hon. Troy Buswell MLA. I would also like to thank the Executive and staff of the Department for their commitment and efforts throughout the year.



**Stuart Smith**  
Director General

## Our bottom line

### Income

Consolidated account	\$48.4m
Fees – commercial	\$16.2m
Fees – recreational	\$6.3m
Grants and other income	\$6.4m

### Expenditure on services

Fisheries management	\$21.6m
Compliance and education	\$40.5m
Research and monitoring	\$25.8m
Marine safety	\$0.5m
Total cost of services	\$88.4m

### Staffing levels

Staffing levels at 30 June	449
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- ✓ Value of commercial fisheries production (including pearling and aquaculture) – **\$385m**
- ✓ Percentage of commercial fisheries managed sustainably – **97%**
- ✓ Estimated percentage of State marine waters protected under Fisheries legislation to the equivalent of International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) criteria for qualification as marine protected area – **100%**
- ✓ Estimated contribution of commercial fishing to Gross State Product (including pearling and aquaculture) – **\$820m per year**
- ✓ Estimated number of persons participating in recreational fishing in WA – **740,000**
- ✓ Estimated contribution of recreational fishing to Gross State Product – **\$570m per year**

### Major capital works completed

South Perth Ellam Street office	\$2.4m
Computer hardware and software	\$2.1m
Fish Eye development	\$5.7m
Artificial reefs project	\$1.6m
New Wave project	\$1.2m

## Fisheries management

Managed fisheries	35
Interim managed fisheries	5
Pearl oyster farm leases	102
Pearl oyster (wildstock) licences	14
Pearl divers licences	68
Aquaculture licences	409
Fish processing licences	226
Charter boat licences	242
Commercial fishing licences	2,276

## Licences for recreational fishing activities

Recreational fishing from boat	134,116
Rock lobster	35,560
Abalone	15,658
Marron	10,797
Netting	15,522
Freshwater angling	9,721

## Compliance activity

Commercial fishing compliance contacts	2,198
Commercial fishing warnings issued	206
Commercial fishing infringement notices issued	77
Commercial fishing prosecutions	101
Recreational fishing compliance contacts	44,818
Recreational fishing warnings issued	1,678
Recreational fishing infringement notices issued	1,296
Recreational fishing prosecutions	377
Marine safety checks of recreational fishing vessels	7,319*

\* Included in total recreational fishing contacts.

## Governance structure

### Corporate Executive

The Corporate Executive is responsible for establishing the Department's strategic directions reflected in its Strategic Plan and is collectively responsible for the achievement of the plan's objectives. It considers a range of information in establishing strategic priorities, including risk information derived from the Department's risk register of ecological and organisational assets, stakeholder priorities and government policy.

The Corporate Executive comprises the Director General, Deputy Director General (who is also in overall charge of Aquatic Management), Executive Director of Regional Services, Executive Director of Fisheries Research and Executive Director of Corporate Services.



**Stuart Smith, BEc, Grad. Dip. Ec.  
Director General\***

Stuart Smith joined the Department as Chief Executive Officer on 3 November 2008. He previously held senior roles at the Department of Industry and Resources, including that of Deputy Director General, State Development and Deputy Director General, Resources Group. He also acted as Director General of the Department of Industry and Resources.

Stuart brings more than 20 years of wide-ranging experience in both the State and Federal public sector to the role of Director

\* Terms of appointment: The Director General is appointed under Part 3 of the *Public Sector Management Act 1994* for five years.

General (formerly Chief Executive Officer). He holds a Bachelor of Economics from the University of Western Australia and a Graduate Diploma in Economics from the Australian National University.



**Heather Brayford BSc, MBA, GAICD  
Deputy Director General**

Heather Brayford was appointed Director, Aquatic Management in 2009 and became Deputy Director General in 2011. Her position includes responsibility for fisheries management programs, broader environmental management programs, aquaculture and the provision of legal, legislative drafting and governance services.

Heather has almost 25 years' experience in fisheries management, having held a number of senior policy and management positions in the Department. She was also Executive Director of Fisheries in the Northern Territory.



**Dr Rick Fletcher, BSc (Hons), PhD  
Executive Director, Fisheries Research**

Dr Rick Fletcher was appointed as Director, Fisheries Research in 2006. This position is responsible for the overall management and strategic direction of the Department's research group, which provides the information underpinning the Department's successful natural resource management programs.

Rick has more than 25 years' experience conducting and managing research into fisheries and aquaculture-related issues across four jurisdictions in Australia and the South Pacific, including holding the position of Director of Research of Fisheries in New South Wales. His recent research focus has been on the development of ecosystem-based management frameworks for marine and coastal systems, for which he is the leader of a number of state, national and international initiatives.



**Bruno Mezzatesta, BBus MBA FCPA  
Executive Director, Regional Services**

Bruno Mezzatesta is responsible for the Department's Regional Services Division, which includes community education and compliance, licensing and communications. Before this role,

Bruno was Director of the Department's Corporate Services Division. He has more than 25 years' experience in the public sector, including periods with the Office of the Auditor General and the Department of Treasury and Finance.



**Kieth Van Dongen Grad. Dip. Criminal Investigation,  
Grad. Cert. Forensic Archaeology  
Executive Director, Corporate Services**

Kieth Van Dongen is responsible for the Department's Corporate Services Division, which includes people services, information communication technology, records, finance, assets, procurement, internal audit and the roll-back from the Office of Shared Services. Before this role, Kieth was Regional Manager, Gascoyne

Region. He has more than 25 years' experience in the public sector, including periods with the Office of the Public Advocate, Ministry of Justice and the Northern Territory Police Service.

## Management Committee

The Department's Management Committee is responsible for setting the Department's work agenda to ensure optimum delivery against identified aquatic management priorities within a five-year plan. Its role includes taking a strategic and risk-based approach to establishing priorities; setting clear achievements and associated budgets; co-ordinating project planning, management, monitoring and reporting processes; and ensuring accountability for effective and efficient service delivery across the organisation.

The Management Committee includes the Department's four executive directors, Director of the Aquatic Management division and two external members to provide independent governance and fisheries expertise from outside of Western Australia.

## Internal Audit Committee

The Internal Audit Committee (IAC) maintains and manages the Department's internal audit function on behalf of the Director General. The committee assists the Director General to identify and quantify risks that have the potential to impede the Department in achieving its goals, and to guide the development and implementation of risk-mitigation strategies.

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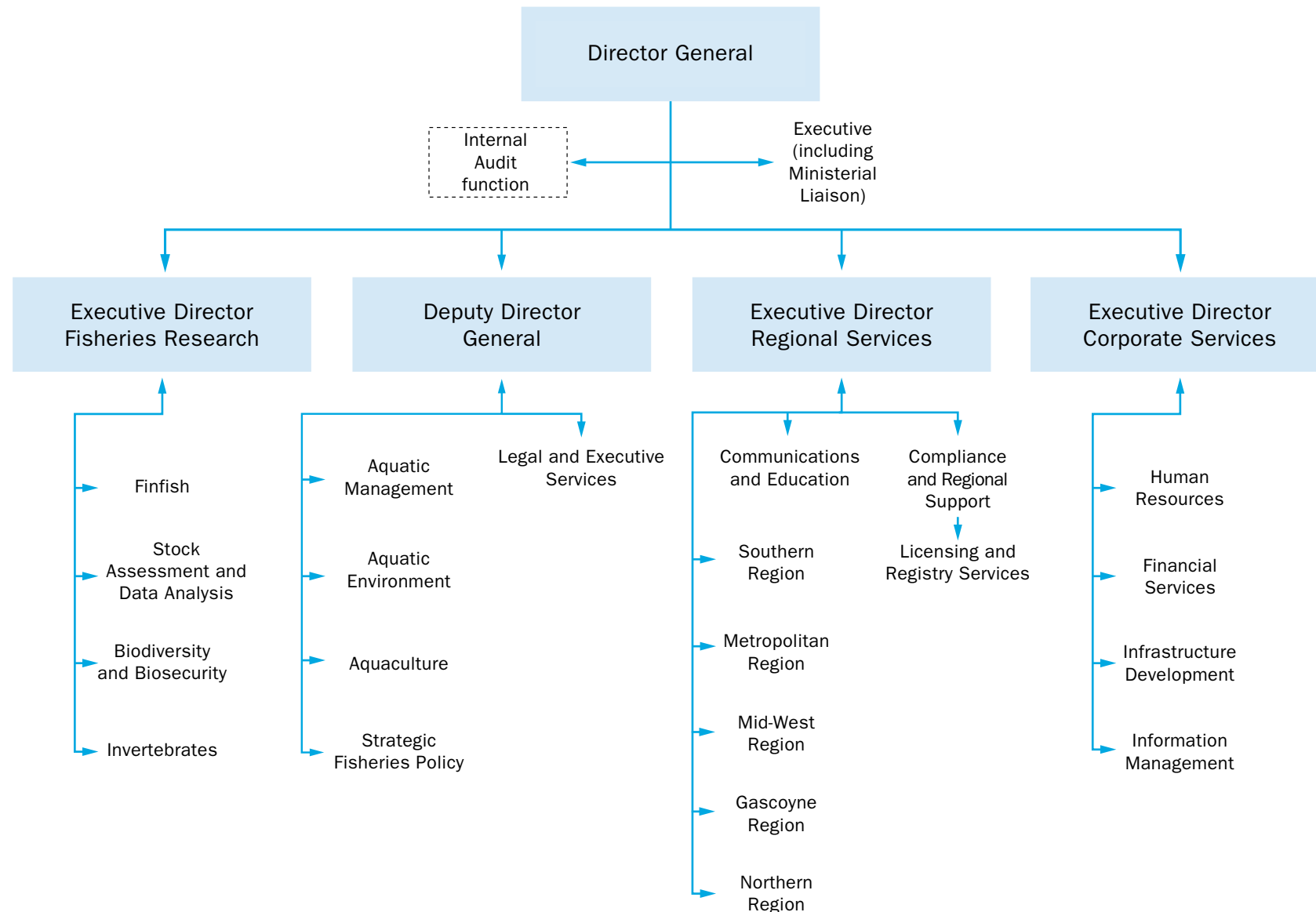
## Aquatic Advisory Committee

The Aquatic Advisory Committee provides strategic advice on issues relating to the management of fisheries and aquatic resources as requested by the Minister or the Director General.

## Public consultation

The Department is committed to consultation with stakeholders and to ensure efficient and effective decision-making processes are maintained. It supports the initiative of the State Government's *WA Citizenship Strategy 2004–2009* and uses the guidelines in the *Consulting Citizens: Planning for Success* and *Consulting Citizens: Engaging with Aboriginal Western Australians* to plan specific consultation programs.

# Organisational chart



## Legislation administered

The Department assists the Minister for Fisheries in the administration of the following acts:

- *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*;
- *Pearling Act 1990*;
- *Fisheries Adjustment Schemes Act 1987*;
- *Fishing and Related Industries Compensation (Marine Reserves) Act 1997*; and
- *Fishing Industry Promotion Training and Management Levy Act 1994*.

In accordance with the Offshore Constitutional Settlement, Western Australia's management responsibilities extend seaward beyond the three nautical mile limit of the State to the 200 nautical mile limit of the Australian Fishing Zone (AFZ).

The Offshore Constitutional Settlement also provides for some fisheries in both State waters and the AFZ to be managed either jointly by the Commonwealth and State, or solely by the Commonwealth.

### Fisheries under Western Australia State jurisdiction

Except where specifically noted, fisheries involving the following species are managed by the Department of Fisheries, in accordance with State law:

- all bony fish and sharks (except to the extent they are managed under a Joint Authority or by the Commonwealth);

- all aquatic invertebrates;
- all marine algae; and
- all seagrasses.

This means all commercial fisheries listed in the 'Stock status and catch ranges for major commercial fisheries' table detailed later in this report in the 'Outcomes' section of this report.

### Fisheries under joint Commonwealth-State jurisdiction

The following fisheries are managed by the Western Australian Fisheries Joint Authority (a body comprising the State and the Commonwealth ministers) and managed in accordance with the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*:

- the Joint Authority Southern Demersal Gillnet and Demersal Longline Fishery; and
- the Joint Authority Northern Shark Fishery, east of Koolan Island.

The activities of fisheries managed by a Joint Authority are described separately in a report tabled in the Commonwealth and Western Australian Parliaments.

### Fisheries under Commonwealth jurisdiction

Fisheries undertaken in waters adjacent to Western Australia that are managed by the Commonwealth in accordance with



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Commonwealth legislation are:

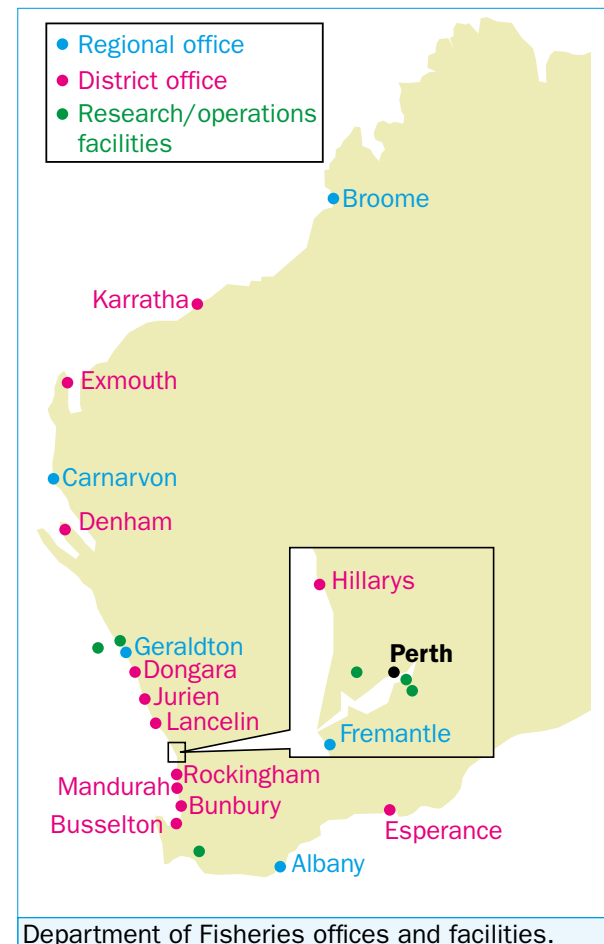
- the Northern Prawn Fishery;
- the Southern and Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery;
- the Western Deepwater Trawl Fishery;
- the North-West Slope Deepwater Trawl Fishery;
- the Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery; and
- recreational fishing in the waters of any Commonwealth marine park.

## Operations

The Department operates from its head office in the Perth central business district and in the following metropolitan and regional areas:

- The Fisheries Research Division is located at the Western Australian Fisheries and Marine Research Laboratories in Hillarys, the Pemberton Freshwater Research Centre and the Aquaculture and Native Fish Breeding Laboratory (situated at the University of Western Australia's Shenton Park Field Centre), and at the Fish Health Section in South Perth.
- The Department's Naturaliste Marine Discovery Centre is at Hillarys, as is the Department's Communications and Education Branch. The Regional Services Branch also maintains compliance operations based at this location.
- The Marine Operations Centre and the Metropolitan Regional Office operate from premises in Capo D'Orlando Drive in Fremantle.
- The Regional Services Division has five regional offices in Broome, Carnarvon, Geraldton, Fremantle and Albany, and 12 district offices located throughout the State. The Department operates the Saville Kent Centre, a field station on Rat Island, at the hub of the Abrolhos Islands. The Abrolhos Islands Research Institute is located at Separation Point in Geraldton.

- The New Fisheries Operations Centre in South Perth is the base for the Department's Biosecurity Compliance Unit, the Rock Lobster Quota Management Unit and for all Western Australian fisheries compliance.



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- The Watermans Bay Marine Centre is being refurbished as part of a collaborative project between the Australian Institute of Marine Science, CSIRO, Oceans Institute at the University of Western Australia and the Department of Fisheries. It will open in 2014 as part of the Indian Ocean Marine Research Centre. The centre will bring together more than 240 researchers carrying out projects across a broad range of marine-related subjects including oceanography, fisheries and marine ecology, technologies, engineering and law.

## Performance management framework

**The Department's services directly contribute to the Government's goal of 'Social and Environmental Responsibility: Ensuring that economic activity is managed in a socially and environmentally responsible manner for the long-term benefit of the State' and are aimed at achieving 'the conservation and sustainable development of the State's fish resources', the Government's 'desired outcome' for the Department.**

Successful outcomes for the conservation and sustainable development of the State's fish resources are achieved through management based on a continuing interchange of information between fisheries managers, researchers and fishers. In addition, robust legislation, targeted fisheries compliance and community education programs play a pivotal role in achieving these outcomes.

When these elements are working together effectively, fisheries are usually sustainable. When they are not, fish resources are often at risk. When the Department is achieving successful sustainable development outcomes, it is directly contributing to the Government goal of social and environmental responsibility.

The Department organises its services to ensure the conservation and sustainable development of the State's fish resources and to deliver its at-sea safety service agreement with the Department of Transport. The service areas are organised as follows:

**Service 1 – Fisheries management** provides management, policy development, licensing and legislation related to the State's commercial and recreational fisheries, pearling, aquaculture, fish processing, the charter boat industry, customary fishing and protection of aquatic ecosystems.

**Service 2 – Compliance and education** provides Statewide fisheries compliance and community education, in accordance with the provisions of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and the *Pearling Act 1990*.

**Service 3 – Research and monitoring** provides timely, quality scientific knowledge and advice to support the conservation and sustainable use of the State's fish resources and aquatic ecosystems.

**Service 4 – Marine safety service** provides the co-ordination of at-sea marine safety compliance on behalf of the Department of Transport.

## **Contribution to other Government goals**

During 2012/13, the Department also contributed to the achievement of the following Government goals:

### **Financial and economic responsibility**

The implementation of quota management into the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery was completed, allowing fishers to carry out their activities at those times when they expect to receive maximum prices for their product.

More efficient use of the Department's marine patrol vessels was achieved by collaborating on management, compliance and research responsibilities in the marine environment with other government agencies. These included the Department of Environment and Conservation, the Department of Transport and the Western Australian Museum.

### **Stronger focus on the regions**

The Department maintains a strong focus on the State's regional areas, where most fisheries are located. The State's fisheries make a valuable contribution to regional economies, employment, lifestyle and culture. The Department has regional offices in the Kimberley, Gascoyne, Mid-West, Peel and Great Southern regions and maintains a number of district offices from Kununurra to Esperance.

About 45 per cent of the Department's staff are located in regional areas and about 75 per cent of expenditure is allocated to activities of importance to regional communities.

The Department deployed two artificial reefs in Geographe Bay providing enhanced fishing opportunities and potentially fish production for residents and tourists to the area.

The Department implemented the findings of a Statewide review of recreational fishing rules, providing more uniform and more easily understood rules throughout regional WA.

The creation of two aquaculture development zones – one in the Kimberley and one in the Mid West – was progressed.

## Performance evaluation and reporting

The Department reports against financial targets and measures, evaluates and reports on its service delivery through key performance indicators (KPIs). The Department's KPIs provide a comprehensive high-level overview of the Department's activities and include both effectiveness and efficiency indicators.

Effectiveness indicators show the extent to which the Department achieved its goal of conserving and sustainably developing the State's aquatic resources.

Efficiency indicators reveal the relationship between the service delivered and the cost of resources used in its delivery.

Measuring the effectiveness of achieving successful outcomes for the conservation and sustainable development of aquatic resources presents some challenges to the Department and fisheries management agencies worldwide. Put simply, it is not possible to physically count the number of fish in a wildstock fishery.

The Department uses complex scientific modelling and robust reporting and monitoring systems to estimate the abundance of fish and to measure the effectiveness of management strategies in achieving the sustainability of fish stocks and the aquatic environment. The results of this work are published annually in the Department's *Status Reports of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources of Western Australia* (the Status Report).

Government Goal: SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY Ensuring that economic activity is managed in a socially and environmentally responsible manner for the long-term benefit of the State		
Government's desired outcome for the Department of Fisheries: Conservation and sustainable development of the State's fish resources		
Services	Effectiveness Indicators	Efficiency Indicators
Fisheries Management	The proportion of fish stocks identified at risk or vulnerable through exploitation	Average cost per hour of management (excluding grants and fisheries adjustments)
	The proportion of fisheries where acceptable catches (or effort levels) are achieved	
Compliance and Education	The percentage of fisheries or fished sectors where current catch shares are known and where catch share allocations are in process or in place	
	The gross value of State fisheries production	
Research and Monitoring	The participation rate in recreational fishing	Average cost per hour of research and monitoring
	Satisfaction index for persons participating in recreational fishing	
Marine Safety Service	Satisfaction index for the broader community and stakeholders as to their perceptions of the extent to which the Department of Fisheries is achieving sustainable fisheries management objectives	Average cost per hour for delivery of marine safety services

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The Status Report is a ‘snapshot’ of fisheries sustainability over the preceding 12 to 18 months. It is used by the Department, in consultation with stakeholders, to review fisheries past management results and, together with current scientific observations, informs decisions about the priorities for fisheries and environmental management, research, compliance and education in the year under review and future years.

The Status Report underpins the Department’s key performance indicators relating to its effectiveness in achieving the Government’s desired outcome for the Department.

The Status Report is tabled in Parliament with the Department’s annual report. A summary of the Status Report’s fisheries sustainability results for 2012/13 is published in this annual report – see the ‘Outcomes’ section of this annual report.

## Departmental performance



Departmental services | Corporate Services | Milestones | Outcomes | Financial targets: Actual performance compared to budget targets | Summary of results against key performance indicator (KPI) targets



## Departmental services

The Department uses a strategic and risk-based approach to the conservation and sustainable development of the State's fish resources, setting clear project budgets and co-ordinating activity across its Aquatic Management, Research, Regional Services and Corporate Services divisions to deliver the following services:

- Service 1 – Fisheries management
- Service 2 – Compliance and education
- Service 3 – Research and monitoring
- Service 4 – Marine safety service

### Service 1 – Fisheries management

The Aquatic Management Division and the Licensing and Registry Services Branch of the Regional Services Division deliver the fisheries management service.

The Aquatic Management Division works with the Research and Regional Services divisions to develop, implement and review management strategies that will ensure the sustainability of fisheries resources and aquatic ecosystems. It manages commercial, recreational and customary fishing, the pearling industry, land and marine-based aquaculture, the aquatic charter industry and the protection of marine and other aquatic environments.

The Department has introduced an integrated fisheries management and operational approach. It considers the needs of all major fishing groups in the community and the effect of other

human activities on the State's ecosystems across four marine bio-geographical regions – the North Coast, Gascoyne Coast, West Coast and South Coast.

These regions are not randomly chosen; they reflect the differing aquatic resource assemblages arising from the variation of temperatures in our coastal waters, caused by the influence of the Leeuwin Current (see map on page 47). This warm, tropical current flows south from Indonesia and down WA's coast past Cape Leeuwin and then east along the south coast into the Great Australian Bight. It is strongest during the winter months. Each region has its own environment and fish species and therefore its own set of management rules.

The Department provides the fisheries management service through the allocation of resources among the following branches:

**The Aquatic Management Branch** manages the State's wild-stock fisheries, delivered by two bioregion groups (the Northern Bioregions Group and the South-West Bioregions Group) and the West Coast Rock Lobster Group.

The two bioregion groups are responsible for the integrated management of all fishing activities within their bioregions.

The Aquatic Management Branch includes the Strategic Fisheries Policy Group, which is responsible for broader issues of policy development and implementation for wild-stock fisheries, as well as administration relating to whole-of-State fishery issues. The Integrated Fisheries Allocation Advisory Committee (IFAAC),

which provides advice to the Minister for Fisheries on fish resource allocations between commercial, recreational and customary users, is also supported by the Strategic Fisheries Policy Group.

**The Aquaculture Branch** manages and regulates Western Australia's aquaculture industry. Although small by global standards, the industry has the capacity for substantial growth.

Commercially produced species include barramundi, mussels, abalone, western rock oyster, silver perch, trout, pearl oysters, yellowtail kingfish, mulloway, marron, yabbies, ornamental species, Artemia (brine shrimp used in fish hatchery diets) and algae (used in the production of beta carotene and biofuels).

The Department's management of aquaculture activities is designed to ensure the industry is both economically and environmentally sustainable.

**The Aquatic Environment Branch** develops environmental policy frameworks and procedures to protect fish and their habitats throughout Western Australia. This includes biodiversity protection and aquatic biosecurity.

This branch also manages the development and sharing of spatial data gathered by the Department to inform its management decisions and those of other government agencies concerning the State's aquatic environment.

The Aquatic Environment Branch provides advice for environmental impact assessments and proposed exemptions. It contributes to State, Commonwealth and regional marine planning initiatives, including the declaration and ongoing management of Fish Habitat Protection Areas and the delivery of WA's aquatic

natural resource management flowing from the Commonwealth Government's 'Caring for Country' program. It is also responsible for freshwater fish protection and management.

The branch works with other State, interstate and national government departments to perform its biosecurity functions.

**The Legal and Executive Services Branch** oversees and develops the Department's legislative framework. It assists the Corporate Executive and officers of the Department by providing legal and strategic policy advice, legal interpretation and litigation, including matters coming before the State Administrative Tribunal.

The branch works closely with all areas of the Department to deliver legislative priorities and policy advice on whole-of-government issues. It also coordinates the Department's annual reporting and regulatory 'gate-keeping' requirements.

The branch collaborates with the State Law Publisher to maintain up-to-date versions of the Department's primary and subordinate legislation on its website for the benefit of stakeholders and the wider community.

**The Licensing and Registry Services Branch** provides licensing services for commercial fishing, recreational fishing, pearling and aquaculture. It manages the Department's licensing system (FLAMS and Navigate) and online renewal and payment facility. It maintains a register of authorisations, exemptions and aquaculture leases, as required under Part 12 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.

The register is available to the public on application to the Department of Fisheries Registrar (Manager, Licensing and Registry Services Branch) and the payment of fees in accordance with section 125 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.

Appendix 2 of this report provides a summary of information recorded on the register during 2011/12 including authorisations, aquaculture leases, security notations and exemptions.

## Service 2 – Compliance and education

The Regional Services Division has overall responsibility to deliver the Department's compliance and education services. The division develops and implements compliance, communications and education strategies to ensure fishing behaviour is consistent with the Department's fish for the future objective. It also provides licensing facilities at regional offices, as well as online renewal and payment.

The Department provides the compliance and education service through the following branches.

**The Regional Services Branch** delivers fisheries compliance and education in recreational and commercial fisheries, the pearling and aquaculture industries, and in Fish Habitat Protection Areas and marine parks. It also provides marine safety, compliance and education services on behalf of the Department of Transport.

A wide range of methods is used by the branch to ensure the fishing industry and members of the public comply with fisheries legislation. These include land and sea patrols, aerial surveillance, covert operations, mobile patrols and education activities. After a comprehensive risk assessment process, compliance strategies are developed and resources allocated to fisheries and associated areas of highest risk.

The branch has five regional offices – Gascoyne, Metropolitan, Mid-West, North and South – with each controlling a number of

district offices. These regional operational areas are supported by the Regional Services Branch's Perth-based Central Support Services and Strategic Policy sections.

**The Communications and Education Branch** builds the knowledge, values and attitudes to guide and reinforce community behaviour towards valuing a healthy aquatic environment. This is achieved by keeping the local community and visitors informed about developments in fisheries management, marine science and compliance. The branch also engages the wider community, fishers and volunteers in marine education, research, policy and planning.

The Communications and Education Branch has three main functions: communications, media liaison, and community education and volunteers.

Writing, editorial, design and print management services were provided to all branches of the Department during the year, maintaining a consistently high quality of presentation across all its online and print publications. These included the website, research and management reports, log books, recreational fishing guides, species identification guides, lesson plans, posters, stickers, signage, display banners, media articles and other publicity material that supports the Department's goals and operations.

## Service 3 – Research and monitoring

The Research Division delivers the Department's research and monitoring service. The primary role of the Research Division is to provide timely and high quality scientific knowledge and objective advice to support the management, conservation and sustainable

use of the State's aquatic resources. Ongoing research, monitoring and assessment programs support the management of the State's major fish stocks and the marine ecosystems that underpin these resources. These activities also contribute to the Department meeting its statutory responsibilities.

The Research Division's staff work within four expertise-based branches (Invertebrate Fisheries, Finfish Fisheries, Biodiversity and Biosecurity, and Stock Assessment and Data Analysis), with monitoring and assessment research projects frequently conducted by cross-branch, multi-disciplinary teams, increasingly in cooperation with external research partners.

The major research activities of the division are:

- providing objective expert scientific advice, assisting the Department to implement a comprehensive holistic approach to management of the State's aquatic natural resources (Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management);
- annual reporting on the status of the key fish stocks, fisheries and their associated ecosystems in the *Status Reports of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources of Western Australia*;
- research assessment documents to address Marine Stewardship Council certification requirements;
- maintaining long-term monitoring programs and databases to enable the scientific assessment of fish stocks and their associated ecosystems;
- developing new risk-based assessment and governance techniques to assist in aquatic management within an integrated, ecosystem-based framework;
- generating an understanding of the threats to biosecurity and

biodiversity specifically associated with aquaculture activities and to the marine and freshwater environments in general;

- undertaking monitoring and research activities aimed at limiting the potential introduction and impact of marine pest species;
- investigating the effects of fishing on stocks, habitats, bycatch species, protected species and the ecosystem in general; and
- undertaking research and development activities to assist with the expansion of the State's aquaculture industry.

Scientific advice and expert opinion is also provided to assist with:

- negotiating management or governance arrangements with Commonwealth agencies (such as the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Populations and Communities (SEWPaC); the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF); and the Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA);
- supporting the development of national and international fisheries management strategies;
- providing advice on risks and impacts of marine and coastal development proposals including those associated with the resources sector; and
- gaining Wildlife Trade Operation accreditation by State fisheries to obtain export approvals under the Commonwealth's *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

The Research Division is made up of four individual branches described below.

**The Invertebrate Fisheries Branch** undertakes research to assess and monitor the crustacean, mollusc and other invertebrate stocks that support the State's major fisheries, which include rock lobsters, prawns, pearl oysters, scallops, abalone and crabs.

A key focus of its research in recent years has been the development of estimates of pre-recruitment abundance to make catch predictions for all the main invertebrate fisheries. These are now used in the management settings of these fisheries and allow more robust 'decision rules' to be developed.

The branch also has the primary role of co-ordinating the assessment of climate effects on all of the State's fisheries in collaboration with the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO). It also assists the Biodiversity and Biosecurity Branch to undertake research on broader ecosystem-related issues associated with these fisheries, such as bycatch and community structure. This includes a number of collaborative projects with universities, the Western Australian Museum and CSIRO.

The Invertebrate Fisheries Branch staffs and programs the Department's major research vessel, the *RV Naturaliste*. This vessel undertakes a range of research activities aimed at developing our knowledge of the State's fisheries and marine ecosystems.

**The Finfish Fisheries Branch** undertakes research to assess and monitor the State's diverse finfish resources. The branch monitors indicator species for each of the main finfish stocks in all four of WA's marine bioregions.

Some of the species monitored include Western Australian dhufish, pink snapper and baldchin groper, which are indicator species for the health of the west coast demersal scalefish resource. Other indicator species monitored and assessed include tropical shallow-water and deep-water snappers, sharks, nearshore species such as Australian herring and estuarine species such as cobbler.

These species are harvested by commercial fishers (supplying local, national and overseas markets), the recreational fishing sector (involving around 740,000 fishers) and the managed recreational charter fishing sector. Many of these species and stocks are the focus of the Department's Integrated Fisheries Management strategy.

The branch is also involved in a significant number of collaborative research projects at local universities and other research groups (the Australian Institute of Marine Science and CSIRO), many of which include postgraduate research students. These projects provide additional information for the sustainable management of fish stocks and the ecosystems that support them.

**The Biodiversity and Biosecurity Branch** has Statewide responsibilities to provide scientific advice relating to the conservation of fish and invertebrates, and protection of the environment. This includes functions such as:

- the health of marine ecosystems including benthic habitats, finfish and invertebrates;
- biosecurity issues;
- fish pathology services;
- freshwater research (such as native fish conservation);

- production of trout and native fish species at the Pemberton Freshwater Research Centre (PFRC) and the Aquaculture and Native Fish Breeding Laboratory at the University of Western Australia's Shenton Park research facility; and
- management of the Department's marine aquarium facilities.

The work of the branch is carried out in collaboration with the Aquatic Management Division, the Department of Environment and Conservation, various universities, the Australian Institute of Marine Science, natural resource management groups, port and harbour authorities, Federal government departments (e.g. CSIRO) and Federal border protection agencies.

**The Stock Assessment and Data Analysis (SADA) Branch** provides support for the entire Research Division and the Aquatic Management Division in the fields of statistical design and analysis, population dynamics and stock assessment, data management, monitoring of fishery catch and effort, library services, and recreational fishing and community surveys.

SADA collects and maintains fisheries catch and effort data on behalf of the Department and completes basic validation and preliminary analysis. The staff contribute to the successful development and adoption of improved data systems to improve the maintenance and efficiency of the Department's extensive and long-term commercial fisheries, recreational and charter boat databases.

The branch undertakes leading-edge research into the development of fisheries stock assessment models and sustainability reporting techniques. It assists other branches to develop harvest strategies and research assessment documents for

the MSC third-party certification process. This work involves close collaboration with other branches in the Division and is primarily responsible for assessing the status of most of the target stocks in Western Australia. These assessments essentially monitor the success of the Department's fisheries management arrangements.

This branch also organises and conducts all major recreational fishing and community and stakeholder attitude surveys, the results of which are used for some of the Department's key performance indicators.

#### **Service 4 – Marine safety service**

The marine safety compliance service is delivered by Fisheries and Marine Officers within the Department's Regional Services Branch on behalf of the Department of Transport.

These services are primarily provided within the Metropolitan Region (Lancelin to Mandurah) and include both at-sea and boat ramp checks to ensure masters and those in charge of vessels are complying with the relevant marine safety legislation. Most of these services concern recreational boat users but some commercial inspections are undertaken when the situation permits.

Many of these services are now combined with a fisheries compliance service, so they are delivered more effectively and efficiently.

The Department of Fisheries works closely with the Department of Transport on policy matters, such as the introduction of a marine safety single national jurisdiction under the Commonwealth by 2013, which may affect Department of Fisheries stakeholders and its maritime operations.

## Corporate Services

**The Department's Corporate Service Division, with the Department of Treasury and Finance – Office of Shared Services (OSS), provides corporate services for the Department to deliver its Fisheries Management, Compliance and Education, Research and Monitoring and Marine Safety services.**

### Shared Corporate Services

With the Government announcement in 2012 that the OSS would be decommissioned, the Department of Fisheries began the phased return of human resources and finance functions. During this transition period the Department continued to work with the OSS to maintain service delivery levels.

### Human Resource Management Services

There was a significant investment in the development of the Department's human resource management services. The People Services Branch continued its efforts in the organisational development area with wellbeing initiatives and suicide prevention programs and strategies. The Department is recognised as a leader in the WA public sector in suicide prevention, having launched its 'Live for the Future' action plan during the year,

and becoming a gold pledge partner with OneLife, leading the WA Government Suicide Prevention Strategy.

The branch focuses on delivering programs in areas of training and development, performance management, management support and coaching, workplace planning and reporting, and appropriate workplace behaviour. The branch has started implementing the Corruption and Crime Commission's Misconduct Resistance Framework through the development and delivery of training and awareness strategies across the Department.

Since the Government announced the decommissioning of the OSS, considerable work has been put into implementing new department services, systems and processes, including payroll and financial functions. This included an agreement to transfer resources to the Department close to the end of the financial year. The payroll function will be returned to the Department in September 2013.

Detailed and comprehensive classification reviews of major professional groups were completed in Regional Services and the Research Division, changing position and employee classifications.

Negotiation of a new Department of Fisheries Agency Specific Agreement is almost complete.

## Annual staffing level

The annual staffing level for the year as at 30 June 2013 was 449 employees.

### Department of Fisheries staffing levels for 2012/13

	September 2012	December 2012	March 2013	June 2013
Actual FTE	444	460	468	449

The staffing levels outlined above are a snapshot of the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) staff paid on the last pay day in each quarter of 2012/13.

The number of FTEs has fluctuated throughout the year due to variations in the number of externally-funded positions, receipt of additional funding for new projects, and as a result of positions being vacant and/or incumbents on unpaid leave during certain reporting periods.

## Finance and Administration Branch

In 2012/13 the Finance and Administration Branch focused on preparing for the roll-back from OSS. Resources have been dedicated from Finance and Administration Branch to the Department's 'New Wave' team, which has been created to make the transition from OSS to the SmartStream financial management product as seamless as possible. The new software is planned to go live in September 2013.

The branch was involved in the successful planning and management of the refurbishment of the Karratha Regional Office and the Ellam Street facility.

## Information Services Branch

The Information Services Branch manages and delivers information services to meet internal Departmental needs. The branch has three separate areas:

- Knowledge Management – manages corporate documents and other information, including compliance with the Department's statutory obligations under the *State Records Act 2000* and *Freedom of Information Act 1992*.
- Information and Communications Services – manages information technology infrastructure (including computers, servers and network equipment), communications and data services (fixed and mobile data and mobile telephones), the corporate operating environment (including desktop and server software) and information technology helpdesk services.
- Application Development – manages and supports corporate applications including eBrief, SeaStar and the Rock Lobster Quota Management System. This section also manages new application development.



## Milestones

The following milestones contributed to the Department's conservation and sustainable development of the State's fish resources.

- ✓ **The new quota-based management plan for the West Coast Rock Lobster Fishery** came into effect on 15 January 2013. The new plan completed the transition of the fishery from input control management to output control management.
- ✓ **New, simplified recreational fishing rules** came into effect on 1 February 2013. The new rules have improved the consistency of recreational fishing rules between the various bioregions and reduced the complexity of the rules through measures such as reducing the number of bag limit categories for finfish from 13 to four and the number of recreational fishing rule guides from four to one.
- ✓ **Two artificial reefs** using purpose-designed concrete modules were deployed in the Geographe Bay area – one off Dunsborough and one off Bunbury – to enhance recreational fishing opportunities.
- ✓ **Third-party sustainability assessment of commercial fisheries in Western Australia** began with the adoption of the Marine Stewardship Council as the assessment standard and a pre-assessment of fisheries in the Gascoyne Bioregion.
- ✓ **A workshop of 80 scientists and stakeholders on the 2010/11 'marine heatwave'** was undertaken to assess the longer-term effects on the marine life in the mid- and lower west coasts of WA. A research project on the translocation of abalone from adjacent areas has demonstrated the abalone will survive.
- ✓ **The Department worked with the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) in developing management and ecosystem monitoring arrangements for the newly established Lalang-garram Camden Sound, Ngari Capes and Walpole Nornalup Inlets marine parks.**
- ✓ **Monitoring for introduced marine pests in Western Australia's three highest-risk ports** (Fremantle, Dampier and Port Hedland) was completed. Monitoring was also conducted in Geraldton Port and at Garden Island. A likelihood analysis examining the potential for marine pests to enter through WA Ports is being finalised. The Department also responded to the detection in marine and other waters of introduced species including Asian green mussel, Asian paddle crab and the pest sea squirt, *Didemnum perlucidum*.
- ✓ **The stock status of west coast nearshore finfish resources (Australian herring, tailor, whiting and garfish) have been finalised.** This completes the assessment of all indicator species of the nearshore suite in the West Coast and South Coast bioregions.
- ✓ **The shark monitoring network has been extended** through government actions on white sharks. Research and compliance staff have been trained to tag

sharks and another acoustic listening array has been deployed to complement existing arrays in the southern half of the State. A review of correlations between shark sightings and environmental conditions has been completed. The Department responded to a significant number of reported shark sightings and ran a Statewide press and radio advertising campaign to inform the community about shark hazards.

- ✓ **A scientific paper by Finfish staff was selected** by editors of the prestigious international journal, *The International Council for the Exploration of the Sea Journal of Marine Science*, as the 'editor's choice', highlighting the high standard of research and monitoring undertaken by the Finfish Branch.
- ✓ **The Marine WATERS (Western Australian Teacher Education Resources) website was expanded** with 14 new lesson plans along with a range of new supplementary content. The number of resources available on the website is now more than 200. More than 2,500 teachers and educators have registered to use Marine WATERS, and more than 250 have participated in Marine WATERS professional learning workshops Statewide.
- ✓ **The Department's Fish Eye project was progressed** with the launch of the Navigator licensing system.
- ✓ **A broad technology overhaul roll-out**, which has seen significant changes to infrastructure and services provided, especially to regional centres, is nearly complete. This includes increases in bandwidth and new network, computing and storage infrastructure.

- ✓ **Implementation of the Department's Electronic Document and Records Management System continues** with significant inroads into business practices within the Department. Changes to mail delivery processes have realised efficiencies within the Department through the electronic delivery of mail.
- ✓ **A draft of new legislation for the management of the State's aquatic resources was released** for comment. The new legislation will replace the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and the *Pearling Act 1990*.

## Outcomes




### The Government's Desired Outcome for the Department is 'the conservation and sustainable development of the State's fish resources'.










Each year the Department assesses the current sustainability and management outcomes and future directions of commercial fisheries in WA. A summary of the outcomes for each commercial fishery under management is provided below. More detailed information on the current management status and future directions of commercial fisheries, recreational fisheries and aquaculture industries is given in the *Status Reports of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources of Western Australia 2012/13*.









In the table below the blue highlight indicates those fisheries in which target species are also fished by the recreational and/or customary fishing sectors.









The term 'Adequate' is given to those 34 fisheries (highlighted below with a green stripe) where the breeding stocks are adequate, as well as to three major commercial fisheries in which breeding stocks are recovering (highlighted below with an amber stripe). Five fisheries are assessed as 'Inadequate' (highlighted below with a red stripe) where additional actions need to be taken in those fisheries or confirmation is required to ensure the breeding stocks are either adequate or are now recovering.












#### Stock status and catch ranges for major commercial fisheries

















Fishery	Stock assessment complete	Breeding stock assessment	Target catch (and effort) range in tonnes (days)	Catch (tonnes) for season reported <sup>1</sup>	Season reported <sup>1</sup>	Catch (or effort) level acceptable	Comments on performance in reported season
<b>West Coast Bioregion</b>							
West coast rock lobster		 Adequate	6,938 (quota management)	6,647	2011/13		A Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC) of 6,938 t was set for the 2011/13 extended season. The entire TACC was not landed because a number of operators, especially in the southern zone, ran out of time to take their entire quota.

Fishery	Stock assessment complete	Breeding stock assessment	Target catch (and effort) range in tonnes (days)	Catch (tonnes) for season reported <sup>1</sup>	Season reported <sup>1</sup>	Catch (or effort) level acceptable	Comments on performance in reported season
Roe's abalone		 Adequate	92.8 (quota management) (530 – 640 days)	67.0 (372 days)	2012		Catch was less than the quota due to significant reductions in commercial effort (days fished) in all regions except Area 2 driven by economic reasons (low value of catch) and concern over potential negative effects on growth in the Perth metro fishery, resulting from the 2011 'marine heatwave'.
Octopus		 Adequate	50 – 250	208	2012		Fishery in development phase. Target range to be reviewed following completion of current study.
Abrolhos Islands and mid-west trawl		 Inadequate	95 – 1,830	0	2012	N/A	The fishery was not opened due to annual survey indicating low scallop abundance resulting from low recruitment due to the extreme environmental conditions of early 2011. The low recruitment has resulted in a very low spawning stock despite no fishing activity.
Cockburn Sound crab		 Adequate	N/A	46	2011/12	N/A	The catch was relatively low due to a large number of sub-legal sized crabs not moulting during summer, potentially due to density-dependent growth or resource competition.

Fishery	Stock assessment complete	Breeding stock assessment	Target catch (and effort) range in tonnes (days)	Catch (tonnes) for season reported <sup>1</sup>	Season reported <sup>1</sup>	Catch (or effort) level acceptable	Comments on performance in reported season
Estuarine finfish (west coast)		 N/A	75 – 220 (Peel-Harvey only)	99 (Peel-Harvey only)	2012		Catches of west coast estuarine finfish have been stable since 2000.
West coast beach bait		 Adequate	60 – 275 (whitebait only)	83 (whitebait only)	2011/12		Annual whitebait catch fluctuates in response to environmental variations.
West coast purse seine		 Adequate	0 – 3,000 (quota management)	219 t (scaly mackerel and pilchard combined)	2012		Continued low catches compared to pre-2005 due to low fishing effort levels. 2012 catch was highest since 2006.
West coast demersal scalefish		 Recovering	< 450 (demersal suite)	407	2012		While the total catch of the demersal suite by all relevant commercial fisheries (West Coast Demersal Scalefish (Interim) Managed Fishery; SouthWest Trawl Managed Fishery; Cockburn Sound Line and Pot Fishery; West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery; Demersal Gillnet and Demersal Longline Fishery) was within acceptable levels, the combined recreational and commercial catch of pink snapper in the mid-west and Kalbarri areas was too high and the combined catch of baldchin groper in Abrolhos Islands also exceeded acceptable levels.














Fishery	Stock assessment complete	Breeding stock assessment	Target catch (and effort) range in tonnes (days)	Catch (tonnes) for season reported <sup>1</sup>	Season reported <sup>1</sup>	Catch (or effort) level acceptable	Comments on performance in reported season
<b>Gascoyne Coast Bioregion</b>							
Shark Bay prawn		 Adequate	1,501 – 2,330	1,592	2012		King and tiger prawn catches were both within their historical target ranges however this range is being reviewed. Both species were within the predicted catch range.
Exmouth Gulf prawn		 Adequate	771 – 1,276	288	2012		The total catch was well below the target range as a result of poor recruitment due to environmental conditions. King prawns were below the target catch range but within the catch prediction.
Shark Bay scallop		 Inadequate	1,250 – 3,000	0	2012	N/A	The fishery was not opened due to very low stock abundance resulting from the low recruitment due to the extreme environmental conditions (marine heatwave and floods) in late 2010/early 2011 in Shark Bay. The two years of low recruitment also means that the spawning stock in 2013 will be well below average despite no fishing.

Fishery	Stock assessment complete	Breeding stock assessment	Target catch (and effort) range in tonnes (days)	Catch (tonnes) for season reported <sup>1</sup>	Season reported <sup>1</sup>	Catch (or effort) level acceptable	Comments on performance in reported season
Shark Bay crabs		 Inadequate	Under development	113 (59 trap, 54 trawl)	2011/12	N/A	The catch comes from a dedicated trap fishery and prawn trawlers. The marine heatwave and floods over the 2010/11 summer have negatively impacted on the crab stock available for the 2012 season. Due to low stock levels, a voluntary closure began in April 2012 for both the trawl and trap sectors.
Shark Bay beach seine and mesh net		 Adequate	235 – 335	188	2012		Catch declined to below target range due to large reduction in effort and associated decline in sea mullet catch; catches of other target species were maintained at 2011 levels. Catch rates of species other than sea mullet moderately increased.
Deep sea crab		 Adequate	154 (quota management) (50,000 – 80,000 potlifts)	139.5 (138.7 crystal crab) (54,301 potlifts)	2012		The catch is within the target catch range, with the standardised catch rate of legal crabs at the highest level in a decade, with effort within its target range. Nominal effort estimate at the lower end of the target range.
Gascoyne demersal scalefish (pink snapper)		 Adequate	277 (quota management) (380 – 540 days)	235 (362 days) plus 40 recreational catch	2012		Spawning biomass is above the threshold level and, at the current TACC, is projected to reach the target level by 2014-15. Catch rate is well above the threshold level.

Fishery	Stock assessment complete	Breeding stock assessment	Target catch (and effort) range in tonnes (days)	Catch (tonnes) for season reported <sup>1</sup>	Season reported <sup>1</sup>	Catch (or effort) level acceptable	Comments on performance in reported season
<b>North Coast Bioregion</b>							
Onslow prawn		 Adequate	60 – 180	0	2012	N/A	No fishing occurred in 2012.
Nickol Bay prawn		 Adequate	90 – 300	129	2012		Catch of banana prawns were slightly lower than the projected catch range but within the target catch range.
Broome prawn		 Adequate	55 – 260	12	2012	N/A	The very low level of effort continued because of the cost of fishing, high fuel prices and long distances to steam, and low returns.
Kimberley prawn		 Adequate	240 – 500	329	2012		The banana prawn catches were slightly above the catch prediction but within the target range.
Kimberley gillnet and barramundi		 Adequate	32 – 45 (barramundi)	40	2012		The catch of barramundi was within the acceptable range. The acceptable catch ranges need to be reviewed.
Northern demersal scalefish		 Adequate	Total 600 – 1,000 (goldband < 488) (red emperor < 149)	Total 1,107 (goldband 487) (red emperor 134)	2012		Total catch was above the upper limit across the fishery due to an increase in catch in Zone B. Catches of goldband snapper and red emperor were both within the acceptable catch range. Full assessments and review of catch ranges are scheduled over the next two years.



Fishery	Stock assessment complete	Breeding stock assessment	Target catch (and effort) range in tonnes (days)	Catch (tonnes) for season reported <sup>1</sup>	Season reported <sup>1</sup>	Catch (or effort) level acceptable	Comments on performance in reported season
Pilbara fish trawl		Adequate	2,000 – 2,800	1,272	2012	Under revision	Reduced catch due to reductions in effort since 2009. Full assessment and review of catch range scheduled over the next two years.
Pilbara demersal trap and line		Adequate	400 – 600 (trap) 50 – 115 (line)	416 (trap) 86 (line)	2012		Both the trap and line catch were within acceptable ranges.
Northern shark		Sandbar shark: Recovering Blacktip shark: Acceptable	< 20 (sandbar)	0	2011/12	N/A	No fishing effort continued for this year. Sandbar sharks are now considered to be recovering. The black tip assessment is based on NT analysis.
Pearl oyster		Adequate	754,800 oysters (quota management) (14,071 – 20,551 dive hours)	685,888 oysters (15,589 dive hours)	2012		Quota this year also included 150,000 large mother-of-pearl (MOP) oysters fished under a research and development permit to explore the potential for an MOP fishery.
Beche-de-mer		Adequate	Sandfish 20 – 100 Redfish 40 – 150	Sandfish 13 Redfish 0	2012		Sandfish catch below historical range due to low effort (413 hours fished compared to historical average of 2,200). There was no fishing for redfish in 2012.

Fishery	Stock assessment complete	Breeding stock assessment	Target catch (and effort) range in tonnes (days)	Catch (tonnes) for season reported <sup>1</sup>	Season reported <sup>1</sup>	Catch (or effort) level acceptable	Comments on performance in reported season
<b>South Coast Bioregion</b>							
South coast crustacean		NA	50 – 80 (southern rock lobster)	51.2 southern rock lobster (21.7 deep sea crab)	2011/12		The management arrangements, including the acceptable catch range, will be reviewed.
Abalone (greenlip/brownlip)		 Adequate	209 (Quota management) (907 – 1,339 days)	202 (1,438 days)	2012		Effort range slightly exceeded due to operational developments in the fishery such as use of two divers per day on some vessels and new divers with lower catching efficiency. Effort ranges will be reviewed in 2013.
South coast estuaries		 Adequate	200 – 500	186 (finfish) 14 (crab)	2012		Stock levels of key species are considered adequate.
WA salmon		 Adequate	1,200 – 2,800	117	2012		Recent catches continue to be low relative to historic levels due to low effort from limited market demand. A review of the target catch range needs to be undertaken.
Australian herring		 Inadequate	475 – 1,200 (south coast only)	85 (south coast only)	2012	Under revision	Formal stock assessment completed in late 2012. Historically low commercial catch reflects poor recent recruitment and low stock abundance. The acceptable catch range is under revision.

Fishery	Stock assessment complete	Breeding stock assessment	Target catch (and effort) range in tonnes (days)	Catch (tonnes) for season reported <sup>1</sup>	Season reported <sup>1</sup>	Catch (or effort) level acceptable	Comments on performance in reported season
Albany/ King George Sound purse seine		Adequate	2,683 (quota management)	1,641	2011/12		Higher catch in 2011/12 due to increased effort.
Bremer Bay purse seine		Adequate	1,500 (quota management)	Less than three licences operated	2011/12		Catch levels similar to previous years and acceptable given effort levels.
Esperance purse seine		Adequate	1,500 (quota management)	Three licences operated	2011/12		Catch levels lower than in previous years but acceptable given effort levels.
Southern and west coast demersal gillnet and longline		Gummy and whiskery sharks: Adequate. Dusky and sandbar sharks are likely to now be recovering	725 – 1,095 (key species only)	720 (key species only)	2011/12		Total catch was slightly below its target range, as were catches of whiskery sharks. Whiskery catches have been maintained below their historical target range due to reductions in effort and the intended effects of the seasonal closure.
<b>Northern Inland Bioregion</b>							
Lake Argyle catfish		Adequate	90 – 155	119	2012		Catch is within the acceptable range.

1 – Catch figures supplied for latest year/season available. NA – Not assessed.

## Financial targets: Actual performance compared to budget targets

The following table provides a comparison of our financial performance against financial targets and outcomes included in the 2012/13 State Budget Papers and reflected in the Resource Agreement between the Minister for Fisheries, the Treasurer and the Director General of the Department of Fisheries.

	2012/13 Target \$'000	2012/13 Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000	
Total cost of services (expense limit) (details from Statement of Comprehensive Income)	80,137	88,357	8,220	Note 1
Net cost of services (details from Statement of Comprehensive Income)	46,071	58,481	12,410	Note 2
Total equity (details from Statement of Financial Position)	90,009	76,984	-13,025	Note 3
Net increase/ (decrease) in cash held (details from Statement of Cash Flows)	-20	-3,832	-3,812	Note 4

	Approved	Actual	Variance	
Approved full-time equivalent (FTE) staff level	407	449	42	Note 5

### Notes

These notes should be read in conjunction with the Explanatory Statement to the Financial Statements on page 77.

#### Note 1: Total cost of services

The variation is mainly attributable to additional services the Department has had to undertake to meet its obligations in recent years not included in the 'total cost of services target'.

#### Note 2: Net cost of services

The variance in the net cost of services results from the increased actual costs referred to in Note 1 above and the impact of reduced revenue from external sources. Commercial fishing licence revenue was lower than the 2012/13 Budget due to amendments to fishery management plans and access fee deferrals, however, the Department expects this revenue to increase in 2013/14.

#### Note 3: Total equity

The net operating deficit for the financial year has reduced total equity, accounting for most of the \$13.03 million decrease from the equity target.

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**Note 4: Net decrease in cash held**

The large variation in net decrease in cash held is attributable to spending on capital items carried over from 2011/12. The cash reduction is offset by an increase in non-current assets recorded in the Statement of Financial Position.

**Note 5: Approved full time equivalent (FTE)**

The Department has had approved FTE growth for which funding was approved as part of previous years' budget submissions, but this growth was not correctly factored into the 2012/13 FTE ceiling (target) established as part of the 2012/13 budget process. The Department has sought a variation to its FTE ceiling to match this with the number of actual FTEs, subject to the Department's budget position.

## Summary of results against key performance indicator (KPI) targets

The following tables summarise the Department's service delivery outcomes as derived from the Department's audited KPIs. The tables show the results for 2012/13 compared to the targets contained in the 2012/13 Budget Papers. Explanations are provided where the variance between actual and target is greater than 10 per cent. Trends over time are also shown.

Detailed commentary is provided in the audited key performance indicators section (page 123) for each of the effectiveness indicators (as a measure of performance against the Government's desired outcome) and on the efficiency indicators (which are based on the Department's four service areas).

**Government goal:** Social and environmental responsibility: Ensuring that economic activity is managed in a socially and environmentally responsible manner for the long-term benefit of the State.

**Government's desired outcome for the Department of Fisheries:** Conservation and sustainable development of the State's fish resources.

(Status key: ✓ = We are meeting our targets ✗ = Targets are not achieved – we are taking action)

Key effectiveness indicators	2010	2011	2012	2013 Target	2013 Actual	Variance	Status
<b>KPI 1.1</b> Proportion of fish stocks identified as being at risk or vulnerable through exploitation (%)	17	6	6	< 9	3	6	✓
<b>KPI 1.2</b> The proportion of fisheries where acceptable catches (or effort levels) are achieved (%)	90	94	100	88	97	9	✓
<b>KPI 1.3</b> The percentage of fisheries or fished sectors where current catch shares are known and where catch share allocations are in process or in place (%)	65	61	59	78	76	2	✓
<b>KPI 2.1</b> The gross value of State fisheries production (\$m)	400	400	399	384	385	1	✓
<b>KPI 3.1</b> The participation rate in recreational fisheries (%)	30	33	32	32	33	1	✓

### KPI 1.1 – Explanation of significant variances between 2012/13 Target and 2012/13 Actual

The target has been exceeded by six per cent. This is due to correctly categorising three fish stocks at risk or vulnerable, as being so due to environmental factors (a ‘marine heatwave’ event), rather than as a result of exploitation.

### KPI 1.2 – Explanation of significant variances between 2012/13 Target and 2012/13 Actual

The target has been exceeded by nine per cent. This is due to three ‘marine heatwave’ affected fisheries not being assessed because management action was taken to close the fisheries to allow breeding stocks to recover.

(Status key: ✓ = We are meeting our targets ✗ = Targets are not achieved – we are taking action)

Key efficiency indicators	2010	2011	2012	2013 Target	2013 Actual	Variance	Status
<b>Service 1: Fisheries Management</b> – average cost per hour for management (excluding grants and fisheries adjustments) (\$ per hour)	117	152	167	132	192	60	✗
<b>Service 2: Compliance and Education</b> – average cost per hour of compliance and education (\$ per hour)	164	186	185	160	213	53	✗
<b>Service 3: Research and Monitoring</b> – average cost per hour of research and monitoring (\$ per hour)	118	126	130	129	119	(10)	✓
<b>Service 4: Marine Safety Safety</b> – average cost per hour of the delivery of marine safety services (\$ per hour)	143	134	115	117	184	67	✗

#### Service 1

##### Explanation of significant variances between 2012/13 Target and 2012/13 Actual

The 2012/13 Actual cost indicator exceeds the Target cost indicator due primarily to a more accurate allocation of direct costs and hours to this indicator following adjustments in project mapping during the year.

The Actual cost indicator for 2012/13 is considered a more accurate benchmark for assessing the Department’s performance as it consists of projects that are aligned more directly to the Fisheries Management service than the Target cost indicator.

### **Explanation of significant variances between 2012/13 Actual and 2011/12 Actual**

The 2012/13 Actual cost indicator includes a higher proportion of non-salary costs compared to the 2011/12 Actual cost indicator.

### **Service 2**

#### **Explanation of significant variances between 2012/13 Target and 2012/13 Actual**

The 2012/13 Actual cost indicator exceeds the Target cost indicator due primarily to a more accurate allocation of direct costs and corporate overheads to this indicator following adjustments in cost mapping during the year.

#### **Explanation of significant variances between 2012/13 Actual and 2011/12 Actual**

The 2012/13 Actual cost indicator includes a higher proportion of non-salary costs compared to the 2011/12 Actual cost indicator due primarily to increased expenditure across regional areas and a larger allocation of corporate overheads to this indicator in 2012/13 compared to 2011/12.

### **Service 3**

There were no significant variances between the 2012/13 Target and 2012/13 Actual nor were there significant variances between the actual results for 2012/13 and 2011/12.

### **Service 4**

#### **Explanation of significant variances between 2012/13 Target and 2012/13 Actual**

The 2012/13 Actual cost indicator significantly exceeds the Target cost due primarily to a more accurate allocation of corporate overheads to this indicator following adjustments in cost mapping during the year.

#### **Explanation of significant variances between 2012/13 Actual and 2011/12 Actual**

The 2012/13 Actual cost indicator significantly exceeds the 2011/12 Actual cost indicator due primarily to a more accurate allocation of corporate overheads to this indicator following adjustments in cost mapping during the year. The actual hours delivered against this service remains relatively consistent with previous years.



## Case studies



Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management (EBFM) in focus | Recreational fishing in focus | Aquaculture in focus

## Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management (EBFM) in focus

### EBFM: A dynamic approach to managing the State's aquatic resources

The Department has met international sustainability benchmarks by being one of the first fisheries agencies in the world to introduce EBFM across all aquatic resources.

EBFM recognises that ecosystems work at a regional level, and fits better with the global shift towards holistic, regional-based, natural resource management.

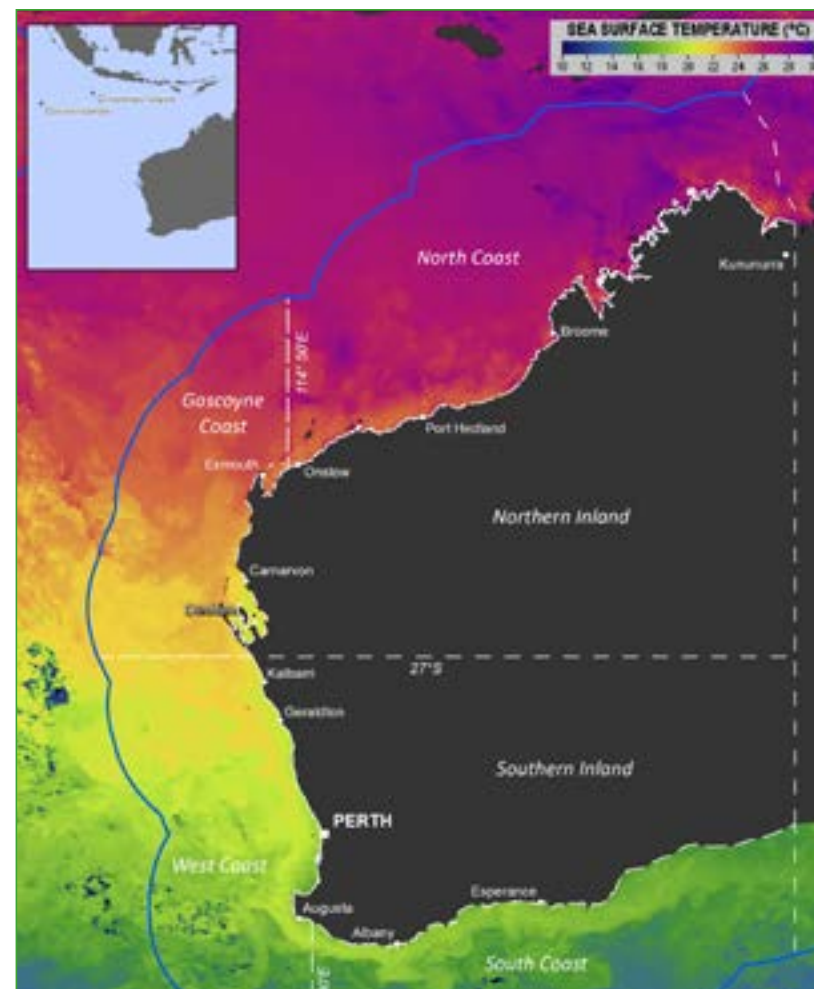
It focuses on aquatic resources rather than the activities of different sectors, such as recreational and commercial fishers.

EBFM takes into account the impacts of all aquatic resource use on species targeted by fishing, as well as non-target species and the environment – all of which are regarded as ecological assets – and the social and economic impacts of the resource use. It recognises that while fishing activity affects ecosystems, providing the impacts are risk-assessed and managed, fishing can also create social and economic benefits.

EBFM is based on using the global standard for risk assessment and risk management.

It offers a step-by-step way to more clearly establish priorities than the previous individual fishery approaches, allowing the Department to focus on managing resources most at risk and of most value to the community.

It also complements integrated fisheries management (IFM), which allocates a percentage of the catch to each sector, helping to ensure each gets a fair share and reducing conflict between resource users. EBFM also fits with the regional-level planning done by other agencies.



To practically manage Western Australia's diverse aquatic environments and resources, the Department breaks down the State's waters into bioregions – a cornerstone of the more localised EBFM approach. Image courtesy of Landgate.

## The benefits of EBFM

The EBFM approach:

- Addresses the cumulative effects of fishing by different sectors, which provides an overall view to ensure no problem is missed.
- Enables the setting of priorities to allow a focus on managing resources most at risk and of most value.
- Can assess the broader impacts of fishing, other activities and factors such as climate anomalies.
- Helps with implementation of IFM by enabling decision-makers to gain a better understanding of sectoral resource use.

- Streamlines the process of assessing fisheries for certification under global Marine Stewardship Council standards (The Department's bioregional approach for its pre-assessments is a world first which will make it easier for third-party certifiers to assess each individual fishery).

## Developing the framework

The Department developed the EBFM framework in 2010 in partnership with the Western Australian Marine Science Institution and the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation, which both provided the funding.

In developing the framework, the main challenge was in translating ecosystem-based concepts into a useful aquatic resource management framework.

The framework also had to complement, not duplicate, the comprehensive activities already occurring in each fishery.

Another challenge was to develop a framework the Department could at least start to use with the information it already had. Avoiding generating an impossibly complex set of issues was another hurdle.

## How EBFM works

Western Australia's six aquatic bioregions (biological regions) are broken down into ecological assets with each key asset identified and its risk level established. For each asset, values are established, then objectives. Internationally, risk is now defined as 'the uncertainty associated with achieving objectives'. For example, a risk to a species could be breeding stock numbers falling to an unsustainable level. A risk to an economic outcome could be



EBFM takes into account all aquatic assets such as this seagrass, pivotal in ecosystem health. Photo: Mike Burgess

a previously thriving commercial fishery no longer being able to support a community. Each asset is then grouped within its set of regional assets.

At an operational level, all Departmental activities are directed at managing identified risks. The direct link between staff activities and managed assets illustrates to staff and the community that the purpose of the Department, as a natural resource management agency, is to appropriately manage the risks to the community's assets and aquatic resource management outcomes. These risks may be ecological, social or economic.

### **Steps towards EBFM in 2012/13**

During 2012/13, the Department focused on drafting new legislation to support EBFM. The proposed legislation will enable a shift in focus from the management of individual fisheries to managing the impacts on aquatic resources from all sectors, and providing specific allocations to those sectors. The legislation is expected to be finalised in 2013/14.

In 2012/13, the Department also finalised a revised risk register. The former register was issue-based, while the revised one is based on assets and the risks to them.

It identifies the assets the Department has to manage and the organisational assets it has available for the task and now forms the basis of budget planning.

### **Informing stakeholders**

Each year the Department uses information gathered from monitoring, assessment and research to write a report about WA's fisheries and aquatic resources for the community.

Called *The Status Reports of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources of Western Australia*, it contains reports on each fishery, which are now resource-based in line with EBFM.

For example, the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery report covers the activities of all fishers, recreational and commercial, accessing the resource. The aim is to show the inter-relationships between fisheries and how the catch is shared among sectors.

The Department met these challenges and has assessed this dynamic approach, supported by the community, as the best for achieving sustainable fisheries and aquatic environment management, as well as the optimum social and economic outcomes for the people of WA.

## Recreational fishing in focus

### Working with recreational fishers to enhance recreational fishing in WA.

Recreational fishing is one of Western Australia's most popular pastimes with an estimated 740,000 people fishing recreationally each year. As a highly valued activity, which forms an intrinsic part of many people's lifestyle in the WA community, recreational fishing brings in millions of dollars to the economy and supports the fishing tackle, boating and tourism industries.

The Department is committed to working in partnership with the recreational fishing community to enhance the recreational fishing experience in Western Australia.



New Statewide recreational fishing rules introduced in February have made the rules easier to understand for many anglers. Photo: Tourism Western Australia

Each year about \$19 million is spent on the management and improvement of our recreational fisheries. Recreational fishers contribute about \$6 million to this cost through licence fees, every cent of which is spent, by law, on recreational fishing. Fifteen per cent of licence revenue is provided to Recfishwest – the State's peak recreational fishing body – for professional representation of the sector and a further 20 per cent is set aside for new initiatives, such as artificial reefs. The State Government contributes the remaining \$13 million to ensure the continuation of sustainable management of recreational fishing in Western Australia.

As well as working with Recfishwest, the Department actively encourages the participation of recreational fishers in developing new recreational fishing initiatives and in key research projects.

This approach ensures the Department:

- is fully in touch with the views and aspirations of the recreational fishing community;
- allocates licence fee funds appropriately for recreational fishing enhancement initiatives;
- obtains an enhanced representation of recreational fishing catch and effort informing fisheries management decisions; and
- promotes an increased sense of ownership and responsibility for recreational fishers in their fisheries.

2012/13 saw a wide range of Department-led projects and initiatives directly supported by recreational fishers, making recreational fishing even better in WA – some of which are included below.

### **WA recreational boat fishing survey**

With the assistance of thousands of recreational fishers, the Department has embarked on the second year of its Statewide recreational boat fishing survey.

Recruiting volunteers from the recreational boat fishing licence database, the Department is quizzing more than 3,000 fishers about their monthly catch and effort information through fishing log books.

A further 15-20,000 fishers will be surveyed this year at boat ramps around the State at the end of their fishing trip and by Fisheries and Marine Officers carrying out patrol checks.

This combined information will allow the Department to estimate the quantity of recreationally caught fish retained and released for each WA fishing region.

As a result the Department will be better equipped to manage fisheries and aquatic ecosystem resources Statewide.

The survey is funded by fees from the WA Recreational Fishing from Boat Licence, which was introduced in 2010.

### **Simplification of recreational fishing rules**

Following extensive consultation with the recreational fishing community, undertaken by Recfishwest, and resulting in more than 1,000 submissions, the Department introduced new simplified Statewide recreational fishing rules in February 2013.

The new approach has reduced the number of finfish bag limit categories across the State from 13 to four new resource-based categories (demersal, pelagic, nearshore/estuarine and freshwater) and will help with the management framework for recreational fishing.

The rules are now much much easier to understand and fit into one pocket-sized guide for the whole State, making the fishing experience more enjoyable for recreational fishers.

### **Artificial reefs project**

In April 2013, the Department, in collaboration with Recfishwest, installed two artificial reefs on the seabed off Dunsborough and Bunbury as part of its South West Artificial Reefs Project.

The \$2.38 million pilot project is the first artificial reef trial of its kind in Western Australia.



One of the artificial reef modules that is providing new recreational fishing opportunities in Geographe Bay in WA's South West.

The project is jointly funded through the Royalties for Regions program (\$1.86 million) and through recreational fishing licence fees as part of the Recreational Fishing Initiatives Fund (see below).

The artificial reefs will provide new, safe fishing locations for recreational fishers. The project is also expected to boost regional tourism and the associated industries that support recreational fishing.

Each artificial reef is made up of 30 ten-tonne reinforced concrete modules placed in six clusters in the four hectares reef area and is aimed at providing new habitats for species such as pink snapper, silver trevally (skippy) and Samson fish.

The Department will be closely monitoring the reef's impact on fish stocks and the abundance of fish species in the area.

The Department worked closely with a local stakeholder group set up by Recfishwest and other government agencies to identify suitable artificial reef sites.

### **Send Us Your Skeletons/Blue Swimmer Supporter initiatives**

Recreational fishers continue to assist the Department's fish stock monitoring program by providing fish frames (fish skeletons with the heads and guts intact) as part of the 'Send Us Your Skeletons' initiative. The data gathered from the donated frames are essential for the Department to be able to assess the status of our fish resources and make science-based decisions to sustainably manage our fisheries.

The recreational fishing industry plays its part by donating fishing-related prizes for an annual draw for all fishers who donate their fish skeletons.



Perth recreational fisher Glen Weymouth won a fishing trip of a lifetime to the Montebello Islands by helping the Department with critical fisheries research by donating his fish skeletons.

Over the 2012/13 financial year, some 688 fishers donated 10,811 fish frames to assist with this vital monitoring program, which this year expanded to include important demersal species (living on or near to the ocean floor) in the South Coast Bioregion.

The 'True Blue Swimmer Supporter' initiative, launched in April 2013, involves volunteer recreational crab fishers keeping a crab catch log book and providing the details to the Department on a regular basis. This information will help the Department manage blue swimmer crab stocks, ensuring there are plenty of crabs for the future.

The initiative is focused on three key fishing areas: Swan-Canning Estuary, Leschenault Estuary (and wider Bunbury area) and Geopraphe Bay.

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## The Recreational Fishing Initiatives Fund

Twenty per cent of Recreational Fishing Licence fees, which in 2012/13 equated to \$1.3 million, was set aside to provide grant funding for initiatives, projects and research that directly benefit recreational fishing.

Any academic institution, community, government or non-government organisation can apply for these grants, which are administered by Recfishwest and are a good example of recreational fishers working together with the State Government to ensure recreational fishing licence money provides benefits to the sector.

This year some of the many projects that have benefitted from this fund include:

- The South West artificial reefs project (see above).
- A Swan and Canning rivers prawn restocking project (\$330,000 over three years) aimed at re-establishing prawning as a popular family activity in the area.
- A mulloway restocking project to boost abundance of these fish prized fish along the midwest and metropolitan coast.



## Aquaculture in focus

### Farming fish and algae for the future

Aquaculture is the farming of aquatic plants and animals.

Apart from South Sea pearl production, commercial aquaculture is a relatively small industry in Western Australia, but there is great potential for development, particularly with marine species.



Cone Bay barramundi sea cages.

In 2011/12, the value of aquaculture products (excluding South Sea pearls and hatchery and algae production) was more than \$16 million, about \$3 million more than in 2010/2011.

The Department of Fisheries is establishing two zones – one in the Mid West region and another in the Kimberley – to help develop the marine finfish aquaculture industry. Environmental assessment approval for a whole zone will lead to a faster approval process for anyone proposing to set up an aquaculture business within it. This project has received State Government funding of \$1.85 million over two-and-a-half years.

### Farming barramundi

A barramundi aquaculture business in the State's Kimberley region has grown from a fledgling operation to an award-winning company in seven years. Its product, Cone Bay Ocean Barramundi, is served in restaurants nationwide and has twice won medals in *Delicious* magazine's annual produce awards.

Marine Produce Australia Ltd (MPA) farms saltwater barramundi in remote Cone Bay in the Buccaneer Archipelago. The fish are raised in sea cages, which are anchored flotation rings with nets attached.

MPA began by assessing the viability of using sea cages then expanded to a farm harvesting more than 1,100 tonnes of barramundi annually.

Before it could begin farming, MPA needed an aquaculture licence authorising it to grow barramundi in Cone Bay. The Department issued this licence, with conditions, and has also granted MPA a long-term aquaculture lease for the site.

MPA is meeting the stringent requirements of its Environmental Management and Monitoring Plan, which has been approved by the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA).

MPA's Cone Bay operation is also the first Australian aquaculture farm to be rated low impact and sustainable under the Australian Sustainable Seafood Assessment Program (SSAP). It was noted in the Australian Government's 2012 *State of the Environment* report as an example of an aquaculture operation with low environmental impacts and risks.

MPA plans to increase production and now has EPA approval to produce 2,000 tonnes of barramundi annually, with the aim of gradually expanding to 5,000 tonnes per year. The establishment of the Kimberley aquaculture development zone by the Department should help MPA secure approval for this expansion.

Since 2010, the Australian Centre for Applied Aquaculture Research has supplied the farm with juvenile barramundi.

The Centre, at Challenger Institute of Technology in Fremantle, grows barramundi from eggs to juveniles of about 30 millimetres in size. The best-quality juveniles are transported to the farm, hand-reared in a 'nursery' area, then moved into sea cages, where they grow to market size.

After harvesting, the market-size fish are shipped on MPA's harvest boat to the wharf then sent fresh to wholesale and retail markets around Australia.

### Fuel from algae

A worldwide search led an international company to choose WA's Pilbara region as the best place to set up a marine algae aquaculture venture.



Production ponds at Aurora Algae's demonstration plant near Karratha.

Aurora Algae Pty Ltd (Aurora), an Australian subsidiary of a US company, is producing 15 tonnes of algae per month at a demonstration plant near Karratha.

Aurora is growing a strain that is particularly efficient at using carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) to produce oil that can be converted into biofuel. The plant is likely to consume 40 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions a day. Karratha provided access to sea water and the hot, dry climate needed, plus CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from nearby mining and natural gas operations.

It now plans to go further and build a commercial plant – its first for algae.

Aurora grows the algae in ponds filled with seawater via a pipeline and will increase production in two stages to about 600 tonnes a month. The project will create more than 200 jobs in the design and construction stage, about 90 full-time jobs in stage one and 170 full-time jobs in stage two.

As well as biofuel, algae can be used to create products such as pharmaceutical ingredients and high-quality protein for animal feeds.

Algae farming has the potential to create new industries and make Australia self-sufficient in transport fuel, according to a paper released this year by research institute Future Directions International. The paper suggests it could generate about \$50 billion in new revenue and create more than 50,000 new jobs.

Aurora's proposed commercial plant, next to the pilot plant, will be designed to contain 400 hectares of production ponds. Stage one will have a total capital cost of about \$86 million, with stage two attracting further investment of up to \$300 million.

The Department of Fisheries helped steer Aurora through the initial approvals processes and has issued an aquaculture licence for the project. Aurora will also be required to prepare and follow a Department-approved Management and Environmental Monitoring Plan.

The EPA has recommended conditional approval, following a project redesign to minimise potential environmental impacts.

Developing diverse industries in the region is a priority for the State Government as part of its Pilbara Cities initiative.

In 2012, the Government commissioned a study of planning considerations for establishing an algae industry in the Pilbara. The Department contributed funds for the study and had a representative on the project's steering committee.

The State Government provided \$10 million for building infrastructure, including a common-user seawater pipeline, from its Royalties for Regions Pilbara Cities funds.

## Significant issues impacting the Department



Photo: Shannon Conway

Currents and undercurrents

## Currents and undercurrents

**During 2012/13, some significant issues and trends had an impact on fisheries and fisheries management, and are likely to have an influence in the future.**

### **Meeting the challenges of a fast-developing region**

Effective management of the State's fisheries and marine ecosystems continues to be challenged by rapid population growth, improvements in fishing technology and industrial development. In addition, increased vessel movements from interstate and overseas are presenting higher biosecurity risks relating to the introduction of invasive marine species. The Department is working to meet these challenges through constant monitoring of the sustainability of fisheries and aquatic ecosystems, updating of its legislation in line with Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management (see case study on page 47) and providing greater powers to deal with biosecurity threats.

### **Achieving global sustainability benchmarks**

Demonstrating environmental sustainability is fundamental to community support for the State's economically and socially important commercial and recreational fisheries sectors as legitimate and valued uses of WA's marine environment. As well as reporting annually to Parliament on the sustainability of fisheries and aquatic ecosystems, the Department is now working with the commercial fishing sector and world-leading independent assessors

(the Marine Stewardship Council) to verify the sustainability credentials of our fisheries. This will further assure the community the Department is meeting the highest global sustainability benchmarks for managing our fisheries and marine ecosystems.

### **Managing funding reform and costs efficiently**

The increasing cost to Government managing fisheries and the marine environment sustainably, including the growing cost of marine park management, requires the development of more cost-effective, integrated, risk-based management. The Department has reformed its funding arrangements with the commercial and recreational fishing sectors and is working with the Department of Transport and the Department of Environment and Conservation to deliver more efficient marine safety and marine park management services.

### **Responding to environmental fluctuations**

A 'marine heatwave', when water temperatures rose up to four degrees above average, affected the West Coast and Gascoyne bioregions in early 2011. Combined with floods in Shark Bay at the same time, this seriously affected the marine populations targeted by commercial and recreational fisheries in 2011/12. The phenomenon has continued to have adverse effects on abalone near Kalbarri and scallops and blue swimmer crabs in Shark Bay, prompting management action to ensure the sustainability of these stocks and research programs to better understand the effects of ocean warming.

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### **Building effective research partnerships**

Obtaining the required knowledge and sound scientific methodology and data to support decision-making and ecosystem-based fisheries management remains a challenge for the Department. Effective co-ordination of the State's marine research is needed to ensure that research is prioritised and funded according to risk levels and community needs. The Department has identified and prioritised fisheries and marine research priorities based on risk, and is collaborating with state and national fisheries and marine research organisations to deliver our research priorities.

### **Adapting to a changing economy**

Difficult economic conditions, including increased costs of fuel and a high Australian dollar, are affecting export markets and the profitability of fishing operations. Quota management arrangements introduced into the western rock lobster fishery, the State's biggest fishery and the most valuable, have increased potential profitability for operators by enabling them to reduce operating costs by modifying fishing activity to meet market demand and price signals.

### **Developing new fish production sources**

As the harvest from most wild-capture fisheries worldwide declines, aquaculture industries have the potential to increase fish production to meet the growing demand for high quality seafood. The Department is working closely with the aquaculture sector to identify suitable sites for aquaculture development zones particularly for marine fish production.

## Disclosures and legal compliance



Financial statements | Key performance indicators | Other financial disclosures

# Financial statements

## Independent audit opinion on the financial statements and the key performance indicators



### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Parliament of Western Australia

### DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES

#### Report on the Financial Statements

I have audited the accounts and financial statements of the Department of Fisheries.

The financial statements comprise the Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2013, the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows, Schedule of Income and Expenses by Service, Schedule of Assets and Liabilities by Service, and Summary of Consolidated Account Appropriations and Income Estimates for the year then ended, and Notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, including Administered transactions and balances.

#### Director General's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The Director General is responsible for keeping proper accounts, and the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Treasurer's Instructions, and for such internal control as the Director General determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

As required by the Auditor General Act 2006, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements based on my audit. The audit was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those Standards require compliance with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and that the audit be planned and performed to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Department's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Director General, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I believe that the audit evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

#### Opinion

In my opinion, the financial statements are based on proper accounts and present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Department of Fisheries at 30 June 2013 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended. They are in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Treasurer's Instructions.

Page 1 of 3

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#### Report on Controls

I have audited the controls exercised by the Department of Fisheries during the year ended 30 June 2013.

Controls exercised by the Department of Fisheries are those policies and procedures established by the Director General to ensure that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property, and the incurring of liabilities have been in accordance with legislative provisions.

#### Director General's Responsibility for Controls

The Director General is responsible for maintaining an adequate system of internal control to ensure that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of public and other property, and the incurring of liabilities are in accordance with the Financial Management Act 2006 and the Treasurer's Instructions, and other relevant written law.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

As required by the Auditor General Act 2006, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the controls exercised by the Department of Fisheries based on my audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the adequacy of controls to ensure that the Department complies with the legislative provisions. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement and include an evaluation of the design and implementation of relevant controls.

I believe that the audit evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my qualified audit opinion.

#### Basis for Qualified Audit Opinion

During the 2012-13 financial year, the Department of Fisheries drew on \$176 000 of restricted funds to meet operational needs. Controls over these restricted funds, which include specific purpose grants money, were inadequate for ensuring that they were spent only for their approved purpose.

#### Qualified Opinion

In my opinion, except for the effects of the matter referred to in the Basis for Qualified Audit Opinion, the controls exercised by the Department of Fisheries are sufficiently adequate to provide reasonable assurance that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property, and the incurring of liabilities have been in accordance with legislative provisions during the year ended 30 June 2013.

#### Report on the Key Performance Indicators

I have audited the key performance indicators of the Department of Fisheries for the year ended 30 June 2013.

The key performance indicators are the key effectiveness indicators and the key efficiency indicators that provide information on outcome achievement and service provision.

#### Director General's Responsibility for the Key Performance Indicators

The Director General is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the key performance indicators in accordance with the Financial Management Act 2006 and the Treasurer's Instructions and for such controls as the Director General determines necessary to ensure that the key performance indicators fairly represent indicated performance.

Page 2 of 3

#### Auditor's Responsibility

As required by the Auditor General Act 2006, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the key performance indicators based on my audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the key performance indicators. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the key performance indicators. In making these risk assessments the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Director General's preparation and fair presentation of the key performance indicators in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances. An audit also includes evaluating the relevance and appropriateness of the key performance indicators for measuring the extent of outcome achievement and service provision.

I believe that the audit evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

#### Opinion

In my opinion, the key performance indicators of the Department of Fisheries are relevant and appropriate to assist users to assess the Department's performance and fairly represent indicated performance for the year ended 30 June 2013.

#### Independence

In conducting this audit, I have complied with the independence requirements of the Auditor General Act 2006 and Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards, and other relevant ethical requirements.

#### Matters Relating to the Electronic Publication of the Audited Financial Statements and Key Performance Indicators

This auditor's report relates to the financial statements and key performance indicators of the Department of Fisheries for the year ended 30 June 2013 included on the Department's website. The Department's management is responsible for the integrity of the Department's website. This audit does not provide assurance on the integrity of the Department's website. The auditor's report refers only to the financial statements and key performance indicators described above. It does not provide an opinion on any other information which may have been hyperlinked to from these financial statements or key performance indicators. If users of the financial statements and key performance indicators are concerned with the inherent risks arising from publication on a website, they are advised to refer to the hard copy of the audited financial statements and key performance indicators to confirm the information contained in this website version of the financial statements and key performance indicators.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Colin Murphy".

COLIN MURPHY  
AUDITOR GENERAL  
FOR WESTERN AUSTRALIA  
Perth, Western Australia  
23 September 2013

Page 3 of 3



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## Certification of financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

The accompanying financial statements of the Department of Fisheries have been prepared in compliance with the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2006* from proper accounts and records to present fairly the financial transactions for the financial year ending 30 June 2013 and the financial position as at 30 June 2013.

At the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances which would render any particulars included in the financial statements misleading or inaccurate.



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Peter Robinson

**Chief Financial Officer**

Date: 20th September 2013



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Stuart Smith

**Director General**

Date: 20th September 2013

**DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013**

	Note	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000
<b>COST OF SERVICES</b>			
<b>Expenses</b>			
Employee benefits expense	6	49,301	45,750
Supplies and services	7	26,214	24,378
Depreciation and amortisation expense	8	4,222	3,445
Finance costs	9	2,269	2,405
Accommodation expenses	10	4,193	3,924
Grants and subsidies	11	1,325	935
Fisheries Adjustment Scheme buybacks	12	37	464
Loss on disposal of non-current assets	18	117	367
Other expenses	13	2,252	3,668
<b>Total cost of services</b>		<u>89,929</u>	<u>85,336</u>
<b>Income</b>			
<b>Revenue</b>			
User charges and fees	14	23,472	25,133
Grants and contributions	15	2,395	4,610
Interest revenue	16	290	385
Other revenue	17	5,292	5,755
<b>Total revenue</b>		<u>31,449</u>	<u>35,883</u>
<b>Gains</b>			
Gain on disposal of non-current assets	18	-	-
<b>Total gains</b>		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total income other than income from State Government</b>		<u>29,875</u>	<u>35,883</u>

	Note	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000
<b>NET COST OF SERVICES</b>		<u>58,481</u>	<u>49,453</u>
Income from State Government	19		
Service appropriations		48,381	50,280
Services received free of charge		641	750
Royalties for Regions Fund		1,083	142
<b>Total income from State Government</b>		<u>50,105</u>	<u>51,172</u>
<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD</b>		<u>(8,376)</u>	<u>1,719</u>
<b>OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>			
Changes in asset revaluation surplus	32	856	(885)
<b>Total other comprehensive income</b>		<u>856</u>	<u>(885)</u>
<b>TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD</b>		<u>(7,520)</u>	<u>834</u>

See also the 'Schedule of Income and Expenses by Service'.

The Statement of Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT  
30 JUNE 2013

	Note	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	33	20	5,448
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	20	5,145	3,977
Receivables	21	10,384	5,240
Amounts receivable for services	22	2,007	2,746
Other current assets	23	151	146
Non-current assets classified as held for distribution to owners	24	-	700
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<u>17,707</u>	<u>18,257</u>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	20	1,351	923
Receivables	21	28,465	31,760
Amounts receivable for services	22	8,020	6,475
Property, plant and equipment	25	68,300	61,337
Intangible assets	26	9,396	2,672
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<u>115,532</u>	<u>103,167</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u>133,239</u>	<u>121,424</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Payables	28	3,575	2,211
Borrowings	29	8,396	3,102
Provisions	30	10,789	10,042

	Note	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000
Other current liabilities	31	1,950	2,075
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<u>24,710</u>	<u>17,430</u>
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>			
Borrowings	29	28,465	31,760
Provisions	30	3,080	2,381
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>		<u>31,545</u>	<u>34,141</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<u>56,255</u>	<u>51,571</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>76,984</u>	<u>69,853</u>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Contributed equity	32	72,291	57,640
Reserves	32	14,759	13,903
Accumulated surplus/(deficit)	32	(10,066)	(1,690)
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<u>76,984</u>	<u>69,853</u>

See also the 'Schedule of Assets and Liabilities by Service'.

The Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

	Note	Contributed Equity \$'000	Reserves \$'000	Accumulated Surplus/(Deficit) \$'000	Total Equity \$'000
<b>Balance at 1 July 2011</b>	32	50,076	13,514	(2,405)	61,185
		625	-	270	895
Changes in accounting policy or correction of prior period errors					
<b>Restated balance at 1 July 2011</b>		<u>50,701</u>	<u>13,514</u>	<u>(2,135)</u>	<u>62,080</u>
Surplus/(deficit)		-	-	1,719	1,719
Transfer of Asset Revaluation Reserve		-	1,274	(1,274)	-
Other comprehensive income		-	(885)	-	(885)
Total comprehensive income for the period		-	389	445	834
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:					
Capital appropriations		8,454	-	-	8,454
Other contributions by owners		200	-	-	200
Distributions to owners		(1,715)	-	-	(1,715)
Total		<u>6,939</u>	-	-	<u>6,939</u>
<b>Balance as at 30 June 2012</b>		<u><b>57,640</b></u>	<u><b>13,903</b></u>	<u><b>(1,690)</b></u>	<u><b>69,853</b></u>
Balance at 1 July 2012		57,640	13,903	(1,690)	69,853
		-	-	-	-
Changes in accounting policy or correction of prior period errors					
<b>Restated balance at 1 July 2012</b>		<u>57,640</u>	<u>13,903</u>	<u>(1,690)</u>	<u>69,853</u>
Surplus/(deficit)		-	-	(8,376)	(8,376)
Other comprehensive income		-	856	-	856
Total comprehensive income for the period		-	856	(8,376)	(7,520)

	Note	Contributed Equity \$'000	Reserves \$'000	Accumulated Surplus/(Deficit) \$'000	Total Equity \$'000
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:					
Capital appropriations		13,450	-	-	13,450
Other contributions by owners		1,627	-	-	1,627
Distributions to owners		(449)	-	-	(449)
Equity transferred from Administered		23	-	-	23
Total		14,651	-	-	14,651
<b>Balance as at 30 June 2013</b>		<b>72,291</b>	<b>14,759</b>	<b>(10,066)</b>	<b>76,984</b>

The Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

**DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR  
ENDED 30 JUNE 2013**

	2013	2012
Note	\$'000	\$'000
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM STATE GOVERNMENT</b>		
Service appropriation	44,989	46,888
Capital contributions	13,450	8,454
Holding account drawdowns	2,587	2,746
Royalties for Regions Fund	2,710	342
<b>Net cash provided by State Government</b>	<u><b>63,736</b></u>	<u><b>58,430</b></u>
Utilised as follows:		
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
<b>Payments</b>		
Employee benefits	(47,713)	(44,757)
Supplies and services	(24,162)	(27,598)
Finance costs	(112)	(2,615)
Accommodation	(4,047)	(2,571)
Grants and subsidies	(1,325)	(935)
GST payments on purchase	(4,796)	(4,771)
Fisheries Adjustment Scheme buy-backs	(37)	(464)
Other payments	(2,461)	(230)
<b>Receipts</b>		
User charges and fees	23,942	32,934
Grants and contributions	2,395	3,261
Interest received	232	439
Other receipts	3,024	500
GST receipts on sales	420	852
GST receipts from taxation authority	4,282	3,804
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities</b>	33 <u><b>(50,357)</b></u>	<u><b>(42,151)</b></u>

	2013	2012
Note	\$'000	\$'000
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
<b>Payments</b>		
Purchase of non-current assets	(17,055)	(11,966)
<b>Receipts</b>		
Proceeds from sale of non-current physical assets	129	202
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities</b>	<u><b>(16,926)</b></u>	<u><b>(11,764)</b></u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>		
<b>Payments</b>		
Repayment of borrowings	(328)	(2,902)
<b>Receipts</b>		
Proceeds from industry	44	2,773
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities</b>	<u><b>(284)</b></u>	<u><b>(129)</b></u>
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>	(3,832)	4,386
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of period	<u>10,348</u>	<u>5,962</u>
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF PERIOD</b>	33 <u><b>6,516</b></u>	<u><b>10,348</b></u>

The Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES SCHEDULE OF INCOME AND EXPENSES BY SERVICE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

	FISHERIES MANAGEMENT		COMPLIANCE AND EDUCATION		RESEARCH AND MONITORING		MARINE SAFETY SERVICE		TOTAL	
	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000
<b>COST OF SERVICES</b>										
<b>Expenses</b>										
Employee benefits expense	12,069	11,199	22,576	20,950	14,390	13,354	266	247	49,301	45,750
Supplies and services	6,417	5,968	12,004	11,163	7,651	7,116	141	132	26,214	24,378
Depreciation and amortisation expense	44	36	3,038	2,479	1,140	930	-	-	4,222	3,445
Finance costs	2,269	2,405	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,269	2,405
Accommodation expenses	1,026	2,547	1,920	984	1,224	385	23	8	4,193	3,924
Grants and subsidies	446	315	16	11	863	609	-	-	1,325	935
Fisheries Adjustment Scheme buybacks	37	464	-	-	-	-	-	-	37	464
Loss on disposal of non-current assets	1	4	84	264	32	99	-	-	117	367
Other expenses	893	898	823	1,680	490	1,071	47	20	2,253	3,668
<b>Total cost of services</b>	<b>23,202</b>	<b>23,836</b>	<b>40,461</b>	<b>37,531</b>	<b>25,790</b>	<b>23,563</b>	<b>477</b>	<b>406</b>	<b>89,931</b>	<b>85,336</b>
<b>Income</b>										
User charges and fees	6,519	6,981	8,404	8,999	8,518	9,121	30	32	23,472	25,133
Grants and contributions	1,206	2,321	220	424	969	1,865	-	-	2,395	4,610
Interest revenue	87	115	97	128	106	141	-	-	290	385
Other revenue	2,268	2,398	1,512	1,679	1,512	1,679	-	-	5,292	5,755
Gain on disposal of non-current assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total income other than income from State Government</b>	<b>10,080</b>	<b>11,815</b>	<b>10,233</b>	<b>11,230</b>	<b>11,105</b>	<b>12,805</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>31,449</b>	<b>35,883</b>
<b>NET COST OF SERVICES</b>	<b>13,122</b>	<b>12,021</b>	<b>30,228</b>	<b>26,301</b>	<b>14,685</b>	<b>10,757</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>58,482</b>	<b>49,453</b>

	FISHERIES MANAGEMENT		COMPLIANCE AND EDUCATION		RESEARCH AND MONITORING		MARINE SAFETY SERVICE		TOTAL	
	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Income from State Government</b>										
Service appropriation	11,843	14,044	22,155	22,114	14,122	13,883	261	239	48,382	50,280
Services received free of charge	157	209	294	330	187	207	3	4	641	750
Royalties for Regions Fund	265	40	496	62	316	39	6	1	1,083	142
<b>Total income from State Government</b>	<b>12,266</b>	<b>14,293</b>	<b>22,944</b>	<b>22,506</b>	<b>14,625</b>	<b>14,130</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>50,106</b>	<b>51,172</b>
<b>SURPLUS/DEFICIT FOR THE PERIOD</b>	<b>(857)</b>	<b>2,272</b>	<b>(7,283)</b>	<b>(3,796)</b>	<b>(60)</b>	<b>3,372</b>	<b>(176)</b>	<b>(130)</b>	<b>(8,376)</b>	<b>1,719</b>

The Schedule of Income and Expenses by Service should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Re-stated prior year figures on the schedules by service primarily because of a more accurate allocation of costs to different services and prior period adjustments.



DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES SCHEDULE OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES BY SERVICE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

	FISHERIES MANAGEMENT		COMPLIANCE AND EDUCATION		RESEARCH AND MONITORING		MARINE SAFETY SERVICE		TOTAL	
	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000
<b>ASSETS</b>										
<b>Current assets</b>										
Cash and cash equivalents	5	1,522	9	2,396	6	1,504	-	26	20	5,448
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	1,259	1,111	2,356	1,749	1,502	1,098	28	19	5,145	3,977
Receivables	9,652	4,184	499	644	318	405	6	7	10,384	5,240
Amounts receivable for services	491	767	919	1,208	586	758	11	13	2,007	2,746
Other current assets	37	41	69	64	44	40	1	1	151	146
Non-current assets classified as held for distribution to owners	-	196	-	308	-	193	-	3	-	700
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>11,354</b>	<b>7,820</b>	<b>3,852</b>	<b>6,369</b>	<b>2,455</b>	<b>3,999</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>17,707</b>	<b>18,257</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>										
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	331	258	619	406	394	255	7	4	1,351	923
Receivables	28,465	31,760	-	-	-	-	-	-	28,465	31,760
Amounts receivable for services	1,963	1,809	3,673	2,848	2,341	1,788	43	31	8,020	6,475
Property, plant and equipment	16,719	17,133	31,276	26,976	19,936	16,936	369	292	68,300	61,337
Intangible assets	2,300	746	4,303	1,175	2,743	738	51	13	9,396	2,672
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>	<b>49,778</b>	<b>51,705</b>	<b>39,870</b>	<b>31,405</b>	<b>25,413</b>	<b>19,717</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>115,532</b>	<b>103,167</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>61,132</b>	<b>59,525</b>	<b>43,722</b>	<b>37,774</b>	<b>27,869</b>	<b>23,716</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>409</b>	<b>133,239</b>	<b>121,424</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>										
<b>Current liabilities</b>										
Payables	875	618	1,637	972	1,043	611	19	11	3,575	2,211
Borrowings	8,396	3,102	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,396	3,102
Provisions	2,641	2,805	4,941	4,416	3,149	2,773	58	48	10,789	10,042
Other current liabilities	943	1,065	611	617	389	387	7	7	1,950	2,075
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>12,855</b>	<b>7,589</b>	<b>7,189</b>	<b>6,006</b>	<b>4,582</b>	<b>3,770</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>24,710</b>	<b>17,430</b>

	FISHERIES MANAGEMENT		COMPLIANCE AND EDUCATION		RESEARCH AND MONITORING		MARINE SAFETY SERVICE		TOTAL	
	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>										
Borrowings	28,465	31,760	-	-	-	-	-	-	28,465	31,760
Provisions	754	665	1,410	1,047	899	657	17	11	3,080	2,381
Total Non-Current Liabilities	<b>29,219</b>	<b>32,425</b>	<b>1,410</b>	<b>1,047</b>	<b>899</b>	<b>657</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>31,545</b>	<b>34,141</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>42,074</b>	<b>40,014</b>	<b>8,599</b>	<b>7,053</b>	<b>5,481</b>	<b>4,428</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>56,255</b>	<b>51,571</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>19,059</b>	<b>19,511</b>	<b>35,123</b>	<b>30,722</b>	<b>22,388</b>	<b>19,288</b>	<b>414</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>76,984</b>	<b>69,853</b>

The Schedule of Assets and Liabilities by Service should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Re-stated prior year figures on the schedules by service primarily because of a more accurate allocation of assets and liabilities to different services and prior period adjustments.

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES SUMMARY OF CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNT APPROPRIATIONS AND INCOME ESTIMATES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

	2013 Estimate \$'000	2013 Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000	2013 Actual \$'000	2012 Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000
<b>Delivery of Services</b>						
Item 15 Net amount appropriated to deliver services	45,157	48,075	(2,918)	48,075	49,982	(1,907)
Section 25 transfer of service appropriation	963	1,083	(120)	1,083	142	941
Amount authorised by other statutes	-	-	-	-	-	-
– <i>Salaries and Allowances Act 1975</i>	306	306	-	306	298	8
<b>Total appropriations provided to deliver services</b>	<b>46,426</b>	<b>49,464</b>	<b>(3,038)</b>	<b>49,464</b>	<b>50,422</b>	<b>(958)</b>
<b>Capital</b>						
Item 113 Capital appropriations	12,071	13,450	(1,379)	13,450	8,454	4,996
Other contributions by owners	730	1,627	(897)	1,627	200	1,427
<b>Total Capital</b>	<b>12,801</b>	<b>15,077</b>	<b>(2,276)</b>	<b>15,077</b>	<b>8,654</b>	<b>6,423</b>
<b>Administered Transactions</b>						
Section 25 administered capital appropriations	2,416	228	2,188	228	2,530	(2,302)
<b>Total Administered</b>	<b>2,416</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>2,188</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>2,530</b>	<b>(2,302)</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>61,643</b>	<b>64,769</b>	<b>(3,126)</b>	<b>64,769</b>	<b>61,606</b>	<b>3,163</b>
<b>Details of Expenses by Service</b>						
Fisheries Management	20,169	23,202	(3,033)	23,202	23,836	(633)
Compliance and Education	34,074	40,461	(6,387)	40,461	37,531	2,930
Research and Monitoring	25,177	25,790	(613)	25,790	23,563	2,227
Marine Safety Service	1,483	477	1,006	477	406	71
Total cost of services	80,903	89,931	(9,028)	89,931	85,336	4,595
Less total income	(34,066)	(31,449)	(2,617)	(31,449)	(35,883)	4,434
Net cost of services	<b>46,837</b>	<b>58,482</b>	<b>(11,645)</b>	<b>58,482</b>	<b>49,453</b>	<b>9,029</b>
Adjustments	(411)	(9,018)	8,607	(9,018)	969	(9,987)
<b>Total appropriations provided to deliver services</b>	<b>46,426</b>	<b>49,464</b>	<b>(3,038)</b>	<b>49,464</b>	<b>50,422</b>	<b>(958)</b>

	2013 Estimate \$'000	2013 Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000	2013 Actual \$'000	2012 Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000
<b>Capital Expenditure</b>						
Purchase of non-current physical assets	16,700	17,055	(355)	17,055	11,966	5,089
Adjustments for other funding sources	(4,629)	(3,605)	(1,024)	(3,605)	(3,512)	(93)
<b>Capital appropriations</b>	<b>12,071</b>	<b>13,450</b>	<b>(1,379)</b>	<b>13,450</b>	<b>8,454</b>	<b>4,996</b>
<b>Details of Income Estimates</b>						
Income disclosed as Administered Income	2,416	358	2,058	358	2,636	(2,278)
	<b>2,416</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>2,058</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>2,636</b>	<b>(2,278)</b>

Adjustments comprise movements in cash balances and other accrual items such as receivables, payables and superannuation.

Note 37 'Explanatory statement' provides details of any significant variations between estimates and actual results for 2013 and between the actual results for 2013 and 2012.

**DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES INDEX OF NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the Year Ended 30 June 2013**

Subject	Policy Note	Disclosure Note	Title of Policy Note
General	1		AUSTRALIAN ACCOUNTING STANDARDS SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES
General	2		General Statements
General	2(a)		Basis of Preparation
General	2(b)		Reporting Entity
General	2(c)	32	Contributed Equity
Income	2(d)		Income
Expense	2(e)	9	Borrowing costs (finance costs)
Assets	2(f)	25	Property, Plant and Equipment and Infrastructure
Assets	2(g)	26	Intangible Assets
Assets	2(h)	27	Impairment of Assets
Assets	2(i)		Non-current assets classified as held for sale
Assets	2(j)	24	Leases
Liabilities	2(k)	10	Financial Instruments
Liabilities	2(l)	38	Cash and Cash Equivalents
Assets	2(m)	20	Accrued Salaries
Liabilities	2(n)	31	Amounts Receivable for Services (Holding Account)
Assets	2(o)	22	Receivables
Assets	2(p)	21	Payables
Liabilities	2(q)	28	Borrowings
Liabilities	2(r)	29	Provisions - Employee Benefits
Liabilities	2(s)(i)	30	Provisions - Other
Liabilities	2(s)(ii)	13, 30	Superannuation Expense
Expense	2(t)	6	

Subject	Policy Note	Disclosure Note	Title of Policy Note
General	2(u)	19	Assets and services received free of charge or for nominal cost
General	2(v)		Jointly controlled operations
General	2(w)		Comparative Figures
General	2(x)		Access Fees - Major Commercial Fisheries
General	3		JUDGEMENTS MADE BY MANAGEMENT IN APPLYING ACCOUNTING POLICIES
General	4		KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY
General	5		DISCLOSURE OF CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICY AND ESTIMATES
Expense	2(s)(i)	6	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS EXPENSE
Expense		7	SUPPLIES AND SERVICES
Expense	2(g)	8	DEPRECIATION AND AMORTISATION EXPENSE
Expense	2(f)	9	FINANCE COSTS
Expense	2(k)	10	ACCOMMODATION EXPENSES
Expense		11	GRANTS AND SUBSIDIES
Expense		12	FISHERIES ADJUSTMENT SCHEME BUYBACKS
Expense		13	OTHER EXPENSES
Revenue	2(e)	14	USER CHARGES AND FEES
Revenue	2(e)	15	GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS
Revenue	2(e)	16	INTEREST REVENUE
Revenue	2(e)	17	OTHER REVENUE
Expense		18	NET GAIN / (LOSS) ON DISPOSAL OF NON-CURRENT ASSETS
Revenue		19	INCOME FROM STATE GOVERNMENT
Revenue	2(u)	19	Resources Received Free of Charge

Subject	Policy Note	Disclosure Note	Title of Policy Note
			RESTRICTED CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS
Assets	2(m)	20	
Assets	2(p)	21	RECEIVABLES
			AMOUNTS RECEIVABLE FOR SERVICES (HOLDING ACCOUNT)
Assets	2(o)	22	
Assets		23	OTHER ASSETS
			NON-CURRENT ASSETS CLASSIFIED AS HELD FOR SALE
Assets		24	NON-CURRENT ASSETS CLASSIFIED AS HELD FOR SALE
Assets	2(g)	25	PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT
			INTANGIBLE ASSETS
Assets	2(h)	26	INTANGIBLE ASSETS
Assets	2(h)	27	IMPAIRMENT OF ASSETS
Liabilities	2(q)	28	PAYABLES
Liabilities	2(r)	29	BORROWINGS
Liabilities	2(s)(ii)	30	PROVISIONS
Liabilities	2(s)(i)	31	OTHER LIABILITIES
Equity		32	ACCUMULATED SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)
Equity	2(d)	32	CONTRIBUTED EQUITY
Equity		32	RESERVES
Cash Flow		33	NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT
General		34	COMMITMENTS FOR EXPENDITURE
			EVENTS OCCURRING AFTER THE BALANCE SHEET DATE
General		35	
			CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND CONTINGENT ASSETS
General		36	
General		37	EXPLANATORY STATEMENT
General	2(l)	38	FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS
General		39	REMUNERATION OF SENIOR OFFICERS

Subject	Policy Note	Disclosure Note	Title of Policy Note
General		40	REMUNERATION OF AUDITOR
General		41	RELATED BODIES
General		42	AFFILIATED BODIES
General		43	SUPPLEMENTARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION
General		44	JOINTLY CONTROLLED OPERATION
General		45	JOINTLY CONTROLLED ASSETS
External		46	SPECIAL PURPOSE ACCOUNTS
			CHRISTMAS ISLAND AND COCOS (KEELING) ISLANDS
External		47	
			DISCLOSURE OF ADMINISTERED INCOME AND EXPENSES BY SERVICE
External		48	
External		49	ADMINISTERED ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

This index does not form part of the financial statements

## DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

### 1 AUSTRALIAN ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

#### General

The Department's financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2013 have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards. The term 'Australian Accounting Standards' includes Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standard Board (AASB).

The Department has adopted any applicable new and revised Australian Accounting Standards from their operative dates.

#### Early adoption of standards

The Department cannot early adopt an Australian Accounting Standard unless specifically permitted by Treasurer's Instruction 1101 Application of Australian Accounting Standards and Other Pronouncements. There has been no early adoption of Australian Accounting Standards that have been issued or amended (but not operative) by the Department for the annual reporting period ended 30 June 2013.

### 2 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### (a) General Statement

The Department is a not-for-profit reporting entity that prepares general purpose financial statements in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards, the Framework,

Statements of Accounting Concepts and other authoritative pronouncements of the AASB as applied by the Treasurer's Instructions. Several of these are modified by the Treasurer's Instructions to vary application, disclosure, format and wording.

The Financial Management Act and the Treasurer's instructions impose legislative provisions that govern the preparation of financial statements and take precedence over Australian Accounting Standards, the Framework, Statements of Accounting Concepts and other authoritative pronouncements of the AASB.

Where modification is required and has had a material or significant financial effect upon the reported results, details of that modification and the resulting financial effect are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

#### (b) Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting using the historical cost convention, except for land, buildings and infrastructure which have been measured at fair value.

The accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements have been consistently applied throughout all periods presented unless otherwise stated.

The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars and all values are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$'000).

Note 3 'Judgements made by management in applying accounting policies' discloses judgements that have been

made in the process of applying the Department's accounting policies resulting in the most significant effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements.

Note 4 'Key sources of estimation uncertainty' discloses key assumptions made concerning the future, and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the end of the reporting period, that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

**(c) Reporting Entity**

The reporting entity is the Department which has no 'related bodies'.

**Mission**

The Department's mission is "To conserve, sustainably develop and share the use of the State's aquatic resources and their ecosystems for the benefit of present and future generations."

The Department is funded from revenue collected under the authority of Fish Resources Management Act 1994, Pearling Act 1990 and from Parliamentary appropriations. The Department has legislative authority to retain revenues it collects in the respective Trust Accounts administered by the Department.

**Services**

The budget is framed in terms of services, consequently financial reporting for the year is also analysed in terms of services.

Information about the Department's services is set out in the Schedule of Expenses and Revenue by Service and the Schedule of Assets and Liabilities by Service.

The services of the Department detailed below closely align with the functional organisational structure of:

- Fisheries Management;
- Compliance and Education;
- Research and Monitoring; and
- Marine Safety Service.

A description of each service is as follows:

**Fisheries Management**

In accordance with Government Policy, the management of the State's fish and aquatic resources is undertaken within an integrated fisheries management framework – a shift from the management of individual sectors (e.g. the commercial fishing sector) to the holistic management of the aquatic ecosystem. Management, often in association with other related Government agencies, includes the development of policy and procedural frameworks (legislation and management plans), licensing, consultation with stakeholders and the community.

**Compliance and Education**

Without the support of the community and stakeholders, the Department is unable to effectively manage the aquatic environment. To encourage this support, the Department must raise community awareness and understanding of the issues and of the need to adhere to the rules governing activities in



this environment. There also needs to be enforcement of the rules through penalties for non-compliance. The Department plans and implements education and communications programs to raise levels of awareness and understanding of fisheries management objective. It also plans and instigates investigations and enforcement strategies.

### **Research and Monitoring**

The aquatic environment is subject to ongoing change – both natural and man made. In order to ensure that management arrangements continue to adapt to environmental changes (e.g. climate change impacts) and community expectations, research and monitoring is required, including innovative science (e.g. impacts of expected climate change, social and economic research) and the ongoing monitoring of fish stocks.

### **Marine Safety Service**

One of the recommendations of the Machinery of Government Taskforce in 2000 was to increase the efficiency of the delivery of government services. The delivery of marine safety in the metropolitan area was identified as being one of those services that could be delivered more efficiently if it was done by the Department of Fisheries on behalf of the Department of Transport. The Department of Fisheries has been delivering this service – which includes checks by Fisheries and Marine Officers of recreational boats to ensure compliance with the safety requirements – since this time.

### **(d) Contributed Equity**

AASB Interpretation 1038 Contributions by Owners Made to Wholly-Owned Public Sector Entities requires transfers in the nature of equity contributions, other than as a result of a restructure of administrative arrangements, to be designated by the Government (the owner) as contributions by owners (at the time of, or prior to transfer) before such transfers can be recognised as equity contributions. Capital appropriations have been designated as contributions by owners according to TI 955 Contribution by Owners made to Wholly Owned Public Sector Entities and have been credited directly to Contributed Equity.

The transfers of net assets to/from other agencies, other than as a result of a restructure of administrative arrangements, are designated as contributions by owners where the transfers are non-discretionary and non-reciprocal.

### **(e) Income**

#### **Revenue recognition**

Revenue is recognised and measured at the fair value of consideration received or receivable. Revenue is recognised for the major business activities as follows:

#### ***Sale of goods***

Revenue is recognised from the sale of goods and disposal of other assets when the significant risks and rewards of ownership transfer to the purchaser and can be measured reliably.

### ***Provision of services***

Revenue is recognised by reference to the stage of completion of the transaction. Fees paid for access to managed fisheries are levied on a seasonal, not financial year basis and may be paid in instalments. The revenue for access fees is recognised at the time of receipt.

### ***Interest***

Revenue is recognised as the interest accrues.

### ***Service appropriations***

Service Appropriations are recognised as revenues at fair value in the period in which the Department gains control of the appropriated funds. The Department gains control of appropriated funds at the time those funds are deposited to the bank account or credited to the 'Amounts receivable for services' (holding account) held at the Department of Treasury.

### ***Net Appropriation Determination***

The Treasurer may make a determination providing for prescribed receipts to be retained for services under the control of the Department. In accordance with the determination specified in the 2012-13 Budget Statements, the Department retained \$ 4.796 million in 2012-13 (\$4.656 million in 2011-12) from GST receipts on sales and input credits.

### ***Grants, donations, gifts and other non-reciprocal contributions***

Revenue is recognised at fair value when the Department

obtains control over the assets comprising the contributions, usually when cash is received.

Other non-reciprocal contributions that are not contributions by owners are recognised at their fair value. Contributions of services are only recognised when a fair value can be reliably determined and the services would be purchased if not donated.

Where contributions recognised as revenues during the reporting period were obtained on the condition that they will be expended in a specified manner, and those conditions had yet to be made at the end of the reporting period, the amounts and nature of, and the conditions attaching to them are to be disclosed in the notes.

Where contributions recognised as revenues during the reporting period were obtained specifically for the provision of goods or services over a future period, the amounts and nature of, and the periods to which they relate are to be disclosed.

Where contributions recognised as revenues in a previous reporting period were obtained in respect of the current reporting period, the amounts and nature are to be disclosed.

Royalties for Regions funds are recognised as revenue at fair value in the period in which the Department obtains control over the funds. The Department obtains control of the funds at the time the funds are deposited into the Department's bank account.

### **Gains**

Realised or unrealised gains are usually recognised on a net basis. These include gains arising on the disposal of non-current assets and some revaluations of non-current assets.

(f) **Borrowing costs**

Borrowing costs are expensed when incurred.

(g) **Property, Plant and Equipment and Infrastructure**

#### **Capitalisation/expensing of assets**

Items of property, plant and equipment and infrastructure costing \$5,000 or more are recognised as assets and the cost of utilising assets is expensed (depreciated) over their useful lives. Items of property, plant and equipment and infrastructure costing less than \$5,000 are immediately expensed direct to the Statement of Comprehensive Income (other than where they form part of a group of similar items which are significant in total).

#### **Initial recognition and measurement**

Property, plant and equipment and infrastructure are initially recognised at cost.

For items of property, plant and equipment and infrastructure acquired at no cost or for nominal cost, the cost is the fair value at the date of acquisition.

#### **Subsequent measurement**

Subsequent to initial recognition of an asset, the revaluation

model is used for the measurement of land, buildings and infrastructure and historical cost for all other property, plant and equipment. Land, buildings and infrastructure are carried at fair value less accumulated depreciation (buildings and infrastructure only) and accumulated impairment losses. All other items of property, plant and equipment are stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

Where market-based evidence is available, the fair value of land and buildings is determined on the basis of current market buying values determined by reference to recent market transactions. When buildings are revalued by reference to recent market transactions, the accumulated depreciation is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the net amount restated to the revalued amount.

In the absence of market-based evidence, fair value of land and buildings is determined on the basis of existing use. This normally applies where buildings are specialised or where land use is restricted. Fair value for existing use assets is determined by reference to the cost of replacing the remaining future economic benefits embodied in the asset, i.e. the depreciated replacement cost. Where the fair value of buildings is determined on the depreciated replacement cost basis, the gross carrying amount and the accumulated depreciation are restated proportionately.

Land and buildings are independently valued annually by the Western Australian Land Information Authority (Valuation Services) and recognised annually to ensure that

the carrying amount does not differ materially from the asset's fair value at the end of the reporting period.

Fair value of infrastructure has been determined by reference to the depreciated replacement cost (existing use basis) as the assets are specialised and no market-based evidence of value is available. Land under infrastructure is included in land reported under note 26 'Property, plant and equipment' [specify how land under infrastructure is valued]. Independent valuations are obtained every 3 to 5 years for infrastructure.

When infrastructure is revalued, the accumulated depreciation is restated proportionately with the change in the gross carrying amount of the asset so that the carrying amount of the asset after revaluation equals its revalued amount.

Fair value of major boating assets has been determined on the basis of current market buying values determined by reference to recent market transactions. Where no market based evidence is available, due to the specialised nature of some of these assets, fair value has been determined by reference to the depreciated replacement cost (existing use basis). Independent valuations are obtained every 3 to 5 years.

When infrastructure is revalued, the accumulated depreciation is restated proportionately with the change in the gross carrying amount of the asset so that the carrying amount of the asset after revaluation equals its revalued amount.

When major boating assets are revalued, the accumulated depreciation is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the net amount restated to the revalued amount.

The most significant assumptions in estimating fair value are made in assessing whether to apply the existing use basis to assets and in determining estimated useful life. Professional judgment by the valuer is required where the evidence does not provide a clear distinction between market type assets and existing use assets.

#### **Derecognition**

Upon disposal or derecognition of an item of property, plant and equipment and infrastructure, any revaluation surplus relating to that asset is retained in the asset revaluation surplus.

#### **Asset revaluation surplus**

The asset revaluation surplus is used to record increments and decrements on the revaluation of non-current assets as described in note 25 'Property, Plant and Equipment'.

#### **Depreciation**

All non-current assets having a limited useful life are systematically depreciated over their estimated useful lives in a manner that reflects the consumption of their future economic benefits.

Depreciation is calculated using the straight line method, using rates which are reviewed annually. Estimated useful lives for each class of depreciable asset are:

Asset category	Life (years)
Buildings	40
Vessels	5 to 6
Communication equipment	5
Computer equipment	3
Furniture and fittings	10
Infrastructure	55 to 80
Motor vehicles	3 to 7
Office equipment	5
Other equipment	5 to 10
Plant and equipment	10 to 15

Works of art controlled by the Department are classified as property, plant and equipment. These are anticipated to have indefinite useful lives. Their service potential has not, in any material sense, been consumed during the reporting period and consequently no depreciation has been recognised.

Land is not depreciated.

## (h) Intangible Assets

### Capitalisation/Expensing of assets

Acquisitions of intangible assets costing \$5,000 or more and internally generated intangible assets costing \$50,000 or more are capitalised. The cost of utilising the assets is expensed (amortised) over their useful lives. Costs incurred below these thresholds are immediately expensed directly to the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Intangible assets are initially recognised at cost. For assets acquired at no cost or for nominal cost, the cost is their fair value at the date of acquisition.

The cost model is applied for subsequent measurement requiring the asset to be carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

Amortisation for intangible assets with finite useful lives is calculated for the period of the expected benefit (estimated useful life which is reviewed annually) on the straight line basis. All intangible assets controlled by the Department have a finite useful life and zero residual value. The expected useful lives for each class of intangible asset are:

Licences	up to 10 years
Development costs	3 to 5 years
Software <sup>(a)</sup>	3 to 5 years
Website costs	3 to 5 years

(a) Software that is not integral to the operation of any related hardware.

### Licences

Licences have a finite useful life and are carried at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

### Research and Development

Research costs are expensed as incurred. Development costs incurred for an individual project are carried forward when the future economic benefits can reasonably be regarded

as assured and the total project costs are likely to exceed \$50,000. Other development costs are expensed as incurred.

### **Computer software**

Software that is an integral part of the related hardware is recognised as property, plant and equipment. Software that is not an integral part of the related hardware is recognised as an intangible asset. Software costing less than \$5,000 is expensed in the year of acquisition.

### **Website costs**

Website costs are charged as expenses when they are incurred unless they relate to the acquisition or development of an asset when they may be capitalised and amortised.

Generally, costs in relation to feasibility studies during the planning phase of a website, and ongoing costs of maintenance during the operating phase are expensed. Costs incurred in building or enhancing a website, to the extent that they represent probable future economic benefits that can be reliably measured, are capitalised.

#### **(i) Impairment of Assets**

Property, plant, equipment and infrastructure are tested for any indication of impairment at the end of each reporting period. Where there is an indication of impairment, the recoverable amount is estimated. Where the recoverable amount is less than the carrying amount, the asset is considered impaired and is written down to the recoverable amount and an impairment loss is recognised. Where an asset measured at

cost is written down to recoverable amount, an impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss. Where a previously revalued asset is written down to recoverable amount, the loss is recognised as a revaluation decrement in other comprehensive income. As the Department is a not for profit entity, unless an asset has been identified as a surplus asset, the recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and depreciated replacement cost.

The risk of impairment is generally limited to circumstances where an asset's depreciation is materially understated, where the replacement cost is falling or where there is a significant change in useful life. Each relevant class of assets is reviewed annually to verify that the accumulated depreciation/amortisation reflects the level of consumption or expiration of asset's future economic benefits and to evaluate any impairment risk from falling replacement costs.

Intangible assets with an indefinite useful life and intangible assets not yet available for use are tested for impairment at the end of each reporting period irrespective of whether there is any indication of impairment.

The recoverable amount of assets identified as surplus assets is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and the present value of future cash flows expected to be derived from the asset. Surplus assets carried at fair value have no risk of material impairment where fair value is determined by reference to market-based evidence. Where fair value is determined by reference to depreciated replacement cost, surplus assets are at risk of impairment and the recoverable amount is measured. Surplus assets at cost are tested for indications of impairment at the end of each reporting period.

(j) **Non-current Assets (or disposal groups) classified as held for sale**

Non-current assets (or disposal groups) held for sale are recognised at the lower of carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell, and are disclosed separately from other assets in the Statement of Financial Position. Assets classified as held for sale are not depreciated or amortised.

All Crown land holdings are vested in the Department by the Government. The Department of Regional Development and Lands (DRDL) is the only agency with the power to sell Crown land. The Department transfers the Crown land and any attached buildings to DRDL when the land becomes available for sale.

(k) **Leases**

Finance lease rights and obligations are initially recognised, at the commencement of the lease term, as assets and liabilities equal in amount to the fair value of the leased item or, if lower, the present value of the minimum lease payments, determined at the inception of the lease. The assets are disclosed as plant, equipment and vehicles under lease, and are depreciated over the period during which the Department is expected to benefit from their use. Minimum lease payments are apportioned between the finance charge and the reduction of the outstanding lease liability, according to the interest rate implicit in the lease.

The Department holds operating leases for its head office and a number of branch office buildings. Operating leases are expensed on a straight line basis over the lease

term as this represents the pattern of benefits derived from the leased properties.

(l) **Financial Instruments**

In addition to cash, the Department has two categories of financial instrument:

- Loans and receivables; and
- Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost.

Financial instruments have been disaggregated into the following classes:

**Financial Assets**

- Cash and cash equivalents
- Restricted cash and cash equivalents
- Receivables
- Amounts receivable for services

**Financial Liabilities**

- Payables
- WATC borrowings
- Finance lease liabilities
- Amounts due to the Treasurer

Initial recognition and measurement of financial instruments is at fair value which normally equates to the transaction cost or the face value. Subsequent measurement is at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

The fair value of short-term receivables and payables is the transaction cost or the face value because there is no interest rate applicable and subsequent measurement is not required as the effect of discounting is not material.

**(m) Cash and Cash Equivalents**

For the purpose of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalent (and restricted cash and cash equivalent) assets comprise cash on hand and short-term deposits with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and which are subject to insignificant risk of changes in value.

**(n) Accrued Salaries**

Accrued salaries (refer note 31 'Other liabilities') represent the amount due to staff but unpaid at the end of the financial year. Accrued salaries are settled within a fortnight of the financial year end. The Department considers the carrying amount of accrued salaries to be equivalent to its net fair value.

The accrued salaries suspense account (see note 20 'Restricted cash and cash equivalents') consists of amounts paid annually into a suspense account over a period of 10 financial years to largely meet the additional cash outflow in each eleventh year when 27 pay days occur instead of the normal 26. No interest is received on this account.

**(o) Amounts Receivable for Services (Holding Account)**

The Department receives funding on an accrual basis. The appropriations are paid partly in cash and partly as an asset (holding account receivable). The accrued amount receivable is accessible on the emergence of the cash funding requirement to cover leave entitlements and asset replacement.

See also note 19 'Income from State Government' and note 22 'Amounts receivable for services (holding account)'.

**(p) Receivables**

Receivables are recognised at original invoice amount less an allowance for uncollectible amounts (i.e. impairment). The collectability of receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis and any receivables identified as uncollectible are written off against the allowance account. The allowance for uncollectible amounts (doubtful debts) is raised when there is objective evidence that the Department will not be able to collect the debts. The carrying amount is equivalent to fair value as it is due for settlement within 30 days. See also note 2(l) 'Financial Instruments' and note 21 'Receivables'.

**(q) Payables**

Payables are recognised at the amounts payable when the Department becomes obliged to make future payments as a result of a purchase of assets or services. The carrying amount is equivalent to fair value, as settlement is generally within 30 days. See also note 38 'Financial Instruments' and note 28 'Payables'.



(r) **Borrowings**

All loans payable are initially recognised at fair value being the net proceeds received. Subsequent measurement is at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

(s) **Provisions**

Provisions are liabilities of uncertain timing or amount and are recognised where there is a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event and when the outflow of resources embodying economic benefits is probable and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. Provisions are reviewed at the end of each reporting period. See also note 30 'Provisions'

(i) **Provisions – Employee benefits**

All annual leave and long service leave provisions are in respect of employees' services up to the end of the reporting period.

**Annual Leave**

The liability for annual leave that is expected to be settled within 12 months after the end of the reporting period is recognised and measured at the undiscounted amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

Annual leave that is not expected to be settled within 12 months after the end of the reporting period is recognised and measured at the present value of amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement.

When assessing expected future payments consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels including non-salary components such as employer superannuation contributions, as well as the experience of employee departures and periods of service. The expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the end of the reporting period on national government bonds with terms to maturity that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

The provision for annual leave is classified as a current liability as the Department does not have an unconditional right to the defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the end of the reporting period.

**Long Service Leave**

A liability for long service leave is recognised after an employee has completed four years of service based on remuneration rates current as at the end of the reporting period.

An actuarial assessment of long service leave undertaken by the PWC actuaries at 30 June 2012 determined that the liability measured using the short-hand measurement technique above was not materially different from the liability determined using the present value of expected future payments. This calculation is consistent with the Department's experience of employee retention and leave taken.

Unconditional long service leave provisions are classified as current liabilities as the Authority does not have an unconditional right to defer the settlement of the liability

for at least 12 months after the end of the reporting period. Pre-conditional and conditional long service leave provisions are classified as non-current liabilities because the Authority has an unconditional right to defer the settlement of the liability until the employee has completed the requisite years of service.

### ***Sick Leave***

Liabilities for sick leave are recognised when it is probable that sick leave paid in the future will be greater than the entitlement that will accrue in the future.

Past history indicates that on average, sick leave taken each reporting period is less than the entitlement accrued. This is expected to continue in future periods. Accordingly, it is unlikely that existing accumulated entitlements will be used by employees and no liability for unused sick leave entitlements is recognised. As sick leave is non-vesting, an expense is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income for this leave as it is taken.

### ***Deferred Leave***

The provision of deferred leave relates to Public Service employees who have entered into an agreement to self-fund an additional 12 months leave in the fifth year of the agreement. The provision recognises the value of salary set aside for employees to be used in the fifth year. This liability is measured on the same basis as annual leave. Deferred leave is reported as a current provision as employees can leave the scheme at their discretion at any time.

### ***Purchased Leave***

The provision of purchased leave relates to Public Service employees who have entered into an agreement to self-fund up to an additional 10 weeks leave per calendar year. The provision recognises the value of salary set aside for employees and is measured at the undiscounted amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled.

### ***Superannuation***

The Government Employees Superannuation Board (GESB) and other fund providers administer public sector superannuation arrangements in Western Australia in accordance with legislative requirements. Eligibility criteria for membership in particular schemes for public sector employees vary according to commencement and implementation dates.

Eligible employees contribute to the Pension Scheme, a defined benefit pension scheme closed to new members since 1987, or the Gold State Superannuation Scheme (GSS), a defined benefit lump sum scheme also closed to new members since 1995.

Employees commencing employment prior to 16 April 2007 who were not members of either the Pension Scheme or the GSS became non-contributory members of the West State Superannuation Scheme (WSS). Employees commencing employment on or after 16 April 2007 became members of the GESB Super Scheme (GESBS). From 30 March 2012, existing members of the WSS or GESBS and new employees have been able to choose their preferred superannuation fund provider. The Department makes contributions to GESB

or other fund provider on behalf of employees in compliance with the Commonwealth Government's Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1992. Contributions to these accumulation schemes extinguish the Department's liability for superannuation charges in respect of employees who are not members of the Pension Scheme or GSS.

The GSS is a defined benefit scheme for the purposes of employees and whole-of-government reporting. However, it is a defined contribution plan for agency purposes because the concurrent contributions (defined contributions) made by the Department to GESB extinguishes the agency's obligations to the related superannuation liability.

The Department has no liabilities under the Pension Scheme or the GSS. The liabilities for the unfunded Pension Scheme and the unfunded GSS transfer benefits attributable to members who transferred from the Pension Scheme, are assumed by the Treasurer. All other GSS obligations are funded by concurrent contributions made by the Department to the GESB.

The GESB makes all benefit payments in respect of the Pension Scheme and GSS, and is recouped from the Treasurer for the employer's share.

## (ii) Provisions – Other

### **Employment On-Costs**

Employment on-costs, including workers' compensation insurance, are not employee benefits and are recognised separately as liabilities and expenses when the employment

to which they relate has occurred. Employment on-costs are included as part of 'Other expenses' and are not included as part of the Department's 'Employee benefits expense'. The related liability is included in 'Employment on-costs' provision. See notes 13 'Other Expenses' and 30 'Provisions'.

### (t) **Superannuation Expense**

The superannuation expense in the Statement of Comprehensive Income comprises of employer contributions paid to the GSS (concurrent contributions), the WSS, the GESBS, or other superannuation funds. The employer contribution paid to the GESB in respect of the GSS is paid back into the Consolidated Account by the GESB.

### (u) **Assets and services received free of charge or for nominal cost**

Assets or services received free of charge or for nominal cost that can be reliably measured are recognised as income at the fair value of the assets and/or the fair value of those services that the Department would otherwise pay for. A corresponding expense is recognised for services received. Receipts of assets are recognised in the Statement of Financial Position.

Assets or services received from other State Government agencies are separately disclosed under Income from State Government in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

(v) **Jointly controlled operations**

The Department has interests in joint ventures that are jointly controlled operations. A joint venture is a contractual arrangement whereby two or more parties undertake an economic activity that is subject to joint control. A jointly controlled operation involves the use of assets and other resources of the venturers rather than the establishment of a separate entity. The Department recognises its interests in the jointly controlled operations by recognising the assets it controls and the liabilities that it incurs in respect of the joint venture. The Department also recognises the expenses that it incurs and its share of the income that it earns from the sale of goods or services by the jointly controlled operations.

## (w) Comparative Figures

Comparative figures are, where appropriate, reclassified to be comparable with the figures presented in the current financial year.

A review was undertaken by the Department of Fisheries for the prior period adjustments. The necessary adjustments have resulted in amendments to the Financial Statements for 2010-11 and 2011-12 and are shown here.

	Note	1 July 2011					1 July 2012			
		Previously reported \$000	Prior period adjustment1 \$000	Prior period adjustment2 \$000	Prior period adjustment3 \$000	Restated amount \$000	Audited movement \$000	Prior period adjustment 2 \$000	Prior period adjustment 3 \$000	Restated amount \$000
<b>Impact – Statement of Financial Position</b>										
<b>Non Current Assets</b>										
Property, plant and equipment	25	58,399	625	-	270	59,294	1,281	451	311	61,337
<b>Equity</b>										
Contributed equity	32	50,076	625	-	-	50,701	6,939	-	-	57,640
Accumulated surplus/(deficit)	32	(2,405)	-	-	270	(2,135)	(317)	451	311	(1,690)
		Previously reported \$000	Prior period adjustment1 \$000	Prior period adjustment2 \$000	Prior period adjustment3 \$000	Restated amount \$000	Previously reported \$000	Prior period adjustment 2 \$000	Prior period adjustment 3 \$000	Restated amount \$000
<b>Impact – Statement of Comprehensive Income</b>										
Total cost of Services		72,706	-	-	(270)	72,436	86,098	(451)	(311)	85,336
Surplus/Deficit for the period		(5,562)	-	-	270	(5,292)	957	451	311	1,719
Total comprehensive income for the period		(6,089)	-	-	270	(5,819)	72	451	311	834
Prior period adjustment 1 :		Pre-existing but previously unidentified building and land improvements, currently valued at \$625k vested to the Department of Fisheries								
Prior period adjustment 2 :		Computer hardware costs recognised as expense in the 2011-12 financial year								
Prior period adjustment 3 :		Marine vessels over depreciated in previous financial years due to missing salvage (residual) values								

(x) **Access Fees - Major Commercial Fisheries**

The Department and the commercial fishing industry entered into an agreement in 1995 that provided for the Department to recover the costs associated with the management of major commercial fisheries. The costs were recovered through the annual fee charged for access to the fishery concerned.

Effective 1 July 2010 the use of cost recovery as the mechanism for setting access fees was discontinued. Access fees are now levied as a percentage of the gross value of production of each fishery.

**3 JUDGEMENTS MADE BY MANAGEMENT IN APPLYING ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make judgements about the application of accounting policies that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements. The Department evaluates these judgements regularly.

***Operating lease commitments***

The Department has entered into a number of leases for buildings for branch office accommodation. Some of these leases relate to buildings of a temporary nature and it has been determined that the lessor retains substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership. Accordingly, these leases have been classified as operating leases.

***Finance lease commitments***

The Department had a commercial lease on a patrol vessel and had determined that it retained all the significant risks and rewards of ownership of the property. Accordingly, the lease had been classified as a finance lease.

**4 KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY**

Key estimates and assumptions concerning the future are based on historical experience and various other factors that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next financial year. These include:

- Estimating the useful life and residual values of key assets;
- Estimating depreciated replacement cost; and
- Estimating future salary rates, salary inflation, expected future payments, retention rates and discount rates for long service leave.

## 5 DISCLOSURE OF CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICY AND ESTIMATES

### Initial application of Australian Accounting Standards:

The Department has applied the following Australian Accounting Standards effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 July 2012 that impacted on the Department:

AASB 2011-9 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Presentation of Items of Other Comprehensive Income [AASB 1, 5, 7, 101, 112, 120, 121, 132, 133, 134, 1039 & 1049]

This Standard requires to group items presented in other comprehensive income on the basis of whether they are potentially reclassifiable to profit or loss subsequently (reclassification adjustments). There is no financial impact.

### Future impact of Australian Accounting Standards not yet operative

The Department cannot early adopt an Australian Accounting Standard unless specifically permitted by TI 1101 Application of Australian Accounting Standards and

Other Pronouncements. Consequently, the Department has not applied early any of the following Australian Accounting Standards that have been issued that may impact the Department. Where applicable, the Department plans to apply these Australian Accounting Standards from their application date.

	Operative for reporting periods beginning on/ after
<i>AASB 9 Financial Instrument</i>	1 Jan 2015
This Standard supersedes AASB 139 Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement, introducing a number of changes to accounting treatments.	
AASB 2012-6 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Mandatory Effective Date of AASB 9 and Transition Disclosures amended the mandatory application date of this Standard to 1 January 2015. The Department has not yet determined the application or the potential impact of the Standard.	
<i>AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement</i>	1 Jan 2013
This Standard defines fair value, sets out a framework for measuring fair value and requires additional disclosures about fair value measurements. There is no financial impact.	

<p>AASB <i>Employee Benefits</i> 119 This Standard supersedes AASB 119 (October 2010), making changes to the recognition, presentation and disclosure requirements. The Department does not have any defined benefit plans, and therefore the financial impact will be limited to the effect of discounting annual leave and long service leave liabilities that were previously measured at the undiscounted amounts.</p>	<p>1 Jan 2013</p>	<p>AASB <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards</i> 2010-7 arising from AASB 9 (December 2010) [AASB 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 101, 102, 108, 112, 118, 120, 121, 127, 128, 131, 132, 136, 137, 139, 1023 &amp; 1038 and Int 2, 5, 10, 12, 19 &amp; 127] This Standard makes consequential amendments to other Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations as a result of issuing AASB 9 in December 2010. AASB 2012-6 amended the mandatory application date of this Standard to 1 January 2015. The Department has not yet determined the application or the potential impact of the Standard.</p>	<p>1 Jan 2015</p>
<p>AASB <i>Budgetary Reporting</i> 1055 This Standard specifies the nature of budgetary disclosures, the circumstances in which they are to be included in the general purpose financial statements of not-for-profit entities within the GGS. The Department will be required to disclose additional budgetary information and explanations of major variances between actual and budgeted amounts, though there is no financial impact.</p>		<p>AASB <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards</i> 2011-8 arising from AASB 13 [AASB 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 101, 102, 108, 110, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 128, 131, 132, 133, 134, 136, 138, 139, 140, 141, 1004, 1023 &amp; 1038 and Int 2, 4, 12, 13, 14, 17, 19, 131 &amp; 132] This Standard replaces the existing definition and fair value guidance in other Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations as the result of issuing AASB 13 in September 2011. There is no financial impact.</p>	<p>1 Jan 2013</p>
<p>AASB <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards</i> 2010-2 arising from <i>Reduced Disclosure Requirements</i> [AASB 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 101, 102, 107, 108, 110, 111, 112, 116, 117, 119, 121, 123, 124, 127, 128, 131, 133, 134, 136, 137, 138, 140, 141, 1050 &amp; 1052 and Int 2, 4, 5, 15, 17, 127, 129 &amp; 1052] This Standard makes amendments to Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations to introduce reduced disclosure requirements for certain types of entities. There is no financial impact.</p>	<p>1 Jul 2013</p>	<p>AASB <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards</i> 2011-10 arising from AASB 119 (September 2011) [AASB 1, 8, 101, 124, 134, 1049 &amp; 2011-8 and Int 14] This Standard makes amendments to other Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations as a result of issuing AASB 119 in September 2011. There is limited financial impact.</p>	<p>1 Jan 2013</p>



<p>AASB <i>Amendments to AASB 119 (September 2011) arising from Reduced Disclosure Requirements 2011-11</i></p> <p>This Standard gives effect to Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements for AASB 119 (September 2011). There is no financial impact.</p>	<p>1 Jul 2013</p>
<p>AASB <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards 2012-1 - Fair Value Measurement - Reduced Disclosure Requirements [AASB 3, 7, 13, 140 &amp; 141]</i></p> <p>This Standard establishes and amends reduced disclosure requirements for additional and amended disclosures arising from AASB 13 and the consequential amendments implemented through AASB 2011-8. There is no financial impact.</p>	<p>1 Jul 2013</p>
<p>AASB <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – 2012-6 Mandatory Effective Date of AASB 9 and Transition Disclosures [AASB 9, 2009-11, 2010-7, 2011-7 &amp; 2011-8]</i></p> <p>This Standard amends the mandatory effective date of AASB 9 Financial Instruments to 1 January 2015. Further amendments are also made to consequential amendments arising from AASB 9 that will now apply from 1 January 2015 and to consequential amendments arising out of the Standards that will still apply from 1 January 2013. There is no financial impact.</p>	<p>1 Jan 2013</p>

<p>AASB <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – 2012-10 Transition Guidance and Other Amendments [AASB 1, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 101, 102, 108, 112, 118, 119, 127, 128, 132, 133, 134, 137, 1023, 1038, 1039, 1049, &amp; 2011-7 and Int 12]</i></p> <p>This Standard makes amendments to AASB 10 and related Standards to revise the transition guidance relevant to the initial application of those Standards, and to clarify the circumstances in which adjustments to an entity's previous accounting for its involvement with other entities are required and the timing of such adjustments. The Standard was issued in December 2012. The Standard was issued in December 2012. The Department has not yet determined the application or the potential impact of the Standard.</p>	<p>1 Jan 2013</p>
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	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>6 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS EXPENSE</b>		
Wages and salaries <sup>(a)</sup>	42,473	39,522
Superannuation – defined contribution plans <sup>(b)</sup>	3,962	3,588
Other related expenses <sup>(c)</sup>	2,866	2,640
	<u>49,301</u>	<u>45,750</u>

(a) Includes the value of the fringe benefit to the employee plus the fringe benefits tax component, leave entitlements including superannuation contribution component.

(b) Defined contribution plans include West State, Gold State and GESB and other eligible funds.

(c) Includes the value of the fringe benefit to the employee plus the fringe benefits tax component.

Employment on-costs expenses, such as workers' compensation insurance, are included at note 13 'Other expenses'. The employment on costs liability is included at note 30 'Provisions'.

Employment on-costs liability is included at note 30 'Provisions'.

## 7 SUPPLIES AND SERVICES

Communications	1,004	1,374
Freight & mail	368	680
Contractors & consultants	7,724	5,771
Payments to stakeholder groups <sup>(a)</sup>	3,597	3,749
Service Level Agreement <sup>(b)</sup>	1,267	1,061
Consumables	3,641	4,072
Minor Equipment Acquisitions	425	583
Travel	1,941	2,248
Advertising	106	85
Insurance	843	763

	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000
Other lease rentals	2,216	2,097
Licence, Fees & Registration	1,205	567
Catering	62	82
Other	1,815	1,246
	<u>26,214</u>	<u>24,378</u>

(a) The legislation governing fisheries management and common law principles associated with "property rights" impose obligations on fisheries managers to consult with affected individuals. The provision of these funds allows the recipient to act as a single point for consultation. Given this the arrangement is a fee for service rather than grant.

(b) Payments to the Department of Finance Shared Services for corporate services under a service level agreement.

## 8 DEPRECIATION AND AMORTISATION EXPENSE

### Depreciation

Buildings	1,117	979
Marine Vessels	1,508	1,207
Communications	26	15
Computing Hardware	544	122
Furniture Fixtures & Fittings	151	28
Office Equipment	49	48
Plant & Machinery	108	108
Motor Vehicles	321	303
Other Equipment	88	86
Infrastructure – Maritime	98	80
Total Depreciation	<u>4,010</u>	<u>2,976</u>

### Amortisation

Computing Software	212	176
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	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000
Leased patrol vessel	-	293
Total Amortisation	<u>212</u>	<u>469</u>
Total Depreciation and Amortisation Expense	<u>4,222</u>	<u>3,445</u>
<b>9 FINANCE COSTS</b>		
WATC Borrowing Charges	2,269	2,398
Finance Lease Charges	-	7
	<u>2,269</u>	<u>2,405</u>
<b>10 ACCOMMODATION EXPENSES</b>		
Lease rentals	2,767	2,571
Property Cleaning	279	232
Repairs & Maintenance	1,002	1,020
Resources Received Free of Charge	145	101
	<u>4,193</u>	<u>3,924</u>
<b>11 GRANTS AND SUBSIDIES</b>		
<b>Recurrent</b>		
Contributions to Fisheries Research and Development Corporation	-	230
Research grants	1,299	612
Other	26	93
	<u>1,325</u>	<u>935</u>
<b>12 FISHERIES ADJUSTMENT SCHEME BUYBACKS</b>		
Fisheries Adjustment Scheme Buybacks	37	464
	<u>37</u>	<u>464</u>

### 13 OTHER EXPENSES

	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000
Employment on-costs (see note 6 'Employee benefits expense') <sup>(a)</sup>	-	6
Act of Grace payment	264	-
Repairs and Maintenance	1,806	2,997
Other expenses	182	665
	<u>2,252</u>	<u>3,668</u>

(a) Includes workers' compensation insurance on-costs. The on-costs liability associated with the recognition of annual and long service leave liability is included at note 30 'Provisions'. Superannuation contributions accrued as part of the provision for leave are employee benefits and are not included in employment on-costs.

### 14 USER CHARGES AND FEES

	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000
Access fees <sup>(a)</sup>	15,146	17,223
Application fees	1,077	935
Recreational Licence fees	6,917	6,610
Fees for service	-	55
Regional fees	188	172
Other	144	138
	<u>23,472</u>	<u>25,133</u>

(a) The Department and the commercial fishing industry entered into an agreement in 1995 that provided for the Department to recover the costs associated with the management of major commercial fisheries. The costs were recovered through the annual fee charged for access to the fishery concerned.

### 15 GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000
Department of Commerce <sup>(a)</sup>	-	1,400
State Natural Resource Management (NRM) Office	807	463

	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000
WA Marine Science Institution (WAMSI)	-	612
Australian Seafood Cooperative Research Centre	205	268
Department of Transport	170	300
Fisheries Research and Development Corporation	1,144	1,349
Other	69	218
	<u>2,395</u>	<u>4,610</u>

(a) This relates to capital grants for the establishment of the Indian Ocean Marine Research Centre.

#### 16 INTEREST REVENUE

Fisheries Research and Development Account	203	270
Recreational Fishing Account	87	115
	<u>290</u>	<u>385</u>

#### 17 OTHER REVENUE

Rental revenue	633	587
Diesel Fuel Rebate	266	290
Insurance Recoveries	786	343
Indian Ocean Territories	749	830
WATC Borrowing Charges recouped	2,269	2,398
Department of Treasury (a)	-	500
Employee FBT contribution	63	55
Others	527	752
	<u>5,292</u>	<u>5,755</u>

(a) This is the recoup from Department of Treasury for Shark Mitigation Strategies.

	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>18 NET GAIN/(LOSS) ON DISPOSAL OF NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
<i>Proceeds from disposal of non-current assets</i>		
Property, plant and equipment	140	243
<i>Cost of disposal of non-current assets</i>		
Property, plant and equipment	(257)	(610)
Net gain/(loss)	<u>(117)</u>	<u>(367)</u>

#### 19 INCOME FROM STATE GOVERNMENT

Appropriation received during the year:

Service appropriation <sup>(a)</sup>	<u>48,381</u>	<u>50,280</u>
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(a) Service appropriations fund the net cost of services delivered. Appropriation revenue comprises a cash component and a receivable (asset). The receivable (holding account) comprises the budgeted depreciation expense for the year and any agreed increase in leave liability during the year.

#### Services Received Free of Charge from other State government agencies during the period.

Services Received Free of Charge <sup>(b)</sup>	<u>641</u>	<u>750</u>
Department of Attorney General	225	247
Western Australian Land Information Authority	171	213
Department of Finance	245	290
	<u>641</u>	<u>750</u>

	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000

(b) Assets or Services received free of charge or for nominal cost are recognised as revenue at fair value of the assets and/or services that can be reliably measured and which would have been purchased if they were not donated. Contributions of assets or services in the nature of contributions by owners are recognised direct to equity.

#### Royalties for Regions Fund

Regional Community Services Account <sup>(c)</sup>	<u>1,083</u>	<u>142</u>
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(c) This is a sub-fund within the over-arching 'Royalties for Regions Fund'. The recurrent funds are committed to projects and programs in WA regional areas.

## 20 RESTRICTED CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

### Current

Fisheries Adjustment Schemes Trust Account <sup>(a)</sup>	271	268
Indian Ocean Marine Research Centre <sup>(b)</sup>	2,200	2,200
RFIF Recreational Fishing Initiatives Funds	1,175	-
Beacon Island Compensation Funding	108	-
Research Grants	1,101	1,142
Royalties for Regions	290	200
Bond for aquaculture rentals (d)	-	94
Seizure proceeds pending (d)	-	73
	<u>5,145</u>	<u>3,977</u>

### Non-current

Salaries suspense account <sup>(c)</sup>	1,351	923
	<u>6,496</u>	<u>4,900</u>

	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000

(a) Monies held in the Fisheries Adjustment Schemes Trust Account are only available for use as prescribed by the Fisheries Adjustment Scheme Act 1987.

(b) Monies are only to be used for the refurbishment of Indian Ocean Marine Research Centre.

(c) Amount held in suspense account is only to be used for the purpose of meeting the 27th pay in a financial year that occurs every 11 years.

(d) Private trust fund has been removed from financial reporting in 2012/13

## 21 RECEIVABLES

### Current

Receivables	562	1,033
Less: Allowance for impairment of receivables	(6)	(6)
GST Receivable	<u>533</u>	<u>438</u>
	1,089	1,465
Other Debtors <sup>(a)</sup>	9,295	3,775
Total current	<u>10,384</u>	<u>5,240</u>

### Non-Current

Other Debtors <sup>(a)</sup>	28,465	31,760
Total non-current	<u>28,465</u>	<u>31,760</u>
Total receivables	<u>38,849</u>	<u>37,000</u>

Reconciliation of changes in the allowance for impairment of receivables:

Balance at start of period	6	4
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	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000
Doubtful debts expense	10	6
Amounts written off during the period	(10)	(4)
Amounts recovered during the period	-	-
Balance at end of period	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>

(a) The 'Other Debtors' relates to an advance made to industry. The Department does not hold any collateral or other credit enhancements as security for receivables.

See also note 2(p) 'Receivables' and note 38 'Financial Instruments'.

## 22 AMOUNTS RECEIVABLE FOR SERVICES (HOLDING ACCOUNT)

Current	2,007	2,746
Non-current	8,020	6,475
	<u>10,027</u>	<u>9,221</u>

Represents the non-cash component of service appropriations. It is restricted in that it can only be used for asset replacement or payment of leave liability.

See note 2(o) 'Amounts Receivable for Services (Holding Account)'.

## 23 OTHER ASSETS

### Prepayments

Licences and rentals	37	90
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### Accrued Income

Accrued Interest	114	56
	<u>151</u>	<u>146</u>

	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000
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## 24 NON-CURRENT ASSETS CLASSIFIED AS HELD FOR SALE

### Opening balance

Plant, equipment and vehicles	700	-
Less: write-down from cost to fair value less selling costs	-	-
	-	-

### Assets reclassified as held for distribution to owners

Plant, equipment and vehicles	-	700
Less: write-down from cost to fair value less selling costs <sup>(a)</sup>	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>700</u>

### Total assets classified as held for distribution to owners

Plant, equipment and vehicles	-	700
Less: write-down from cost to fair value less selling costs	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>700</u>

### Less: assets distributed to owners

Plant, equipment and vehicles	450	-
Less: write-down from cost to fair value less selling costs	-	-
	<u>450</u>	<u>-</u>

### Less: assets reclassified to property, plant and equipment

Plant, equipment and vehicles	250	-
Less: write-down from cost to fair value less selling costs	-	-
	<u>250</u>	<u>-</u>

	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000		2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000
<b>Closing balance</b>			<b>FURNITURE AND FITTINGS</b>		
Plant, equipment and vehicles	-	700	At cost	4,373	1,091
Write-down from cost to fair value less selling costs	-	-	Accumulated depreciation	(853)	(922)
	<u>-</u>	<u>700</u>		<u>3,520</u>	<u>169</u>
(a) Disclosed as Other expenses.			<b>OFFICE EQUIPMENT</b>		
			At cost	454	493
			Accumulated depreciation	(279)	(361)
				<u>175</u>	<u>132</u>
<b>25 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT</b>			<b>PLANT AND MACHINERY</b>		
<b>LAND</b>			At cost	1,835	1,930
Land at fair value (i)	7,240	6,519	Accumulated depreciation	(1,180)	(1,258)
	<u>7,240</u>	<u>6,519</u>		<u>655</u>	<u>672</u>
<b>BUILDINGS</b>			<b>MOTOR VEHICLES</b>		
At fair value (i)	39,039	39,206	At cost	1,961	1,925
Accumulated depreciation	-	(28)	Accumulated depreciation	(946)	(840)
	<u>39,039</u>	<u>39,178</u>		<u>1,015</u>	<u>1,085</u>
<b>MARINE VESSELS</b>			<b>WORKS OF ART</b>		
At fair value (ii)	18,079	15,941	At cost	97	97
Accumulated depreciation	(7,780)	(6,272)		<u>97</u>	<u>97</u>
	<u>10,299</u>	<u>9,669</u>	<b>OTHER EQUIPMENT</b>		
<b>COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT</b>			At cost	616	536
At cost	617	632	Accumulated depreciation	(395)	(329)
Accumulated depreciation	(538)	(544)		<u>221</u>	<u>207</u>
	<u>79</u>	<u>88</u>	<b>INFRASTRUCTURE - MARITIME</b>		
<b>COMPUTER HARDWARE</b>			At cost	4,281	2,461
At cost	3,124	1,891	Accumulated depreciation	(1,360)	(1,339)
Accumulated depreciation	(1,162)	(1,235)		<u>2,921</u>	<u>1,122</u>
	<u>1,962</u>	<u>656</u>			

	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>CAPITAL WORKS IN PROGRESS</b>		
Buildings (i)	1,059	559
Maritime (ii)	-	1,184
Marine vessel	18	-
	<u>1,077</u>	<u>1,743</u>
<b>Total Property, Plant and Equipment</b>	<u><b>68,300</b></u>	<u><b>61,337</b></u>

- (i) Land and buildings were revalued as at 1 July 2012 by the Western Australian Land Information Authority (Valuation Services). The valuations were performed during the year ended 30 June 2013 and recognised at 30 June 2013. In undertaking the revaluation, fair value was determined by reference to market values for land: \$2,732,900 (2012: \$4,319,000) and buildings: \$473,000 (2012: \$1,590,000). For the remaining balance, fair value of land and buildings was determined on the basis of depreciated replacement cost. See note 2(g) 'Property, Plant and Equipment and Infrastructure'.
- (ii) Marine vessels were revalued by the Maritime Engineers Pty Ltd during the year ended 30 June 2008 and recognised at 30 June 2008 at market value based on Asset Protection Criteria. See note 2(g) 'Property, Plant and Equipment and Infrastructure'.



Reconciliations of the carrying amounts of property, plant and equipment at the beginning and end of the reporting period are set out below:

2013	Carrying amount at start of year \$'000	Additions \$'000	Disposal \$'000	Transfers to DRDL(a) \$'000	Transfer from (to) NCA held for distribution to owners \$'000	Work in progress \$'000	Revaluation \$'000	Depreciation \$'000	Carrying amount at end of year \$'000
Land	6,519	-	-	-	250	-	471	-	7,240
Buildings	39,777	-	(144)	-	-	736	387	(1,119)	39,038
Marine Vessels	9,669	537	-	-	-	1,601	-	(1,508)	10,299
Communication Equipment	88	16	-	-	-	-	-	(26)	78
Computer Hardware	656	1,849	-	-	-	-	-	(544)	1,961
Furniture, Fixtures & Fittings	169	-	(2)	-	-	3,506	-	(151)	3,521
Office Equipment	132	93	-	-	-	-	-	(49)	176
Plant & Machinery	672	96	(5)	-	-	-	-	(108)	655
Vehicles	1,085	315	(65)	-	-	-	-	(320)	1,015
Works of Art	97	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	97
Other Equipment	207	105	(2)	-	-	-	-	(88)	222
Infrastructure – Maritime	1,122	73	(35)	-	-	1,860	-	(98)	2,921
Leased Patrol Vessel	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Work in progress</b>									
Buildings	559	4,742	-	-	-	(4,242)	-	-	1,060
Other Equipment	-	224	-	-	-	(224)	-	-	-
Maritime	1,184	2,031	-	-	-	(3,215)	-	-	-
Boating	-	40	-	-	-	(22)	-	-	18
	<b>61,337</b>	<b>10,120</b>	<b>(254)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>858</b>	<b>(4,011)</b>	<b>68,300</b>

2012	Carrying amount at start of year	Additions	Disposal	Transfers to DRDL (a)	Transfer from (to) NCA held for distribution to owners	Work in progress	Revaluation	Depreciation	Carrying amount at end of year
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Land	9,424	-	-	(1,675)	(685)	-	(545)	-	6,519
Buildings	33,939	6,613	-	(40)	(15)	-	(340)	(979)	39,177
Marine Vessels	9,341	2,011	(476)	-	-	-	-	(1,207)	9,669
Communication Equipment	34	69	-	-	-	-	-	(15)	88
Computer Hardware	164	614	-	-	-	-	-	(121)	656
Furniture Fixtures & Fittings	88	108	-	-	-	-	-	(28)	169
Office Equipment	110	70	-	-	-	-	-	(48)	132
Plant & Machinery	791	173	(182)	-	-	-	-	(108)	672
Vehicles	1,277	170	(59)	-	-	-	-	(303)	1,085
Works of Art	97	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	97
Other Equipment	288	5	-	-	-	-	-	(86)	207
Infrastructure - Maritime	1,220	-	(18)	-	-	-	-	(81)	1,122
Leased Patrol Vessel	293	-	-	-	-	-	-	(293)	-
<b>Work in progress</b>									
Buildings	1,720	559	-	-	-	(1,720)	-	-	559
Maritime	508	676	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,184
	<b>59,294</b>	<b>11,067</b>	<b>(735)</b>	<b>(1,715)</b>	<b>(700)</b>	<b>(1,720)</b>	<b>(885)</b>	<b>(3,269)</b>	<b>61,337</b>

(a) The Department of Regional Development and Lands (DRDL) is the only agency with the power to sell Crown land. The land is transferred to the DRDL for sale and the Department accounts for the transfer as a distribution to owner.

	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>26 INTANGIBLE ASSETS</b>		
<b>COMPUTER SOFTWARE</b>		
At cost	1,397	879
Accumulated amortisation	(929)	(717)
	<u>468</u>	<u>162</u>
<b>CAPITAL WORKS IN PROGRESS</b>		
Computer Software	8,928	2,510
	<u>8,928</u>	<u>2,510</u>
<b>Total Intangible Assets</b>	<u><b>9,396</b></u>	<u><b>2,672</b></u>

Reconciliations of the carrying amounts of intangible assets at the beginning and end of the reporting period are set out below:

	Carrying amount at start of period	Additions	Disposal	Transfers from WIP	Revaluation	Deprecn. for the year	Carrying amount at end of year
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>2013</b>							
Computer Software	162	518	-	-	-	(212)	468
<b>Work in progress</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Computer Software	2,510	6,935	-	(518)	-	-	8,927
	<b>2,672</b>	<b>7,453</b>	-	<b>(518)</b>	-	<b>(212)</b>	<b>9,395</b>

	Carrying amount at start of year	Additions	Disposal	Transfers from WIP	Revaluation	Deprecn. for the year	Carrying amount at end of year
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>2012</b>							
Computer Software	338	-	-	-	-	(176)	162
<b>Work in progress</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Computer Software	715	1,795	-	-	-	-	2,510
	<b>1,053</b>	<b>1,795</b>	-	-	-	<b>(176)</b>	<b>2,672</b>

	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000

## 27 IMPAIRMENT OF ASSETS

There are no indications of impairment of property, plant and equipment, infrastructure or intangible assets at 30 June 2013.

The Department held no goodwill or intangible assets with an indefinite useful life during the reporting period. At the end of the period there were no intangible assets not yet available for use.

All surplus assets at 30 June 2013 have either been reclassified as assets held for sales or written off.

## 28 PAYABLES

### Current

Trade payables	3,575	2,211
	<u>3,575</u>	<u>2,211</u>

See also note 2(q) 'Payables' and note 38 'Financial Instruments'.

## 29 BORROWINGS

### Current

Borrowings from Western Australian Treasury Corporation	8,396	3,102
	<u>8,396</u>	<u>3,102</u>

### Non-current

Borrowings from Western Australian Treasury Corporation	28,465	31,760
	<u>28,465</u>	<u>31,760</u>

## 30 PROVISIONS

### Current

#### Employee benefits provision

Purchased leave	24	6
Deferred leave	(61)	1
Annual leave <sup>(a)</sup>	4,970	4,584
Long service leave <sup>(b)</sup>	5,856	5,407
	<u>10,789</u>	<u>9,998</u>

#### Other provisions

Employment on-costs <sup>(c)</sup>	-	44
	<u>-</u>	<u>44</u>
	<u>10,789</u>	<u>10,042</u>

### Non-current

Employee benefits provision		
Long service leave <sup>(b)</sup>	3,080	2,370
	<u>3,080</u>	<u>2,370</u>

#### Other provisions

Employment on-costs-NC <sup>(c)</sup>	-	11
	<u>-</u>	<u>11</u>
	<u>3,080</u>	<u>2,381</u>

(a) Annual leave liabilities have been classified as current as there is no unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the end of the reporting period. Assessments indicate that actual settlement of the liabilities is expected to occur as follows:

Within 12 months of the end of the reporting period	<u>4,970</u>	<u>4,584</u>
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	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000
(b) Long service leave liabilities have been classified as current where there is no unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the end of the reporting date. Assessments indicate that actual settlement of the liabilities is expected to occur as follows:		
Within 12 months of the end of the reporting period	2,457	2,141
More than 12 months of the end of the reporting period	6,479	5,637
	<u>8,936</u>	<u>7,778</u>

(c) The settlement of annual and long service leave gives rise to the payment of employment on-costs, including workers' compensation insurance. The provision is the present value of expected future payments. The associated expense, apart from the unwinding of the discount (finance cost), is included in note 13 'Other Expenses'.

#### Movements in other provisions

Movements in each class of provisions during the financial year, other than employee benefits are set out below:

#### Employment on-cost provision

Carrying amount at start of period	55	49
Additional provisions recognised	-	6
Payments/other sacrifices of economic benefit	(55)	-
Carrying amount at the end of period	<u>-</u>	<u>55</u>

The superannuation on-costs are included in the annual and long service leave provisions.

	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000
<b>31 OTHER LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Accrued salaries	931	820
Superannuation accrued	76	84
Accrued FBT	104	65
Accrued WATC charges	616	673
Accrued Employee Claims	116	200
Other	107	233
	<u>1,950</u>	<u>2,075</u>

#### 32 EQUITY

The Government holds the equity interest in the Department on behalf of the community. Equity represents the residual interest in the net assets of the Department. The asset revaluation surplus represents that portion of equity resulting from the revaluation of non-current assets.

#### ACCUMULATED SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)

Balance at start of period	(1,690)	(2,405)
Correction of prior period error	-	270
Transfer from Asset Revaluation Reserve	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,274)</u>
	(1,690)	(3,409)
Result for the period	(8,376)	957
Correction of Current year errors	-	762
<b>Balance at end of period</b>	<u>(10,066)</u>	<u>(1,690)</u>

#### CONTRIBUTED EQUITY

Balance at start of period	57,640	50,076
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	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000
Correction of prior period errors	-	625
	<u>57,640</u>	<u>50,701</u>
<b>Contributions by owners</b>		
Capital appropriation <sup>(a)</sup>	13,450	8,454
<b>Other contributions by owners</b>		
Royalties for Regional Fund - South-West Recreational Fishing Enhancement Structure Pilot Program	1,627	200
Total contribution by owners	<u>72,717</u>	<u>59,355</u>
<b>Distributions to owners</b>		
Net assets transferred to Government	(449)	(1,715)
Equity transferred from Administered	23	-
Total distribution to owners	<u>(426)</u>	<u>(1,715)</u>
<b>Balance at end of period</b>	<u>72,291</u>	<u>57,640</u>

(a) TI 955 Contributions by Owners Made to Wholly Owned Public Sector Entities designates capital appropriations as contributions by owners in accordance with AASB Interpretation 1038 Contributions by Owners Made to Wholly-Owned Public Sector Entities.

#### RESERVES

#### Asset Revaluation Surplus:

	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000
Balance at start of period	13,903	13,514
Transfer to Accumulated Surplus/Deficit	-	1,274
Net revaluation increments/(decrements):		
Land	470	(545)
Buildings	386	(340)
Plant, Equipment and Vehicle	-	-
<b>Balance at end of period<sup>(b)</sup></b>	<u>14,759</u>	<u>13,903</u>

(b) The asset revaluation surplus is used to record increments and decrements on the revaluation of non-current assets, as described in accounting policy note 2(g) 'Property, Plant and Equipment and Infrastructure'.

Total Equity at end of period	<u>76,984</u>	<u>69,853</u>
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### 33 NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

#### Reconciliation of cash

Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the Statement of Cash Flows is reconciled to the related items in the Statement of Financial Position as follows:

Cash and cash equivalents	-	5,428
Cash advances	20	20
Restricted cash and cash equivalents (refer note 20)	6,496	4,900
	<u>6,516</u>	<u>10,348</u>

#### Reconciliation of net cost of services to net cash flows used in operating activities

Net cost of services	(58,481)	(49,453)
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	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000
<i>Non Cash Items</i>		
Depreciation and amortisation expense (note 8 'Depreciation and amortisation expense')	4,222	3,445
Doubtful Debt expense	-	6
Services received free of charge (note 19 'Income from State Government')	641	750
(Gain)/loss on disposal of PPE (note 18 'Net gain/loss on disposal of non current assets')	117	367
Employment on-costs (Note 13 'other expenses')	-	6
Adjustment for other non-cash items	30	995
<i>(Increase)/Decrease in Assets</i>		
Accounts receivable - General <sup>(a)</sup>	471	987
Prepayments	53	(38)
Accrued Income	(58)	54
Decrease in net assets from operation		
<i>Increase/(Decrease) in Liabilities</i>		
Accrued salaries	111	(21)
Superannuation Accrued	(8)	40
FBT Accrued	39	6
Other Liabilities	(204)	102
Liability for employee entitlements	1,446	1,149
Infringement Notice Collections payable	(5)	(35)
Accounts payable - General	1,364	(396)
Net GST receipts/(payments) (b)	(94)	(115)
Change in GST in receivables/payables (c)	-	-
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities</b>	<b><u>(50,357)</u></b>	<b><u>(42,151)</u></b>

	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000
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(a) Note that the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) receivable/payable in respect of GST and the receivable/payable in respect of the sale/purchase of non-current assets are not included in these items as they do not form part of the reconciling items.

(b) This is the net GST paid/received, i.e. cash transactions.

(c) This reverses out the GST in receivables and payables.

### 34 COMMITMENTS FOR EXPENDITURE

The commitments below are inclusive of GST where relevant.

#### (a) Capital Expenditure Commitments

Capital expenditure commitments, being contracted capital expenditure additional to the amounts reported in the financial statements, are payable as follows:

Within 1 year	6,042	9,673
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	-	-
Later than 5 years	-	-
	<b><u>6,042</u></b>	<b><u>9,673</u></b>

#### (b) Non cancellable operating lease commitments

Commitments in relation to non-cancellable leases for accommodation and motor vehicles contracted for at the reporting date but not recognised in the financial statements are payable as follows:

Within 1 year	4,246	4,293
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	5,832	13,618
Later than 5 years	8,295	6,588
	<b><u>18,373</u></b>	<b><u>24,499</u></b>



The Department has entered into a property lease which is a non-cancellable lease with a five year term, with rent payable monthly in advance. Contingent rent provisions within the lease agreement require that the minimum lease payments shall be increased by 4% CPI per annum.

### 35 EVENTS OCCURRING AFTER THE BALANCE SHEET DATE

There are no significant events occurring after the reporting date that require disclosure or adjustment to the financial statements.

### 36 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND CONTINGENT ASSETS

The following contingent liabilities are additional to the liabilities included in the financial statements.

#### *Contaminated sites*

Under the Contaminated Sites Act 2003, the Department is required to report known and suspected contaminated sites to the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC). In accordance with the Act, DEC classifies these sites on the basis of the risk to human health, the environment and environmental values. Where sites are classified as contaminated – remediation required or possibly contaminated – investigation required, the Department may have a liability in respect of investigation or remediation expenses.

The Department has reported a suspected contaminated site at the Albany Aquaculture Park to DEC. This has been classified by DEC as requiring further investigation.

In June 2011 the Department received a draft report from Environmental Resources Australia Pty Limited that included findings from a recent site assessment. The draft report advised that the assessments indicate that there are currently no identified potential risks to human health or the environment related to previous activities and as such the site appears suitable for ongoing commercial/industrial use. The draft report is subject to review by the contaminated sites auditor, Coffey Environments Pty Ltd, for work at the Albany Aquaculture Park.

The Department is unable to assess the likely outcome of the classification process until the contamination sites auditor completes an assessment, and accordingly, it is not practicable to estimate the potential financial effect or to identify the uncertainties relating to the amount or timing of any outflows.

The Department has applied for funding from the Contaminated Sites Management Account to pay for the cost of finalising the draft report. The Department is waiting to find out if its application was successful.

#### *Negotiations in progress*

The Department is negotiating the settlement of claims for compensation under Fishing and Related Industries Compensation (Marine Reserves) Act 1997 that may affect its administered financial position. The maximum financial effect is \$6,550,000.

### 37 EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Significant variations between estimates and actual results for income and expense as presented in the financial statement titled 'Summary of Consolidated Account Appropriations and Income Estimates' are shown below. Significant variations are considered to be those greater than 10% or \$1 million.

	2013 Actual \$'000	2013 Estimate \$'000	Variance \$'000
<b>1. Total appropriations provided to deliver services</b>			

**Significant variance between estimate and actual for 2013**

Total appropriation provided to deliver services for the period	48,381	45,463	2,918
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The major variations in funding during the year were:

Additional funding:

Supplementary funding to address cost pressures and revenue shortfalls			4,500
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Additional Shark Mitigation Measures – Track, Catch and Destroy Sharks			500
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Reduction in funding for:

1.5% Reduction in Procurement Expenditure			(319)
Temporary Procurement Freeze			(1,763)

**Significant variance between actual results for 2013 and 2012**

Total appropriation provided to deliver services for the period	48,381	50,280	(1,899)
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Decrease in appropriation mainly due to one-off structural deficit funding drawn down in 2011-12 (\$4.5 million).

	2013 Actual \$'000	2013 Estimate \$'000	Variance \$'000
<b>2. Total income other than income from State Government</b>			

**Significant variances between actual results for 2013 and 2012**

The major variations in funding during the year were:	31,449	35,883	(4,434)
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A decrease in Voluntary Fisheries Adjustment Scheme fees in 2012-13 compared to 2011-12 (due to fee deferrals from 2012-13 to 2013-14)			(1,703)
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Delayed implementation of a capital works project resulting in less grants revenue received in 2012-13 compared to 2011-12			(1,400)
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Finalisation of several research projects in 2011-12 funded by a third parties			(1,304)
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**3. Capital Contribution**

**Significant variance between estimate and actual for 2013**

Capital Contribution	13,450	12,071	1,379
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Increase in capital contribution entirely due to a Section 25 Transfer of appropriation for Reestablishment of Corporate Services to the Department of Fisheries from the Department of Treasury (Administered Account)

	2013 Actual \$'000	2013 Estimate \$'000	Variance \$'000
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**Significant variations between actual results for 2013 and 2012**

Capital Contribution	13,450	8,454	4,996
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Increase in Capital Contribution is mainly attributable to the following:

Broome Storage Facility			805
Karratha Storage Facility			1,035
Karratha Regional Office Refit			1,035
Redevelopment of the Ellam Street Office			2,100
Replacement and Upgrade of Jetties at East Wallabi and Beacon Islands			1,500

Section 25 Transfer of appropriation for Reestablishment of Corporate Services to the Department of Fisheries from the Department of Treasury (Administered Account)			1,379
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Net Decreases for Capital Works Program due to the completion of capital projects in 2011-12 and/or project timing and cashflow adjustments			(2,858)
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**4. Capital Expenditure (purchase of non-current assets)**

**Significant variations between actual results for 2013 and 2012**

Capital Expenditure (purchase of non-current assets)	17,055	11,966	5,089
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	2013 Actual \$'000	2013 Estimate \$'000	Variance \$'000
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Increase in expenditure is mainly attributable to the partial or full completion and roll out of several capital projects including Fisheye (Entitlement Management System), information technology and network upgrades, artificial reefs for recreational fishing, regional office accommodation refits and new offices during the financial year 2012-13.

**5. Administered Revenue**

**Significant variances between estimate and actual for 2013**

Administered Revenue	358	2,416	(2,058)
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The decrease is due to the Section 25 transfer of administered appropriation for beach and aerial surveillance patrols to the Department of the Premier and Cabinet during the year.

**Significant variations between actuals for 2013 and 2012**

Administered Revenue	358	2,636	(2,278)
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The decrease is due to the Section 25 transfer of administered appropriation for beach and aerial surveillance patrols to the Department of the Premier and Cabinet during the year.

**6. Administered Expenses**

**Significant variations between estimate and actual for 2013**

Administered Expenses	228	2,416	(2,188)
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	2013 Actual \$'000	2013 Estimate \$'000	Variance \$'000
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The decrease is due to the Section 25 transfer of administered appropriation for beach and aerial surveillance patrols to the Department of the Premier and Cabinet during the year.

**Significant variations between actuals for 2013 and 2012**

Administered Expenses	228	2,530	(2,302)
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The decrease is due to the Section 25 transfer of administered appropriation for beach and aerial surveillance patrols to the Department of the Premier and Cabinet during the year.

**7. Total cost of services**

**Significant variations between estimate and actual for 2013**

Total cost of services	89,929	80,903	9,026
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The increase is due mainly to supplementary funding provided by Government to meet the Department's employee entitlements costs and leave liability increases.

**Significant variations between actuals for 2013 and 2012**

Total cost of services	89,929	85,336	4,593
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The increase is due mainly to increased employee benefit costs due to public service pay rises.

**38 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

**(a) Financial risk management objectives and policies**

Financial instruments held by the Department are cash and cash equivalents, restricted cash and cash equivalents, loans and receivables, payables, WATC/Bank borrowings, finance leases, and Treasurer's advances. The Department has limited exposure to financial risks. The Department's overall risk management program focuses on managing the risks identified below.

**Credit Risk**

Credit risk arises when there is the possibility of the Department's receivables defaulting on their contractual obligations resulting in financial loss to the Department.

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the end of the reporting period in relation to each class of recognised financial assets is the gross carrying amount of those assets inclusive of any allowance for impairment as shown in the table at note 38(c) 'Financial instruments disclosures' and note 21 'Receivables'.

Credit risk associated with the Department's financial assets is minimal because the main receivable is the amount receivable for services (holding account). For receivables other than government, the Department trades only with recognised, creditworthy third parties. The Department has policies in place to ensure that sales of products and services are made to customers with an appropriate credit history. In addition, receivable balances are monitored on an ongoing basis with the result that the Department's exposure to bad debts is minimal. At the end of the reporting period there were no significant concentrations of credit risk.

Allowance for impairment of financial assets is calculated based on objective evidence such as observable data in client credit ratings. For financial assets that are either past due or impaired, refer to note 38(c) 'Financial instruments disclosures'.

#### Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk arises when the Department is unable to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The Department is exposed to liquidity risk through its trading in the normal course of business. The Department has appropriate procedures to manage cash flows including drawdown of appropriations by monitoring forecast cash flows to ensure that sufficient funds are available to meet its commitments.

#### Market Risk

Market risk is the risk that changes in market prices such as foreign exchange rates and interest rates will affect the Department's income or the value of its holdings of financial instruments. The Department does not trade in foreign currency and is not materially exposed to other price risks. The Department's exposure to market risk for changes in interest rates relates primarily to the long-term debt obligations.

All borrowings are due to the Western Australian Treasury Corporation (WATC) and are repayable at fixed rates with varying maturities. Other than as detailed in the interest rate sensitivity analysis table at note 38(c), the Department is not exposed to interest rate risk because apart from minor amounts of restricted cash, all other cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash are non-interest bearing and have no borrowings other than the Treasurer's advance (non-interest bearing), WATC borrowings and finance leases (fixed interest rate).

	2013	2012
	\$'000	\$'000

#### (b) Categories of Financial Instruments

The carrying amounts of each of the following categories of the financial assets and financial liabilities at the end of the reporting date are as follows.

##### Financial Assets

Cash and cash equivalents	20	5,448
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	6,496	4,900
Loans and receivables <sup>(a)</sup>	48,238	45,696

##### Financial Liabilities

Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	40,436	37,073
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(a) The amount of loans and receivables excludes GST recoverable from the ATO (statutory receivable).

#### (c) Financial Instrument Disclosures

##### Credit risk

The following table details the Department's maximum exposure to credit risk and the ageing analysis of financial assets. The Department's maximum exposure to credit risk at the end of the reporting period is the carrying amount of financial assets as shown below. The table discloses the ageing of financial assets that are past due but not impaired and impaired financial assets. The table is based on information provided to senior management of the Department.

The Department does not hold any collateral as security or other credit enhancement relating to the financial assets it holds.

## Aged analysis of financial assets

	Carrying Amount \$'000	Not past due and not impaired \$'000	Past due but not impaired				More than 5 years \$'000	Impaired financial assets \$'000
			Up to 1 month \$'000	1-3 months \$'000	3 months to 1 year \$'000	1-5 years \$'000		
<b>2013</b>								
Cash and cash equivalents	20	20	-	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	6,496	6,496	-	-	-	-	-	-
Receivables <sup>(a)</sup>	451	228	41	54	105	23	-	-
Loans and Advances	37,760	37,760	-	-	-	-	-	-
Amounts Receivable for Services	10,027	10,027	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<b>54,754</b>	<b>54,531</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>23</b>	-	-
<b>2012</b>								
Cash and cash equivalents	5,448	5,448	-	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	4,900	4,900	-	-	-	-	-	-
Receivables(a)	940	722	97	13	96	12	-	-
Loans and Advances	35,535	35,535	-	-	-	-	-	-
Amounts Receivable for Services	9,221	9,221	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<b>56,044</b>	<b>55,826</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>12</b>	-	-

(a) The amount of receivables excludes the GST recoverable from the ATO (statutory receivable)

### Liquidity risk and interest rate exposure

The following table details the Department's interest rate exposure and the contractual maturity analysis of financial assets and financial liabilities. The maturity analysis section includes interest and principal cash flows. The interest rate exposure section analyses only the carrying amounts of each item.

Interest rate exposure and maturity analysis of financial assets and financial liabilities

	Weighted Average Effective Interest Rate %	Carrying Amount \$'000	Interest rate exposure		Nominal Amount \$'000	Maturity dates				
			Variable interest rate \$'000	Non-Interest Bearing \$'000		Up to 1 month \$'000	1-3 months \$'000	3 months to 1 year \$'000	1-5 years \$'000	More than 5 years \$'000
2013										
<b>Financial Assets</b>										
Cash and cash equivalents	3.40%	20	-	20	20	20	-	-	-	-
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	3.40%	6,496	5,145	1,351	6,496	6,496	-	-	-	-
Receivables <sup>(a)</sup>	0.00%	451	-	451	451	451	-	-	-	-
Loans and advances	0.00%	37,760	-	37,760	37,760	44	131	9,120	15,361	13,104
Amounts receivable for services	0.00%	10,027	-	10,027	10,027	-	-	2,007	8,020	-
		<b>54,754</b>	<b>5,145</b>	<b>49,609</b>	<b>54,754</b>	<b>7,011</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>11,127</b>	<b>23,381</b>	<b>13,104</b>
<b>Financial Liabilities</b>										
Payables	0.00%	3,575	-	-	3,575	3,575	-	-	-	-
WATC borrowings	6.18%	36,861	-	-	36,861	-	-	8,396	15,361	13,104
Finance lease liabilities	0.00%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		<b>40,436</b>	-	-	<b>40,436</b>	<b>3,575</b>	-	<b>8,396</b>	<b>15,361</b>	<b>13,104</b>

(a) The amount of receivables excludes the GST recoverable from the ATO (statutory receivable)

Interest rate exposure and maturity analysis of financial assets and financial liabilities

	Weighted Average Effective Interest Rate %	Carrying Amount \$'000	Interest rate exposure		Nominal Amount \$'000	Maturity dates				
			Variable interest rate \$'000	Non-Bearing Interest \$'000		Up to 1 month \$'000	1-3 months \$'000	3 months to 1 year \$'000	1-5 years \$'000	More than 5 years \$'000
<b>2012</b>										
Financial Assets										
Cash and cash equivalents	4.74%	5,448	5,428	20	5,448	5,448	-	-	-	-
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	4.74%	4,900	3,977	923	4,900	4,900	-	-	-	-
Receivables(a)	0.00%	940	-	940	940	940	-	-	-	-
Loans and advances	0.00%	35,535	-	35,535	35,535	-	-	3,775	14,462	17,298
Amounts receivable for services	0.00%	9,221	-	9,221	9,221	-	-	2,746	6,475	-
		<u>56,044</u>	<u>9,405</u>	<u>46,639</u>	<u>56,044</u>	<u>11,288</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,521</u>	<u>20,937</u>	<u>17,298</u>
Financial Liabilities										
Payables	0.00%	2,211	-	-	2,211	2,211	-	-	-	-
WATC borrowings	6.20%	34,862	-	-	34,862	-	-	3,102	14,462	17,298
Finance lease liabilities	0.00%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		<u>37,073</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>37,073</u>	<u>2,211</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,102</u>	<u>14,462</u>	<u>17,298</u>

(a) The amount of receivables excludes the GST recoverable from the ATO (statutory receivable)



### Interest rate sensitivity analysis

The following table represents a summary of the interest rate sensitivity of the Department's financial assets and liabilities at the end of the reporting period on the surplus for the period and equity for a 1% change in interest rates. It is assumed that the change in interest rates is held constant throughout the reporting period.

	Carrying Amount \$'000	-100 basis points		+100 basis points	
		Surplus \$'000	Equity \$'000	Surplus \$'000	Equity \$'000
<b>2013</b>					
<b>Financial Assets</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	5,145	(51)	(51)	51	51
Total Increase/(Decrease)		<u>(51)</u>	<u>(51)</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>51</u>

	Carrying Amount \$'000	-100 basis points		+100 basis points	
		Surplus \$'000	Equity \$'000	Surplus \$'000	Equity \$'000
<b>2012</b>					
<b>Financial Assets</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	5,428	(54)	(54)	54	54
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	3,977	(40)	(40)	40	40
Total Increase/(Decrease)		<u>(94)</u>	<u>(94)</u>	<u>94</u>	<u>94</u>

### Fair Values

All financial assets and liabilities recognised in the Statement of Financial Position, whether they are carried at cost or fair value, are recognised at amounts that represent a reasonable approximation of fair value unless otherwise stated in the applicable notes.

**2013**     **2012**  
**\$'000**     **\$'000**

**39 REMUNERATION OF SENIOR OFFICERS**

The number of senior officers whose total fees, salaries, superannuation, non monetary benefits and other benefits for the financial year fall within the following bands are:

	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>
\$160,001 - 170,000	1	-
\$170,001 - 180,000	-	1
\$180,001 - 190,000	-	1
\$190,001 - 200,000	2	-
\$200,001 - 210,000	1	2
\$210,001 - 220,000	-	-
\$290,001 - 300,000	-	-
\$360,001 - 370,000	-	1
\$370,001 - 380,000	1	-
Base remuneration and superannuation,	1,037	1,012
Annual leave and long service leave accruals	39	45
Other benefits	71	75
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Total remuneration of senior officers	<u>1,147</u>	<u>1,132</u>

The total remuneration includes the superannuation expense incurred by the Department in respect of senior officers.

**40 REMUNERATION OF AUDITORS**

Remuneration paid or payable to the Auditor General in respect of the audit for the current financial year is as follows:

Auditing the accounts, financial statements and performance indicators	<u>141</u>	<u>136</u>
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The expense is included in note 7 'Supplies and Services'.

**41 RELATED BODIES**

The Department has no related bodies as defined in the Financial Management Act 2006 and Treasurer's Instruction 951.

**42 AFFILIATED BODIES**

The Department has no affiliated bodies as defined in the Financial Management Act 2006 and Treasurer's Instruction 951.

**43 SUPPLEMENTARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

**Write-Offs**

During the financial year, debts due to the State were written off under the authority of:

The Accountable authority	10	4
	<u>10</u>	<u>4</u>

During the financial year these assets were written off the Department's asset register under the authority of:

The Accountable Officer	42	2
Less: Recovered by Insurance	(1)	(1)
	<u>41</u>	<u>1</u>

**Act of Grace Payments**

During the financial year, there is an act of grace payment made under the authority of:

The Minister	264	-
	<u>264</u>	<u>-</u>

	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000
<b>44 JOINTLY CONTROLLED OPERATION</b>		
<b>Name of Operation</b>	<b>Principal Activity</b>	<b>Output Interest (%)</b>
Fremantle Marine Operations	Operations Centre for fisheries management and marine safety including marine emergencies, accidents, incidents and complaints.	50%
<p>The following represent the Department's 50% ownership interest in the Fremantle Marine Operations with the Department of Transport.</p>		
<b>Non-current assets</b>		
Property, plant and equipment	3,741	3,005
Infrastructure	133	144
	<u>3,874</u>	<u>3,149</u>

#### 45 JOINTLY CONTROLLED ASSETS

<b>Name of Operation</b>	<b>Output Interest (%)</b>
Mandurah Marine Operations Centre	50%

The Department has a shared ownership of crown land with Department of Water and the following amount represents the 50% ownership of the crown land, which is included in the financial statements.

#### Non-current assets

Land	600	975
	<u>600</u>	<u>975</u>

	2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000
<b>46 SPECIAL PURPOSE ACCOUNTS</b>		
<b>Fisheries Research and Development Account</b>		
5,584	Balance at start of period	9,012
<b>Receipts</b>		
44,022	Contribution from Consolidated Account	46,996
200	Royalties for Regions	1,310
17,223	Fisheries Access Fees	15,146
935	Application Fees	1,077
3,261	Grants and Contributions	2,395
10,327	Other Receipts	8,824
302	Interest	145
<b>81,854</b>		<b>75,893</b>
<b>Payments</b>		
72,842	Contribution to Fisheries WA operations	80,963
<b>72,842</b>		<b>80,963</b>
<u>9,012</u>	Balance at end of period	<u>3,942</u>

The Fisheries Research and Development Account, which was established under the Fisheries Act 1905 (repealed), was continued under the Fish Resources Management Act 1994 (FRMA 1994). The purpose of the Account is to hold funds in accordance with section 238 of the FRMA 1994 which may be used and applied by the Minister in such manner and in such proportion as the Minister thinks fit for all or any of the purposes prescribed by section 238(5) of the FRMA 1994 and section 37(3), 41 and 55(4) and (5) of the Pearling Act 1990. All revenue and expenditure relating to commercial fishing, fish and fish habitat protection, pearling and aquaculture services is transacted through this account. AFMA Account and Fisheries Research and Development Corporation Account no longer exist in 2011-12. The balances of the two funds were transferred to Fisheries Research and Development Account in 2011-12.

#### Recreational Fishing Account

2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000
<b>10 Balance at start of period</b>	<b>901</b>
<b>Receipts</b>	
14,066 Contribution from Consolidated Account	13,530
200 Contribution by owner <sup>(a)</sup>	1,270
6,610 Recreational Fishing Licences	6,917
Royalties for Regions – recurrent	130
<u>130</u> Interest Revenue	<u>87</u>
<b>21,016</b>	<b>21,934</b>
<b>Payments</b>	
20,115 Expenditure on recreational fishing related activities	20,708

2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000
20,115	20,708
<b><u>901</u> Balance at end of period</b>	<b><u>2,127</u></b>

The Recreational Fishing Account is established under the FRMA 1994. The purpose of the account is to hold funds in accordance with section 239 of the FRMA 1994 which may be applied by the Minister for all or any of the purposes prescribed by section 239(4) of the FRMA 1994. The main revenue sources include contributions from the Consolidated Account and revenue from recreational fishing licences. The funds support activity relating to recreational fishing.

(a) This is the capital component of the Royalties for Regions funding for the South-West. Recreational Fishing Enhancement Structure Pilot Program and is formally designated as contribution by owner and will form part of the contributed equity of the Department.

#### Fisheries Adjustment Schemes Trust Account

<b>231 Balance at start of period</b>	<b>268</b>
<b>Receipts</b>	
5,381 Repayments from Industry for Voluntary Fisheries Adjustment Schemes	44
<u>500</u> Specific State contributions to fisheries adjustment	<u>500</u>
<b>6,112</b>	<b>544</b>
<b>Payments</b>	
5,381 Loan repayment to WATC for Voluntary Fisheries Adjustment Schemes	328
<u>463</u> Unit buy back State Scheme	<u>37</u>
<b>5,844</b>	<b>365</b>

2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000
<u>268</u> Balance at end of period	<u>447</u>

The purpose of this account is to hold funds in accordance with section 5 of the Fisheries Adjustment Scheme Act 1987 which shall be applied by the Minister for the purposes prescribed by section 6 of that Act.

#### Fisheries Private Moneys Trust Account

59 Balance at start of period	73
<b>Receipts</b>	
14 Proceeds from the sale of seized fish	4
73	4
<b>Payments</b>	
Monies paid	2
<u>73</u> Balance at end of period	<u>75</u>

The purpose of this account is to hold moneys seized and proceeds from the sale of seized fish pursuant to the Fisheries Act 1905 pending prosecution action. The Fisheries Act 1905 has been repealed and replaced by the FRMA 1994.

#### Fish Farm Bond Deposits Trust Account

78 Balance at start of period	94
<b>Receipts</b>	
7 Interests	3
17 Bond Monies	
<u>102</u>	<u>97</u>
<b>Payments</b>	
8 Distribution of interests	3
	3
<u>94</u> Balance at end of period	<u>94</u>

2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000
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The purpose of this account is to hold fish farm bond deposits lodged by licensees, as security and guarantee for the due and punctual performance of the licensees Fish Farm licence conditions.

#### 47 CHRISTMAS ISLAND AND COCOS (KEELING) ISLANDS

25 Balance at start of period	106
<b>Income</b>	
2 Application fees and Recreational Boat Licences	2
830 Payments from the Commonwealth	749
<u>857</u>	<u>751</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>	
312 Salaries	326
59 Travel & Accommodation	44
37 Administration	31
343 Oncosts	358
751	759
<u>106</u> Balance at end of period	<u>98</u>

In October 2001, the Department of Fisheries entered into a Service Delivery Agreement (SDA) with the Commonwealth. The SDA provides for the delivery of a range of services by the Department of Fisheries in the Indian Ocean Territories including the management of commercial fishing, recreational fishing, aquaculture, fish health and community education and awareness programs. The Department provides these services on behalf of the Commonwealth Attorney General's Department, formerly on behalf of Department of Transport and Regional Services under Fish Resources Management Act (1994) (WA) (CI) (CKI).

#### 48 DISCLOSURE OF ADMINISTERED INCOME AND EXPENSES BY SERVICE

	General – Not Attributed		Shark Patrol		Total	
	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000
<b>COST OF SERVICES</b>						
<b>Expenses</b>						
Transfer to consolidated a/c	208	-	-	2,313	208	2,313
Other expense	20	217	-	-	20	217
<b>Total administered expenses</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,313</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>2,530</b>
<b>Income</b>						
For transfer:						
User charges and fees	208	217	-	-	208	217
Income from State Government	150	-	-	2,419	150	2,419
<b>Total administered revenue</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,419</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>2,636</b>

#### 49 ADMINISTERED ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents <sup>(a)</sup>	143	121
Receivables	-	-
Other	-	-
<b>Total Administered Current Assets</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>121</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>		
Property, Plant and Equipment	-	-
Other	-	-
<b>Total Administered Non-Current Assets</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTERED ASSETS</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>121</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Payables	-	-
Other <sup>(a)</sup>	13	14
<b>Total Administered Current Liabilities</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>		
Other	-	-
<b>Total Administered Non-Current Liabilities</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTERED LIABILITIES</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>

(a) \$23k of administered cash transferred as equity from Administered to Controlled in 2012/13

## Key performance indicators

### Certification of performance indicators for the year ended 30 June 2013

I hereby certify that the performance indicators are based on proper records, are relevant and appropriate for assisting users to assess the Department of Fisheries performance, and fairly represent the performance of the Department of Fisheries for the financial year ended 30 June 2013.



Stuart Smith  
Accountable Authority  
September 2013

### Government goal

**Social and environmental responsibility:** Ensuring that economic activity is managed in a socially and environmentally responsible manner for the long-term benefit of the State.

**Government's desired outcome for the Department of Fisheries:** Conservation and sustainable development of the State's fish resources.

### Contribution to Government goal

The Department works towards the achievement of the Government goal and its Department-level outcome through the provision of four key services:

#### Service 1 – Fisheries management

This service provides management, policy development, licensing and legislation related to the State's commercial and recreational fisheries, pearling, aquaculture, fish processing, the charter boat industry, customary fishing and protection of aquatic ecosystems. These services are provided through the Aquatic Management Division and the Licensing and Registry Services Branch of the Regional Services Division.

#### Service 2 – Compliance and education

This service provides Statewide fisheries compliance and community education, in accordance with the provisions of the

*Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and the *Pearling Act 1990*. These services are provided through the Regional Services Division.

### Service 3 – Research and monitoring

This service provides timely, quality scientific knowledge and advice to support the conservation and sustainable use of the State’s fish resources and aquatic ecosystems. The service is provided through the Research Division.

### Service 4 – Marine safety service

This service provides the coordination of at-sea marine safety compliance services by the Department’s Fisheries and Marine Officers under a service level agreement with the Department of Transport. The service is provided through the Marine Operations Section of the Regional Services Division.

Government Goal: SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY Ensuring that economic activity is managed in a socially and environmentally responsible manner for the long-term benefit of the State		
Government’s desired outcome for the Department of Fisheries: Conservation and sustainable development of the State’s fish resources		
Services	Effectiveness Indicators	Efficiency Indicators
Fisheries Management	The proportion of fish stocks identified at risk or vulnerable through exploitation	Average cost per hour of management (excluding grants and fisheries adjustments)
	The proportion of fisheries where acceptable catches (or effort levels) are achieved	
Compliance and Education	The percentage of fisheries or fished sectors where current catch shares are known and where catch share allocations are in process or in place	
	The gross value of State fisheries production	
Research and Monitoring	The participation rate in recreational fishing	Average cost per hour of research and monitoring
	Satisfaction index for persons participating in recreational fishing	
Marine Safety Service	Satisfaction index for the broader community and stakeholders as to their perceptions of the extent to which the Department of Fisheries is achieving sustainable fisheries management objectives	Average cost per hour for delivery of marine safety services



### 1.1 The proportion of fish stocks identified as being at risk or vulnerable through exploitation

Annual stock assessments of the fisheries that are subject to management are undertaken by the Department's Research Division. These assessments, together with trends in catch and fishing activity, have been used to determine the sustainability status of the State's most significant commercial fisheries (full details of which are in the companion *Status Reports of the Western Australia's Fisheries and Aquatic Resources of Western Australia 2012/13*). Performance is measured as the proportion of fisheries (which have sufficient data) for which the breeding stocks of each of the major target or indicator species are being maintained at levels that ensure catches could be sustained at desirable levels given effort levels and normal environmental conditions; or they are recovering from a depleted state at an appropriate rate following management intervention. The Department's 2012/13 Budget Papers state that the target is for the proportion of fisheries with breeding stocks at risk from fishing is to be less than nine per cent.

For the 2012/13 performance review, 38 fisheries have been utilised, which is the same as in 2011/12.

For the 38 fisheries reviewed, the 'Stock status and catch ranges for major commercial fisheries' in the 'Outcomes' section of the Annual Report records that breeding stock assessments are available for the major species taken in 36 (95%) of these fisheries. For the other two fisheries, insufficient data were available on the target species to make a critical assessment. In situations where unmonitored stocks are assessed as having the potential to become overfished, they are given priority for new research and/or management.

Within the group of 36 assessed fisheries, 29 involve stocks that were considered to have adequate breeding stock levels and a further three (West Coast Demersal Scalefish Fishery, the Southern and Northern Shark Fisheries) to have breeding stocks considered to be recovering at acceptable rates (89% of fisheries). All of these recovering fisheries target relatively long lived species so their recovery is expected to take a number of years to complete.

The management-generated reductions in catch levels for all sectors of the West Coast Demersal Scalefish Fishery have now been in place for a number of years and the detailed reassessment completed in 2012/13 determined that these actions appear to be successful in initiating a recovery for this suite of species.

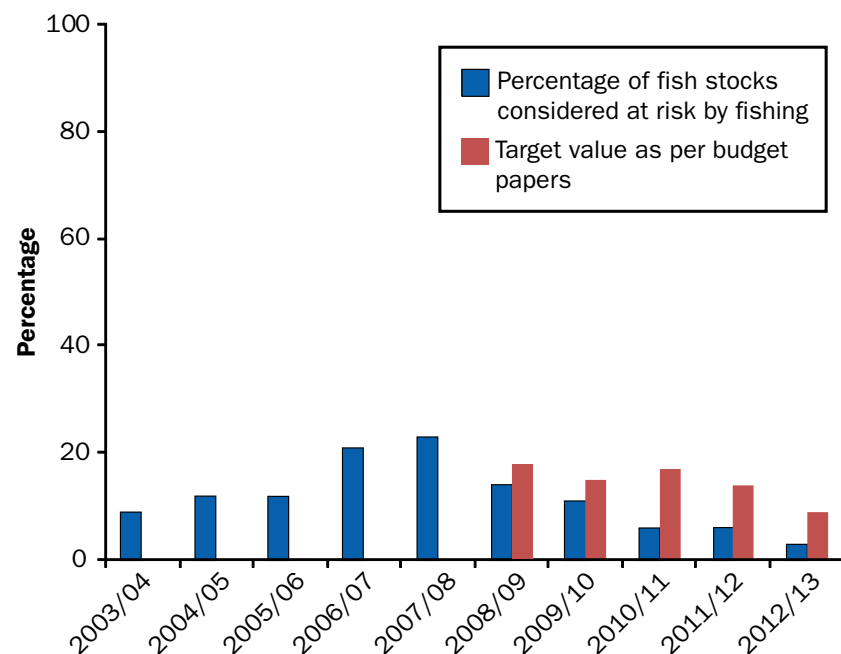
For the Southern Shark Fishery the most recent assessments also showed continued recovery of dusky and whiskery sharks. The Northern Shark Fishery continues not to operate, therefore there has been no catch of sandbar sharks by this fishery for the past four years.

Of the remaining fisheries, only the Australian Herring Fishery has been assessed as having stock levels that are not considered adequate to ensure catches could be sustained at desirable levels given effort levels and normal environmental conditions. A detailed investigation of Australian herring off the South Coast and West Coast bioregions found that this stock has been declining over the past decade due to lower recruitment levels associated with increased water temperatures experienced over this period.

A further three fisheries were also assessed as having inadequate breeding stocks solely resulting from the negative impacts of environmental perturbations, not fishing. The increased mortality of adults and extremely poor recruitment levels observed

for Shark Bay crabs, Shark Bay scallops and scallops in the Abrolhos Island region was initiated by the marine heatwave event that began in 2011. Consequently, these fisheries were all closed for the past season to protect residual stocks.

Therefore, while a total of 11 per cent of fisheries have stock levels that are not considered adequate, only one fishery (or three per cent of those assessed) is considered inadequate as a result of exploitation (Figure 1).



**Figure 1** – The proportion (%) of commercial fisheries where breeding stocks of the major target species are both assessed and considered to be at risk due to fishing. Note, three other fisheries (8%) were also considered to be at risk in 2012/13 but this was generated by unusual environmental factors, not fishing.

## 1.2 The proportion of commercial fisheries where acceptable catches (or effort levels) are achieved

A target catch or effort range has been determined for each of the major commercial fisheries (see the ‘Stock status and catch ranges for major commercial fisheries’ table in the ‘Outcomes’ section of the Annual Report) by the Department’s Research Division. This indicator provides an assessment of the success of the Department’s management plans and regulatory activities in keeping fish catches at appropriate levels (including those in a recovery phase). The Department’s 2012/13 Budget Papers state that the target is 88%.

For most of the fisheries in WA, each management plan seeks to directly control the amount of fishing effort applied to stocks, with the level of catch taken providing an indication of the effectiveness of the plan. Where the plan is operating effectively, the catch by the fishery should fall within a projected range. The extent of this range reflects the degree to which normal environmental variations affect the recruitment of juveniles to the stock which cannot be ‘controlled’ by the management plan. Additional considerations include market conditions, fleet rationalisation or other factors that may result in ongoing changes to the amount of effort expended in a fishery which will in turn influence the appropriateness of acceptable catch ranges for certain fisheries.

For quota-managed fisheries, the measure of success for the management arrangements is firstly that the majority of the Total Allowable Catch (TAC) is achieved, but additionally, that it has been possible to take this catch using an acceptable amount of fishing effort. If an unusually large expenditure of effort is needed to take the TAC, or the industry fails to achieve the TAC by

a significant margin, this may indicate that the abundance of the stock is significantly lower than anticipated. For these reasons, an appropriate range of fishing effort to take the TAC has also been incorporated for assessing the performance of quota-managed fisheries (see the table in the 'Outcomes' section).

The Major Commercial Fisheries which have target catch or effort ranges account for most of the commercial value of WA's landed catch. Comparisons between the actual catches (or effort) with the target ranges have been undertaken for 29 of the 38 fisheries referred to in the 'Outcomes' section, three less than the number used last year.

The increase in the number of fisheries not assessed was generated by a combination of environmentally induced stock issues in some regions (see KPI 1.1) and poor economic conditions for some fisheries, which meant a number of fisheries were either closed or did not have material levels of catches during this reporting period.

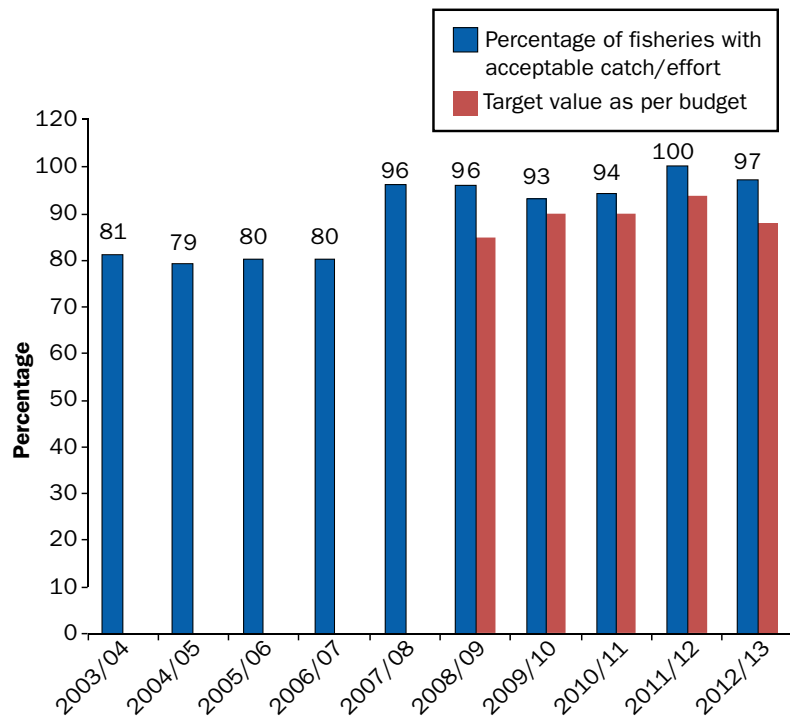
Three fisheries (Shark Bay crabs, Shark Bay scallops, and Abrolhos Islands and Mid-west trawl) were affected by unusual environmental conditions that impacted their recruitment to the extent that the fisheries were set to zero (0) catches. The setting of zero catches in these fisheries highlights the significant management interventions of the Department to reduce further impacting of the stocks by fisheries, permitting the recovery and rebuilding of these stocks. These stocks are being closely monitored by the Research Division to allow their re-opening when stocks have rebuilt to the level to support sustainable fishing.

Of the 29 fisheries where 'target ranges' were available, and a material level of fishing was undertaken in 2011/12, 10 were catch-quota managed (through a TAC allocated through Individually

Transferable Quotas (ITQ)) with 19 subject to effort control management.

All of the ITQ-managed fisheries operated within their target effort/catch ranges or were acceptably below the effort range (Roe's abalone, pearl oysters and purse seine fisheries). In the 19 effort-controlled fisheries, all but one produced catches that were within (13) or acceptably above (one) or below (four) their target catch ranges. The catch of pink snapper in the West Coast Demersal Fishery was unacceptably above the range for this species in some management areas, although the overall fishery catch was within the range. Management of this fishery is currently being reviewed.

In summary, 28 of the 29 fisheries assessed (97%) were considered to have met their performance criteria, or were affected by factors outside the purview of the management plan/arrangements (Figure 2), which is well above the target level.



**Figure 2** – The proportion (%) of commercial fisheries where the catch or effort reported is acceptable relevant to the target management range being applied.

### 1.3 The percentage of fisheries or fished sectors where current catch shares are known and where catch share allocations are in process or in place

The primary object of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* is “to conserve, develop and share the fish resources of the State for the benefit of present and future generations”. This indicator has been developed to allow reporting on the ‘sharing’ of fish resources

in Western Australia. In the context of this indicator, ‘sharing’ means to allocate the fish resources of the State, within sustainability limits, on an equitable basis to various sectoral user groups.

Previously, WA’s fish resources were shared mainly on an implicit basis, with no explicit setting of catch shares within an overall total allowable catch or corresponding total allowable effort.

The Department is now implementing an Integrated Fisheries Management (IFM) approach where the aggregate effects of all fishing sectors are taken into account. This involves the use of a framework in which decisions on optimum resource use (i.e. allocation and re-allocation of fish resources) are determined and implemented within a total sustainable catch for each fishery or fished stock. IFM is being progressively phased in and it is likely to take some 10 years to bring the majority of the State’s shared fisheries under this new framework.

This indicator is presented in two parts:

- the percentage of fisheries or fished stocks for which current estimates of catch shares are available; and
- the percentage of those fisheries or fished stocks for which catch sharing allocations are in progress or in place.

The 78 per cent target in the Department’s 2012/13 Budget Papers relates to the percentage of fisheries or fished stocks for which current estimates of catch shares are available. The 2012/13 Budget Papers do not yet provide a target for the percentage of those fisheries or fished stocks for which catch sharing allocations are in progress or in place, but the Department has a target of 25 per cent of catch sharing allocations in progress or in place by 2015.

'Fisheries or fished stocks' can either be a managed fishery for a particular species (e.g. western rock lobster) or a spatially managed area of fishing activity encompassing a number of species (e.g. west coast estuaries). A 'current estimate' (of catch) is defined as being within the past five years (i.e. after 2008/2009). Finally, a 'sharing allocation' is defined as a percentage of a total allowable catch or effort.

For the purposes of this indicator, 21 fisheries or stocks have been identified as having both a 'material' commercial and recreational catch share. Over time, the indicator may need to expand to include reference to fisheries or stocks for which there are other 'material' sectoral shares (e.g. customary fishing).

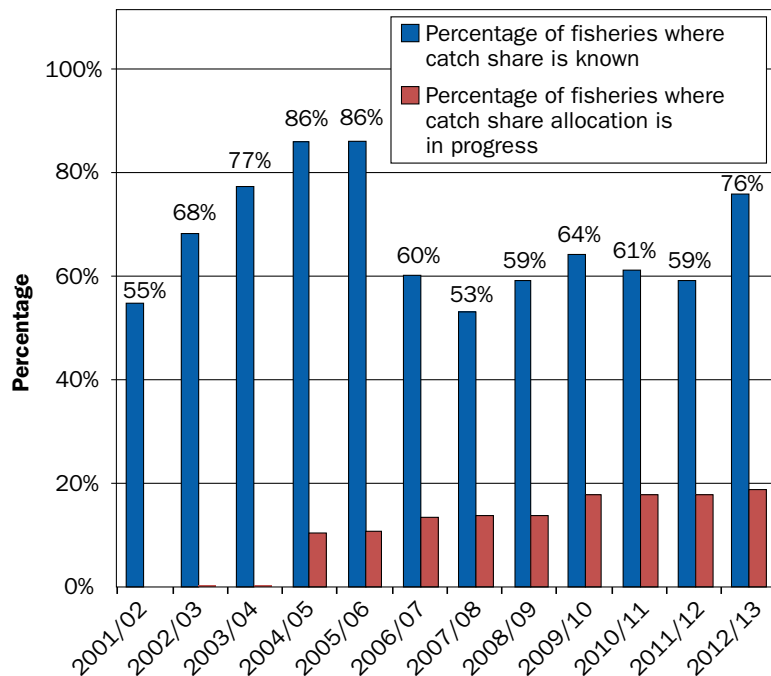
The most recent catch share data used for the first part of the indicator will be reported in the *Status reports of the fisheries and aquatic resources of Western Australia 2012/13*. These shares are currently based on commercial catch data and from the results of recreational surveys undertaken by the Department's Research Division within the last five years. The Department has made no assessment of whether these current shares are optimal or equitable with regard to ecological, economic and/or community benefit and it acknowledges that this indicator does not include shares allocated implicitly or otherwise to the conservation sector (via 'no-take' areas) or to other sectors (e.g. Indigenous).

On this basis, the share of catch attributable to the commercial sector and the recreational sector for 2012/13 has been estimated for 16 of the 21 fisheries (76%). This is a major increase on the previous year and the target value of 78% was effectively reached. The improvement from last year has been generated from the completion of the analyses of the Statewide

boat-based recreational survey. This survey will be run every two years and covers the majority of recreational boat-based fisheries where there is a material overlap in catches with the commercial sector.

Most of the fisheries not covered are either those that have a small geographic extent (e.g. Cockburn Sound) for which a Statewide survey cannot provide separate estimates or those recreational fisheries that are mostly shore-based (e.g. West Australian salmon, Australian herring) and are not covered by the boat-based survey.

The second part of the indicator only relates to those fisheries expected to have both ongoing and significant commercial and recreational sectors into the future. For these fisheries, the IFM initiative will generate explicit allocations and/or re-allocations to specific sectors using a formal and structured allocation process, facilitated via an independent body – the International Fisheries Advisory Allocation Committee (IFAAC). This process has already been completed for western rock lobster and metropolitan abalone fisheries, and is nearly completed for the West Coast Demersal Scalefish Fishery. The IFM process for the Gascoyne region will start after the West Coast IFM process has been completed. The proportion of fisheries or fished stocks with formal share allocations should increase over time and we are on track to meet the 2015 target level of 25 per cent.



**Figure 3** – The proportion (%) of fisheries or fished stocks where estimates of catch shares are known and the proportion (%) of fisheries or fished stocks where catch sharing allocations are in progress or in place. The target level for 2012/13 was 78%.

### 2.1 The contribution to the State's gross value of output

The Department seeks to manage the State's fisheries in an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable manner. This performance indicator deals with the economic component of the 'triple bottom line' approach. Sustainably managed commercial fisheries provide benefits to the State as a result of significant local sales and export earnings from fish and fish products. Commercial

fisheries that are not managed sustainably will suffer a reduced value of production as less fish products will be available to the catching and marketing sectors.

The value, at first point of sale, of the production from WA's commercial and pearling/aquaculture sectors is published by the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES) annually, based on data supplied by industry to the Department's Research Division. Information for the years 2009/10 to 2011/12 in broad groupings is provided in Table 1. The target is for production and value to be stable or increasing.

The overall tonnage of commercially caught crustaceans in 2011/12 was down compared to 2010/11, in part due to closures or low catches in a number of fisheries affected by environmental conditions (e.g. Exmouth Gulf prawn). The season saw an increase in quota for lobster to 6,938 t due to an extension of the season, with 98% of this quota being landed. Consistently strong prices for lobsters coupled to increased catches contributed to maintaining a relatively stable overall value of the crustacean sector at \$216 million, despite lower overall catches. The production and value of the mollusc fisheries in 2011/12 was markedly reduced from the previous year. This decrease was primarily due to closure of the Abrolhos Islands and Shark Bay scallop trawl fisheries.

The finfish catch is generated from a large number of separate fisheries and stocks. The annual production in 2011/12 decreased marginally from that in 2010/11, though its value increased markedly to \$44 million.

The value of pearl production in 2011/12 reduced slightly from the previous year, though remained higher than the 2009/10 level that resulted from the general downturn in global economic

activity. The production level and value of non-pearl aquaculture for 2011/12 again increased from the previous year to be above \$16 million.

In summary, the overall tonnage of production in 2011/12 decreased from that in 2010/11, but given the increased value of some commodities, the total value of WA fisheries reduced by a lesser extent from \$397 million in 2010/11 to \$385 million in 2011/12. The WA commercial fishing sector will continue to be affected by a combination of significant external influences on market values and from the impacts of natural fluctuations in the abundances of key species.

**Table 1 – Western Australian fisheries production – years 2009/10 to 2011/12**

	2009/10 (e)		2010/11 (e)		2011/12 (e)	
	t	\$m	t	\$m	t	\$m
Crustaceans	9,999	219	9,716	226.1	8,453	216
Molluscs	3,055	21	3,736	28.3	676	15.4
Fish	9,944	31	9,148	29.9	9,113	44
Other (a)	171	0.5	107	0.3	43	0.1
Pearling (b,c)	n/a	85	n/a	99.1	n/a	93.1
Aquaculture (d)	1,107	10	1,332	13.4	1,598	16.2
<b>TOTAL PRODUCTION</b>	<b>24,276</b>	<b>367</b>	<b>24,288</b>	<b>397.1</b>	<b>19,883</b>	<b>384.8</b>

Footnotes:

(a) Miscellaneous invertebrates, e.g. beche-de-mer and sea urchins, previously reported under molluscs.

(b) Pearl oyster products other than pearls are included under molluscs.

(c) Method of estimating the value of pearl production has been updated.

(d) Excludes hatchery production and algae production for betacarotene.

(e) Figures have not been adjusted to account for late production returns and validation of databases, so may differ slightly from values published elsewhere.

(f) Figures current as at end of financial year.

n/a: Not applicable.

Tonnage values are calculated from the Catch and Effort Statistics (CAES) data supplied by fishers on a monthly/trip basis, or quota returns supplied on a daily basis. The market values (except pearls) are obtained from surveys of the main seafood purchasers/processors.

Sources: Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES); Department of Fisheries, Western Australia

### 3. Annual community perceptions survey

Information for performance indicators 3.1 to 3.3 was derived from an annual community perceptions survey to assess the satisfaction of the Western Australian community and recreational fishers. These results are used to monitor, evaluate and improve the effectiveness of Department's programs, activities and functions.

The objectives of the survey were to:

- assess the level of recall and awareness of the Department's information and promotional activities;

- assess the understanding and support of the community for Department's management strategies across the four key fisheries management areas (commercial fisheries, recreational fisheries, protection of the aquatic environment, and aquaculture and pearling); and
- examine key aspects of community fishing and appreciation of the aquatic environment.

An external research company conducted the telephone survey of Western Australian households during June 2013. Telephone numbers were selected randomly from the White Pages. Respondents were males and females older than 17 years and residing in Western Australia. The total sample of 705 completed interviews comprised:

- 511 from major cities;
- 84 from inner regional;
- 110 from outer regional/remote/very remote/migratory;

The Department's Stock Assessment and Data Analysis Branch performed the analysis of the survey data. The sample was weighted to reflect the population based on April 2013 labour force statistics from the Australian Bureau of Statistics. The survey provided estimates for the 2012/13 reporting year.

### 3.1 The participation rate in recreational fisheries

The level of participation in recreational fisheries and how often respondents participate is a measure of the utilisation of this community resource. The provision of recreational fisheries has a social and economic benefit. The more people that participate the greater the social benefit. The fishing tackle industry relies on

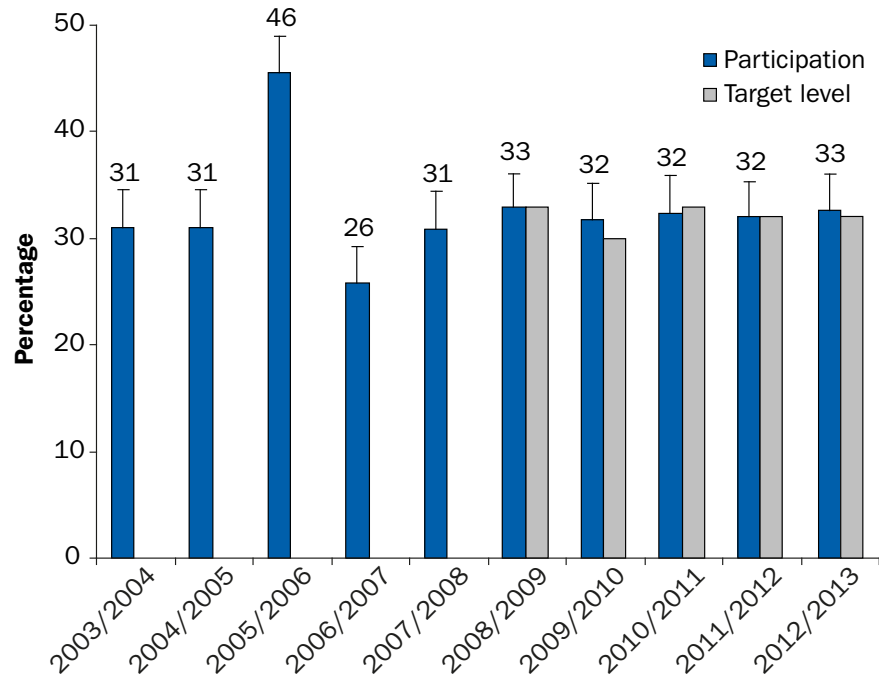
people participating in recreational fishing. Recreational fishing is also important for boating, tourism and other industries.

The Department's 2012/13 Budget Papers state that the target for the participation rate in recreational fisheries is 32%. The participation rate for recreational fishing in Western Australia was estimated as 33 per cent in 2012/2013 and has been similar for the last three years (Figure 4). The improved response rates (calculated as percentage of contacts that resulted in a completed interview) of about 16 per cent or above achieved since 2007/08 has provided less biased estimates of the participation rate than for some earlier years.

The number of people in Western Australia who went recreational fishing at least once in the previous 12-month period was 740,000. This was estimated as 33 per cent of the States' population older than four years of age (estimated residential population at 30 June 2012, Australian Bureau of Statistics 2012). It was assumed that persons four years of age or younger did not fish and the participation rate was constant for the population over four years of age.



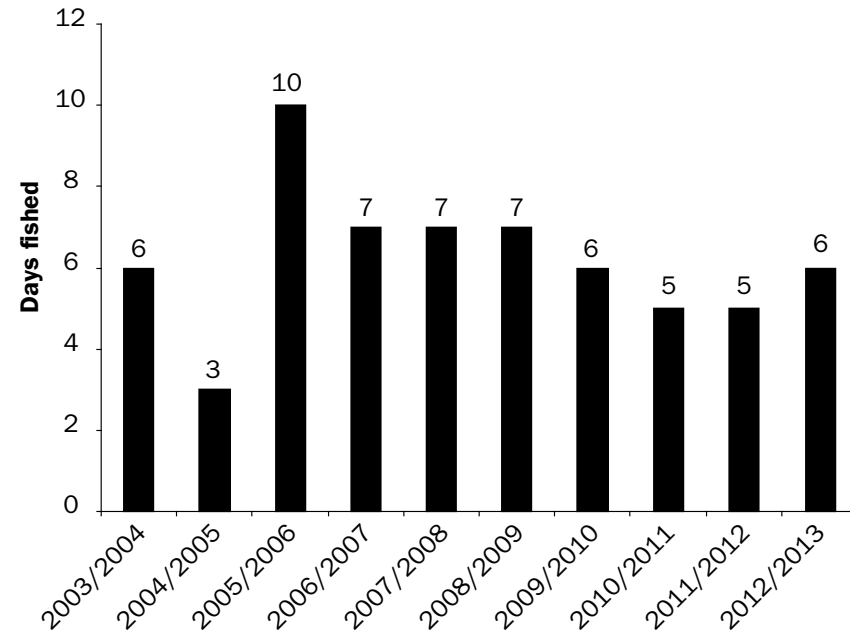
**Figure 4 – Participation rate in recreational fisheries 2003/2004 to 2012/2013**



**Days fished**

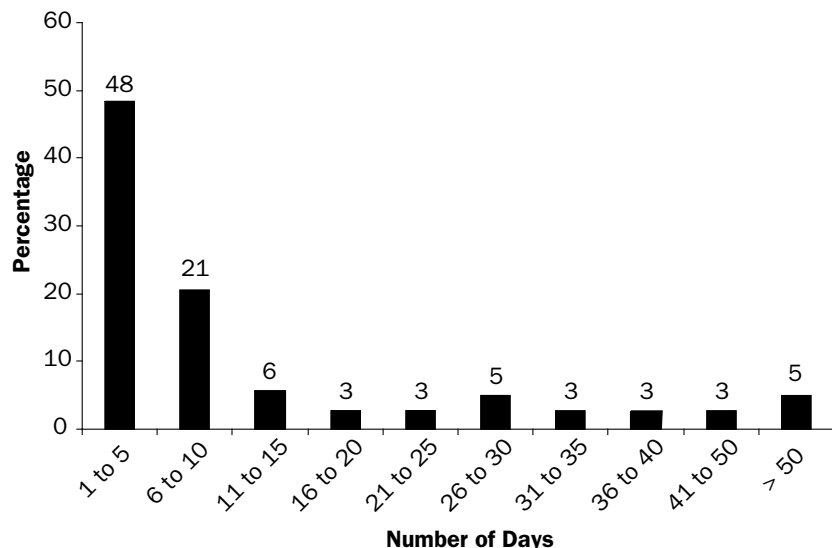
The median number of days fished by recreational fishers in the last twelve months was six days (Figure 5). The median number of days fished was five in 2011/2012 and five in 2010/2011.

**Figure 5 – Median number of days fished by recreational fishers 2003/2004 to 2012/2013**



The number of days fished by recreational fishers in the last twelve months ranges from one to 256 days. The mean number of days fishing was 17 days. Almost half (48%) of recreational fishers in Western Australia fished between one and five days. However, some fished for considerably more days giving a skewed frequency distribution (Figure 6).

**Figure 6 – Distribution for number of days fished by recreational fishers**



The Perth Metropolitan area from Yancheep to Mandurah was most popular for recreational fishing with 32 per cent of effort. Other areas that people fished were West Coast other than the Perth Metropolitan area (22%), South Coast – Marine (27%), South Coast – Freshwater (3%), Gascoyne (6%), Pilbara/Kimberley – Marine (10%), and Pilbara/Kimberley – Freshwater (1%).

### 3.2 Satisfaction index for persons participating in recreational fishing

The Department manages fisheries on the basis of conservation of fish stocks and sustainability of fishing practices. The satisfaction index is a combination of knowledge of management measures and confidence in the management of fisheries. An awareness of the rules and regulations by recreational fishers is required

for the sustainability of fishing practices. Confidence is indicated by satisfaction with recreational fisheries managed by the Department. This is measured by the quality of the recreational fishing experience assessed by satisfaction with the last fishing trip. Satisfaction is important for a recreational activity since participants are unlikely to repeat the experience if they are not satisfied.

**Management** = the level of the person’s awareness of rules and regulations.

**Confidence** = the level of the person’s satisfaction with the number, size and variety of fish caught on their last trip and satisfaction with the overall fishing trip.

**Satisfaction Index** = Mean (Management + Confidence)

**Table 2 – Satisfaction index for recreational fishers**

	Number of respondents	Satisfaction %	Assessment
<b>Management</b>			
Awareness of rules & regulations	705	95.1	Knowledgeable
Bag limits	230	83.0	Knowledgeable
Size limits	229	88.5	Knowledgeable
Boat limits	173	80.3	Knowledgeable

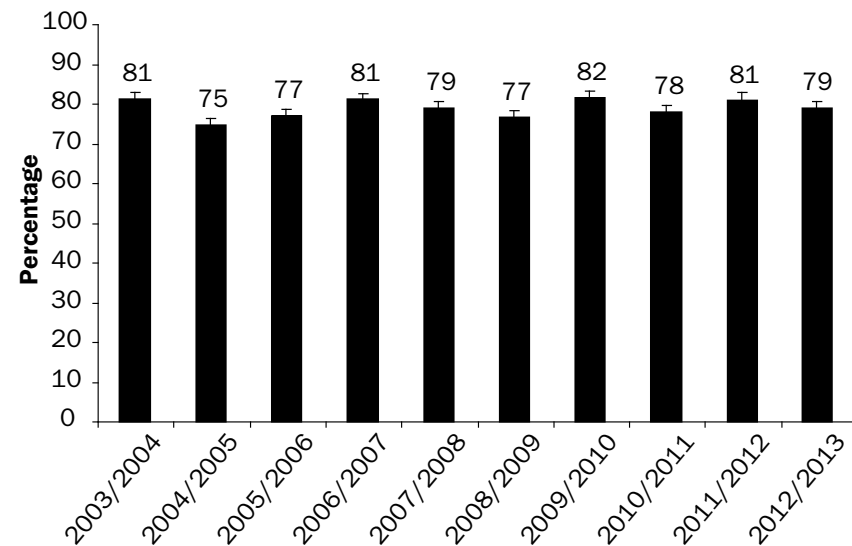
### Confidence

Number of fish caught	225	58.1	Satisfied
Variety of fish caught	221	62.0	Satisfied
Size of fish caught	222	60.3	Satisfied
Environment where fishing	230	94.3	Satisfied
Overall fishing trip	227	92.9	Satisfied
Satisfaction index		79.4	

(Note: can't say/neither responses were excluded from the calculation of the satisfaction index)

The satisfaction index for recreational fishing was 79.4 per cent with a 95 per cent confidence interval between 77.7 per cent and 81 per cent (Figure 7). The satisfaction index is not significantly different to the value of 81.4 per cent for 2011/2012.

Figure 7 – Satisfaction index for persons participating in recreational fishing 2002/2003 to 2011/2012



### 3.3 Satisfaction rating of the broader community and stakeholders as to their perceptions of the extent to which the Department of Fisheries is achieving sustainable fisheries management objectives

This is a measure of the Department's achievement of objectives of conservation and sustainable fish resources. The satisfaction of the community and stakeholders with the Department's management across the four key fisheries management areas of commercial fisheries, recreational fisheries, protection of the aquatic environment, and aquaculture and pearling is assessed. Only respondents that were aware the Department of Fisheries was responsible for a management area were asked to rate the Department's performance for that management area.

**Satisfaction rate** = Average (proportion of respondents satisfied with the Department's management of commercial fisheries, recreational fisheries, protection of the aquatic environment, and aquaculture and pearling).

**Table 3 – Satisfaction rate for the community**

Key fisheries management areas	Number of respondents	Satisfaction %
1) Commercial fisheries	249	79.9
2) Recreational fisheries	282	88.6
3) Aquatic environment	191	83.1
4) Aquaculture & pearling	170	89.9
Satisfaction rate across four management areas		85.4

(Note: can't say/neither responses were excluded from the calculation of the satisfaction rate)

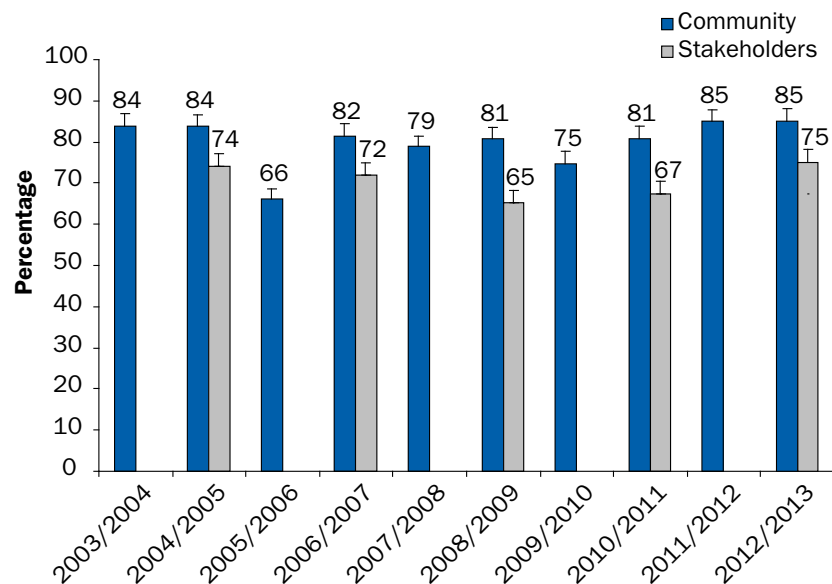
The Department of Fisheries was given a satisfaction rate of 85.4 per cent by the Western Australian public across these four fisheries management areas. The 95 per cent confidence interval for the satisfaction rate given by the community was between 83.0 per cent and 87.7 per cent. The satisfaction rating for this financial

year is not significantly different to the rate of 85.1 per cent for 2011/12 (Figure 8). The satisfaction rate given the Department by the community ranges from 66.1 per cent for 2005/2006 to 85.4 per cent for this year.

During 2002/03, 2004/05, 2006/07, 2008/09, 2010/11 and 2012/13 an additional survey was conducted to measure the satisfaction of Department of Fisheries stakeholders. The 2013 survey comprised 160 interviews with representatives from commercial fisheries, recreational fisheries, the aquatic environment, and aquaculture and pearling. On average 80 per cent of the respondents gave the Department scores based on their satisfaction with the management across the four key fisheries management areas. The Department of Fisheries was given a satisfaction rate of 75.3 per cent by Department of Fisheries stakeholders (Figure 8). The 95 per cent confidence interval for the satisfaction rate is between 71.5 per cent and 79.1 per cent. The satisfaction rate for 2012/13 is a significant improvement on the value of 67.4 per cent from the 2010/11 stakeholder survey (Sumner, in prep.).

As for previous years, the satisfaction rating of stakeholders was significantly lower than the satisfaction rating of the broader community. The satisfaction rating was 75.3 per cent for stakeholders and 85.4 per cent for the broader community as to their perceptions of the extent to which the Department of Fisheries is achieving sustainable fisheries management.

**Figure 8 – Satisfaction rating of the broader community and department’s stakeholders 2003/2004 to 2012/2013**



**References**

Sumner, N.R. (In prep.) Stakeholder Survey 2013. Department of Fisheries Occasional Paper.

Australian Bureau of Statistics (2012) Australian Demographic Statistics. Australian Bureau of Statistics Cat. No. 3101.0.

**Key efficiency indicators**

The Department’s efficiency indicators have been calculated by dividing the total service cost in a functional area by the hours delivered in that functional area.

The measures enable analysis of variance in costs from year-to-year and provide a benchmark for comparison against like service delivery.

The key efficiency indicators provide information on the average cost per hour of service required to deliver services and outcomes, and include all costs associated with the specific service. To report the total cost of service and hourly rate, department-wide corporate overheads, and executive and divisional support expenses are distributed across services and incorporated into key efficiency indicators based on the total direct hours delivered by each service.

Grants, fisheries adjustments and payments to stakeholder groups are excluded from key efficiency indicators (as appropriate) where these expenses are not considered to be a cost of service delivery.

In calculating the efficiency indicator targets, it is assumed that the Department will operate at full capacity (i.e. all full-time equivalent positions occupied) for the full year. This is not normally the case and consequently the target cost per hour is normally less than the actual cost. This fact is demonstrated in the closer alignment between the actual results from one year to the next.

The Department’s revenue for 2012/13 was insufficient to cover its operating expenditure for the financial year, resulting in an operating deficit. These costs (i.e. the value of the deficit) were met through a reduction in the Department’s equity and cash balance recorded in the Balance Sheet. These costs have a flow on effect to the Actual Key Efficiency Indicators.

Explanations for those variances greater than 10 per cent have been included within each service.

Outcome: Conservation and sustainable development of the State’s fish resources.

## Service 1: Fisheries Management

### Service description:

Fisheries management includes licensing, and the development of policy and procedural frameworks for the management of the State's fisheries, aquaculture and the aquatic environment including legislation and management plans, and consultation with fishing industry stakeholders and the community.

Efficiency in Service 1 is described as the average cost per hour for services delivered excluding payments for grants and fisheries adjustment schemes.

**Table 4 – Service 1**

Service 1. Fisheries Management	Actual 2009/10	Actual 2010/11	Actual 2011/12	Target 2012/13	Actual 2012/13
Average cost per hour of management (excluding grants and fisheries adjustments)	\$117	\$152	\$167	\$132	\$192

### Explanation of Significant Variances between 2012/13 Target and 2012/13 Actual

The 2012/13 Actual Cost indicator exceeds the Target Cost indicator due primarily to a more accurate allocation of direct costs and hours to this indicator following adjustments in project mapping during the year.

The Actual Cost indicator for 2012/13 is considered a more accurate benchmark for assessing the Department's performance as it consists of projects that are aligned more directly to the Fisheries Management service than the Target Cost indicator.

### Explanation of Significant Variances between 2012/13 Actual and 2011/12 Actual

The 2012/13 Actual Cost indicator includes a higher proportion of non-salary costs compared to the 2011/12 Actual Cost indicator.

## Service 2: Compliance and Education

### Service description:

Through the compliance and education service the Department raises community awareness and understanding of fisheries and aquatic management issues and the need to adhere to the rules governing these activities. This service enforces fishing rules and also plans and instigates investigations and enforcement strategies.

Efficiency in Service 2 is described as the average cost per hour for services delivered as outlined in the following table.

**Table 5 – Service 2**

Service 2. Compliance and Education	Actual 2009/10	Actual 2010/11	Actual 2011/12	Target 2012/13	Actual 2012/13
Average cost per hour of compliance and education	\$164	\$186	\$185	\$160	\$213

### Explanation of Significant Variances between 2012/13 Target and 2012/13 Actual

The 2012/13 Actual Cost indicator exceeds the Target Cost indicator due primarily to a more accurate allocation of direct costs and corporate overheads to this indicator following adjustments in cost mapping during the year.

### Explanation of Significant Variances between 2012/13 Actual and 2011/12 Actual

The 2012/13 Actual Cost indicator includes a higher proportion of non-salary costs compared to the 2011/12 Actual Cost indicator due primarily to increased expenditure across regional areas and a larger allocation of corporate overheads to this indicator in 2012/13 compared to 2011/12.

### Service 3: Research and Monitoring

#### Service description:

The research and monitoring service provides scientific knowledge for the sustainable management of the State's fisheries and aquatic resources and the associated environment.

Efficiency in Service 3 is described as the average cost per hour for services delivered within each of the three functional areas as outlined in the following table.

Table 6 – Service 3

Service 3. Research and Monitoring	Actual 2009/10	Actual 2010/11	Actual 2011/12	Target 2012/13	Actual 2012/13
Average cost per hour of research and monitoring	\$118	\$126	\$130	\$129	\$119

There were no significant variances between the 2012/13 Target and 2012/13 Actual nor were there significant variances between the actual results for 2012/13 and 2011/12.

### Service 4: Marine Safety Service

#### Service description:

The marine safety service is delivered on behalf of the Department of Transport. This service includes checks by Fisheries and Marine Officers of recreational boats to ensure compliance with the safety requirements.

Efficiency in Service 4 is described as the average cost per hour for services delivered within each of the three functional areas as outlined in the following table.

Service 4. Marine Safety Service	Actual 2009/10	Actual 2010/11	Actual 2011/12	Target 2012/13	Actual 2012/13
Average cost per hour for delivery of marine safety services	\$143	\$134	\$115	\$117	\$184

**Explanation of Significant Variances between 2012/13 Target and 2012/13 Actual**

The 2012/13 Actual Cost indicator significantly exceeds the Target Cost due primarily to a more accurate allocation of corporate overheads to this indicator following adjustments in cost mapping during the year.

**Explanation of Significant Variances between 2012/13 Actual and 2011/12 Actual**

The 2012/13 Actual Cost indicator significantly exceeds the 2011/12 Actual Cost indicator due primarily to a more accurate allocation of corporate overheads to this indicator following adjustments in cost mapping during the year. The actual hours delivered against this service remains relatively consistent with previous years.



## Other financial disclosures

### Capital works program

Government provided funding in the capital works program for a number of building and infrastructure projects to enable the Department to meet its operational needs in regional and metropolitan locations.

Funding was also received through Royalties for Regions for the construction of artificial reefs to enhance recreational fishing in the South West.

Another major area of capital spending was in computer systems and network infrastructure to support key operational and corporate services functions. The table below covers key areas of infrastructure to assist the Department of Fisheries in providing services.

#### Capital works program 2012/13

Asset class	Planned expenditure	Actual expenditure <sup>1</sup>
	\$'000	\$'000
Information systems	5,021	8,496
Plant and equipment	384	331
Buildings and infrastructure	8,295	7,080
Vessels	3,000	1,148
TOTAL	16,700	17,055

<sup>1</sup> Expenditure reported on a cash basis.

### Information systems

The 2012/13 actual expenditure related mainly to implementation costs for the Fish Eye licensing and entitlement management system, and implementation of Corporate Services payroll and finance systems following the de-commissioning of the Office of Shared Services.

The Department also substantially upgraded its computer network and workstation assets to meet the additional requirements of the Fish Eye and Corporate Services payroll and finance systems.

### Buildings and infrastructure

A new office was completed at South Perth and existing buildings at Karratha and Denham were renovated and refitted to provide modern office accommodation.

The Department deployed two purpose-built artificial reefs in the Geographe Bay as part of the South West Recreational Fishing Enhancement Project to provide alternative fishing opportunities in the area.

### Vessels

The capital program for 2012/13 funded the continuing upgrade of a variety of vessels to support the Department's compliance and research and monitoring programs.

Larger projects included the 11.3 metre *RV Geographe* and a 10 metre mono-hulled aluminium patrol vessel as well as the replacement of several smaller patrol vessels.

## Pricing policy for services provided

The Department receives a large proportion of its revenue from regulatory fees and charges related to commercial fishing, aquaculture and recreational fishing. These fees are set in accordance with government policy and the level of cost recovery is based on the nature of the transaction. The Department charges full cost recovery for registry transactions but partial cost recovery for other fees such as recreational fishing licence fees. Commercial access to fish resources and water are determined to reflect an appropriate payment to the community for access to that resource.

In 2013, the Department reviewed its methodology for the costing of general and application fees under the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995* to ensure the correct cost attribution to these fees. This methodology will be audited by the Department's auditors and will be used for the calculation of fees for the 2014/15 financial year.

Charges for goods and services are determined in accordance with *Costing and Pricing Government Services: Guidelines for Use by Agencies in the Western Australian Public Sector* published by the Department of Treasury.

## Ministerial directives

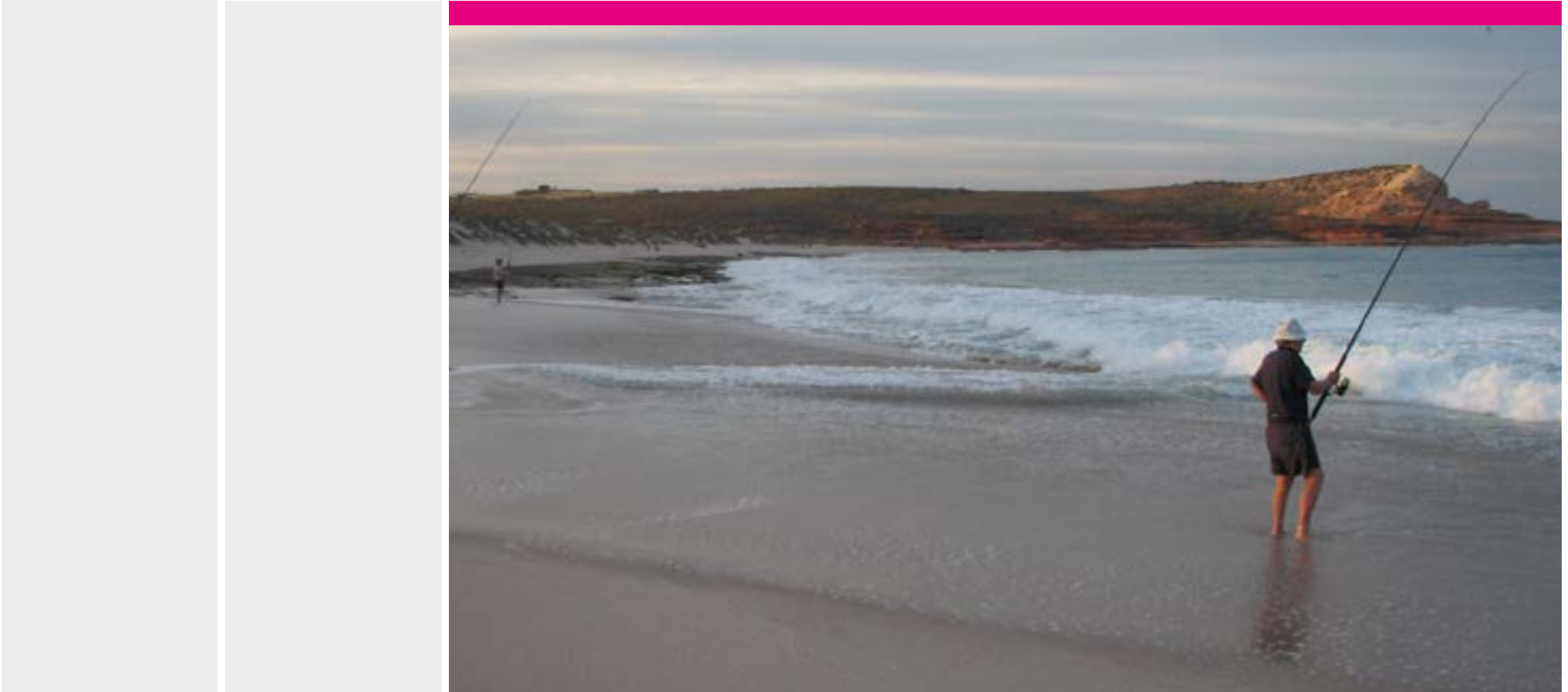
No Ministerial directives were received during the financial year.

## Governance disclosures

### Contracts with senior officers

At the date of reporting, other than normal contracts of employment, no senior officers, or firms of which senior officers are members, or entities in which senior officers have substantial interests, had any interests in existing or proposed contracts with the Department of Fisheries and senior officers.

## Other legal and Government policy requirements



Other legal requirements | Government policy requirements

## Other legal requirements

### Advertising and sponsorship

In compliance with section 175ZE of the *Electoral Act 1907*, the Department of Fisheries reports on expenditure incurred during the financial year in relation to advertising agencies, market research, organisations, polling organisations, direct mail organisations and media advertising organisations.

The full details of the report are:

#### Expenditure on Advertising for the 2012/13 financial year

Expenditure with advertising agencies:	Purpose:	\$ (Excl GST)
Optimum Media Decisions	Advertising campaign for Shark Hazard Awareness	154,528.33
Marketforce	Advertising campaign for Shark Hazard Awareness	42,835.03
Mitchell & Partners Australia	Advertising campaign for the introduction of Statewide changes to recreational fishing rules	45,605.36
SHEDcsc	Creative services in relation to advertising campaign for the introduction of Statewide changes to recreational fishing rules	1,450.00
Digital Ink	Advertisement designwork	500.00
Sub Total		244,918.72

Expenditure with market research agencies:	Purpose:	\$ (Excl GST)
Advantage Communications & Marketing	Survey of Department of Fisheries stakeholders and recreational fishers	25,860.00
Roy Morgan Research	Annual Community Perceptions Survey 2012	11,721.50
Sub Total		37,581.50

Expenditure with polling agencies: Nil

Expenditure with direct mail agencies: Nil

Expenditure with media advertising agencies:	Purpose:	\$ (Excl GST)
Adcorp Australia	Information notices, staff recruitment and tender advertisements	40,246.61
Travellers Information Radio 88FM	Radio advertisements	2,886.36
Sub Total		43,632.97

**Total Advertising Expenditure 2012/13 326,133.19**

## Disability access and inclusion plan

Through its new *Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2012-17*, the Department is committed to ensuring that people with disabilities, their families, friends and carers have the same opportunities, rights and responsibilities enjoyed by others to access the Department's services, information and facilities.

The plan outlines seven outcomes the Department of Fisheries aims to achieve:

### **Outcome 1: People with disabilities have the same opportunities as other people to access the services of, and any events organised by, the Department.**

The Department is committed to ensuring all events are planned using the 'Accessible Events Checklist' that is available on the Department's Intranet. Information about the Department's functions and services is written in clear and concise language, and is available in alternative formats.

### **Outcome 2: People with disabilities have the same opportunities as other people to access the buildings and other facilities of the Department.**

The Department has ongoing audits to identify any access barriers to its premises. Outcomes from these audits are incorporated into the design of new buildings and refurbishment works.

### **Outcome 3: People with disabilities receive information from the Department in a format that will enable them to access the information as readily as other people are able to access it.**

The Department's new website has been developed to ensure

information is more readily available to people with disabilities. The Department remains committed to improving community awareness of departmental information by making it available in alternative forms.

### **Outcome 4: People with disabilities receive the same level and quality of service from staff of the Department as other people receive from the staff of the Department.**

The Department is committed to improving staff awareness of disability and access issues. Awareness training is provided to customer service staff and is included in the Department's induction program for all new employees.

### **Outcome 5: People with disabilities have the same opportunities as other people to make complaints to the Department.**

The Department is committed to ensuring that current complaints policies and procedures are accessible to people with disabilities.

### **Outcome 6: People with disabilities have the same opportunities as other people to participate in any public consultation by the Department.**

To support people with disabilities to attend external consultations and public gatherings, the Department provides event information in clear, concise language and in accessible formats. The Department endeavors to hold events in accessible venues.

The Department also supports workshops for disabled people operated by the Fishers with Disabilities Association Incorporated and provides a grant to assist the association meet its administration and insurance costs.

**Outcome 7: People with disabilities have the same opportunities as other people to access the Department's employment (recruitment and retention) practices.**

The Department is committed to developing innovative strategies to improve the attraction, recruitment and retention of employees with disabilities.

**Compliance with public sector standards and ethical codes**

The Department's policies are written to support the achievement of its 'Plan for Our People' initiatives and to comply with legislative and public sector directives. All policies are accessible to Department staff through the Intranet. In addition, the Department undertook the following activities in 2012/13 to support compliance with public sector standards and ethical codes:

- The Department developed and published a code of conduct linking the People Services Code of Ethics and the revised Conduct and Behaviour Guide.
- A new gift decisions form has been implemented to complement the conflict of interest declaration form and includes the requirement to declare and record all gifts offered and accepted.
- Misconduct resistance training began in March 2013 and as at June 30 2013, 152 employees have attended this training.
- A total of 212 employees have attended appropriate workplace behaviour training.
- All employees are enrolled in the 'Accountable and Ethical Decision Making' online course.

For 2012/2013 the Department reports the following public sector standards and ethical codes compliance statistics:

Compliance issues	Reported for 2012/2013
Public sector standards in human resource management breach claims	0
Non-compliance with the WA Code of Ethics and the Department's Code of Conduct	0
Substantiated allegations of misconduct under the disciplinary provisions of the <i>Public Sector Management Act 1994</i>	4

## Compliance with relevant written laws

### Enabling legislation

The Department of Fisheries is established under Section 35 of the *Public Sector Management Act 1994*.

### Legislation administered

The Department assists the Minister in the administration of legislation under five State Acts of Parliament (see page 13).

The Department also manages the majority of fishing adjacent to Western Australia in the Australian Fishing Zone under the provisions of Part 5 of the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* of the Commonwealth and Part 3 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.

### Legislation affecting Department outcomes

In the performance of its functions, the Department complies with the following written laws:

- *Animal Welfare Act 2002*
- *Auditor General Act 2006*
- *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984*
- *Corruption and Crime Commission Act 2003*
- *Credit Act 1984*
- *Disability Services Act 1993*
- *Electronic Transactions Act 2003*
- *Environmental Protection Act 1986*
- *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*
- *Equal Opportunity Act 1984*
- *Financial Management Act 2006*
- *Firearms Act 1973*
- *Freedom of Information Act 1992*
- *Government Employees' Housing Act 1964*
- *Government Financial Responsibility Act 2000*
- *Industrial Relations Act 1979*
- *Minimum Conditions of Employment Act 1993*
- *New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act 1999*
- *Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984*
- *Occupiers Liability Act 1985*
- *Public and Bank Holidays Act 1972*
- *Public Interest Disclosures Act 2003*
- *Public Sector Management Act 1994*
- *Salaries and Allowances Act 1975*
- *Spent Convictions Act 1988*
- *State Administrative Tribunal Act 2004*
- *State Records Act 2000*
- *State Superannuation Act 2000*
- *State Supply Commission Act 1991*
- *State Trading Concerns Act 1916*
- *Trade Practices Act 1974*
- *Volunteers and Food and Other Donors (Protection from Liability) Act 2002*

- *Western Australian Marine Act 1982*
- *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*
- *Working with Children (Criminal Record Checking) Act 2004.*

Numerous other State and Federal laws also have an impact on the Department's activities.

### **Knowledge management – the Department's record-keeping systems**

In 2012/13 the Department focused on capturing electronic records within the electronic document and records management system (EDRMS) HP TRIM 7.1 (TRIM), implementing a TRIM training program and successfully establishing a new Knowledge Management Branch staffing structure.

During the year, TRIM usage has considerably increased across the Department, demonstrated by the increasing quantity of electronic information in the system consistent with the Department's record-keeping plan.

Several record-keeping and system reviews, carried out in 2012/13, resulted in the development of record-keeping strategies to meet both business and legislative requirements. To ensure TRIM meets user needs, quarterly reference groups have been established to provide feedback and evaluate proposed changes.

Regular reviews of the system take place, including monthly reviews of the Business Classification Scheme. Established in 2012, the classification scheme is increasingly sophisticated, incorporating security and access information. Future reviews of the classification scheme are planned with the intention of assigning

retention and disposal schedules, which will simplify record creation and disposal procedures. TRIM workflows have also been identified as a valuable business tool with plans to develop workflows to manage and report on existing processes and record movements.

The Department has an active record-keeping training program for staff, incorporating online and face-to-face practical training. In 2012/2013 regional offices were visited by Knowledge Management staff for on-site training sessions and reviews of record-keeping practices. Record-keeping responsibilities, practices and training are outlined in the quarterly staff inductions. This covers compliance requirements, along with organisational roles and responsibilities.

An online induction package is also available for all staff across the State, which further outlines the requirements for the sound management of records. This is the precursor to the mandatory Record-keeping Awareness Training (RAT) course, which has a full version and refresher version that staff are required to complete every 12 months. In 2012/2013 the completion rates of online training have declined, indicative of the increased face-to-face training taking place. Plans to improve completion rates involving performance reporting have been developed.

Record-keeping training is subject to ongoing review and improvement, resulting in the development of quick reference guides to improve the user-friendliness of TRIM and ensure record-keeping is streamlined with business processes. The training effectiveness is reviewed in real terms by monthly reporting on users trained, as well as the use of the TRIM and registration of documents.



## Record-keeping tasks

	2010/2011	2011/2012	2012/2013
Documents created in TRIM	7,203	18,642	42,502
Files created in TRIM	4,825	5,377	7,386
Archive boxes created in TRIM	749	590	986

## Training

Training sessions	Total staff trained 2012/2013		
Record-keeping & EDRMS training	189		
Induction training	40		
Online training 2012/2013	Number enrolled	Number completed	Percentage
Online RAT	109	56	51
Online RAT refresher	144	49	34
Online Freedom of Information Training	162	58	36
Online training totals	Number enrolled	Number completed	Percentage
Online RAT	533	480	93
Online RAT refresher	411	316	82
Online Freedom of Information training	424	319	81

## Public interest disclosures

(Public Interest Disclosures Act 2003, S23 (1) (f))

The *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2003* requires the Department to:

- facilitate the disclosure of public interest information;
- provide protection for those who make disclosures; and
- provide protection for those who are the subject of a disclosure.

In accordance with the Act, the Department has duly appointed public interest disclosure officers and has published internal policies and procedures related to its obligations.

No public interest disclosures were received during 2012/13.

## Government policy requirements

### Substantive equality

The Department is committed to the principles of substantive equality and the implementation of the *Policy Framework for Substantive Equality*.

Recently the Department participated as a pilot agency in the development of the new policies and initiatives process conducted by the Substantive Equality Unit. This process is designed to assist departments examine the outcomes of their new policies and work to achieve improved substantive equality.

Department of Fisheries policy initiatives include the development of an Aboriginal fishing strategy, a customary fishing policy and resource allocations for customary purposes under the Department's integrated fisheries management policy.

The Department also meets its substantive equality responsibilities by producing recreational fishing information in various languages. For example, in 2013 the Department published a new version of its 'Crabbing for blue swimmer crabs – West Coast Bioregion' brochure in six languages – English, Vietnamese, Cantonese, Mandarin, Korean and Malay (Bahasa). Crabbing is a very popular activity among the South-East Asian community and the new brochure reflects this interest. The Department's website also includes a translation option allowing visitors to view the site in more than 30 languages.

Currently, a needs and impact assessment regarding the licensing of aquatic charter activities of Aboriginal and minority ethnic groups is awaiting Ministerial approval. A scoping document

was developed during 2009/10 outlining the background to current management arrangements for Aboriginal fishing tour operators. The assessment will be part of an overall review of the aquatic charter industry.

### Occupational safety, health and injury management

The Department of Fisheries and its executive are committed to ensuring the safety, health and well-being of their employees, contractors, volunteers and visitors at all workplaces throughout the State.

The Department provides support for:

- safety and health communication through the Intranet and other communication channels;
- safety and health training;
- the operation of the Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Committee and its sub-committees;
- the activities of the Wellness Program; and
- continuous improvement of the safety management system including risk management processes and hazard/accident/incident reporting.

The Department has a range of safety key performance indicators that are reported on and reviewed regularly within the OSH Improvement Plan as part of its commitment to the well-being of its staff.

The Department has a workers' compensation and injury management policy which prescribes the injury management process, including the development of return to work programs for all injured staff under the direction and guidance of the OSH team.

The OAG audited the Department's injury management processes in November 2012 and all recommendations have been incorporated into the OSH Improvement Plan.

Following a Worksafe plan assessment in 2009, a desktop audit of the Department's occupational safety and health management system was conducted in October 2012. The audit led to the development of an OSH improvement plan to drive continuous improvement in the safety management system.

#### Occupational safety and health and injury management performance against key indicators

Measure	Actual results		Results against target	Comment on results
	2010/11	2012/13	Target	
Number of fatalities	0%	0%	0%	Target achieved
Lost time injury incident (LTI) rate	1.2%	0.67%	<10%	There were only 3 LTIs
Lost time injury severity rate	40%	66.7%	<10%	Of the 3 LTIs, 2 have not returned to work to date
Percentage of injured workers returned to work:				1 LTI returned to restricted duties 2 of the LTIs have not returned to work to date
(i) Within 13 weeks	N/A	33.3%		
(ii) Within 26 weeks	60%	Nil	≥80%	
Percentage of managers trained in occupational safety, health and injury management responsibilities	32%	60%	≥80%	Further licences will be purchased to facilitate achievement of target

## Appendices



Photo: Shannon Conway

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## Appendix 1 – Advisory committees

### Advisory/other committees

*(Section 41 and 42, Fish Resources Management Act 1994)*

- Integrated Fisheries Allocation Advisory Committee
- Aquatic Advisory Committee
- Abrolhos Islands Management Advisory Committee

### Voluntary Fisheries Adjustment Scheme Committee of Management

*(Section 11, Fisheries Adjustment Schemes Act 1987)*

- Wetline and Related Fisheries Voluntary Fisheries Adjustment Scheme Committee of Management

## Appendix 2 – State Register of authorisations, exemptions and aquaculture leases

The State Register of authorisations, exemptions and aquaculture leases is available to the public on application to the Registrar and payment of appropriate fees – see section 125 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* (FRMA).

One aquaculture lease has been granted during the reporting period.

At 30 June 2013, there were 159,270 recreational fishing licences recorded on the register. Although details of recreational licences are recorded on the State Register, the Registrar is prohibited from making these available for public search – see section 125(6) of the FRMA.

At 30 June 2013, there were 409 aquaculture licences recorded on the State Register.

At 30 June 2013, there were 5,911 commercial authorisations recorded on the State Register. The commercial authorisations on the State Register were made up of the following:

### Interim Managed Fishery Licences 103

- Pilbara Fish Trawl 10
- Shark Bay Crab 5
- West Coast Demersal Gillnet and Demersal Long Line 17
- West Coast Estuarine 12
- West Coast Demersal Scalefish 59

### Managed Fishery Licences 1,277

- Abalone 45
- Abrolhos Mid-West Trawl 10
- Broome Prawn 5
- Cockburn Crab 12
- Cockburn Fish Net 1
- Cockburn Line and Pot 13
- Cockburn Mussel 2
- Esperance Rock Lobster 8
- Exmouth Prawn 15
- Gascoyne Demersal Scale Fish 47
- Kimberley Gill Net and Barramundi 7
- Kimberley Prawn 121
- Mackerel 61
- Marine Aquarium Fish Corporate 1
- Marine Aquarium Fish Individual 11
- Nickol Bay Prawn 14
- Northern Demersal 15
- Onslow Prawn 30
- Pilbara Trap 6
- Shark Bay Beach Seine 11

- Shark Bay Prawn 18
- Shark Bay Scallop 29
- South Coast Estuarine 25
- South Coast Purse Seine 31
- South Coast Salmon 18
- South West Salmon 6
- South West Trawl 13
- Southern Demersal Gillnet and Demersal Longline 55
- Specimen Shell 34
- Warnbro Crab 0
- West Coast Beach Bait Fish 1
- West Coast Purse Seine 12
- Windy Harbour/Augusta Rock Lobster 2
- West Coast Rock Lobster 591
- West Coast Deep Sea Crustacean 7

#### **Other licences 4,531**

- Commercial Fishing Licence 2,276
- Fish Processing (land) 123
- Fish Processing (sea) 103
- Fishing Boat Licence 1,337
- Aquatic Eco Tour 2
- Fishing Tour Operators Licence 212
- Restricted Fishing Tour 28

- Permit to Construct a Fish Processing Establishment 422
- Rock Lobster Pot Licence 28

Fees to access the State Register and obtain copies of entries in, and extracts from, the register are prescribed in Schedule 1 Part 1 of the *Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995*.

#### **Transactions on the Register 664**

- Extracts 422
- Searches 7
- Notation of security interest 215
- Removal of security interest 18
- Variation of security interest 2

The Registrar recorded three convictions against six authorisations in the relevant period, pursuant to the statutory obligation under section 224 (1) of the FRMA.

There were no authorisations cancelled (under section 224 (2) of the FRMA) as a result of the recording of three convictions within 10 years against the authorisation.

The Registrar provided four certificates under section 212 of the FRMA for the purposes of proceedings for offences under the FRMA.

### State Register of exemptions 2012/13

Exemption No.	Expiry	Holder	Purpose
2078	20/11/2012	Murdoch University – various	For the purposes of assessing the nutrient stripping capacity of riparian vegetation
2079	31/12/2012	Murdoch University – various	For the purposes of assessing the effect of climate change on invertebrates in refuges
2080	30/11/2012	Wetland Research and Management	Research
2081	30/09/2014	Trevor Charles Price	For the purpose of using set nets up to 2½ hours after sunrise in the waters of the Hardy Inlet Estuarine Fishery as required in order to minimise the mortality of unwanted fish
2082	31/08/2012	Wetland Research and Management	For the purpose of scientific research
2083	17/10/2012	Aquinas College – various	For the purposes of a biodiversity and population study of the marine environment
2084	31/12/2013	Kaija Antipas of Murdoch University and Damian Thomson from CSIRO	For the purposes of creating a size demography for all fauids at Hall Bank Reef
2085	30/11/2014	Clay Bryce and staff from WA Museum	For the purposes of a marine biodiversity survey of Buccaneer and Bonaparte archipelagos and surrounding waters
2086		Jean-Paul Hobbs of UWA and John Howard Choat of James Cook University QLD	CANCELLED
2087	31/12/2016	Jean-Paul Hobbs of UWA and John Howard Choat of James Cook University QLD	For the purpose of research
2088	30/06/2013	Mr David Tunbridge and Dr Paul Close of UWA	For the purposes of a direct toxicity assessment of potentially contaminated water being discharged from Talison Lithium Mine, Greenbushes, WA
2089	31/12/2013	Murdoch University – various	For the purposes of ongoing monitoring of freshwater sawfish



Exemption No.	Expiry	Holder	Purpose
2090	30/11/2012	Stephen Beatty, Assoc Prof Alan Lymbery and others as listed in schedule 1	For the purposes of determining the rotenone tolerance of introduced and native freshwater fishes of south-western Australia
2091	15/10/2012	Murdoch University – various	CANCELLED
2092	15/10/2012	Murdoch University – various	For the purposes of undergraduate teaching regarding the effect of nitrogen on macroalgal growth
2093	17/10/2012	Rhiannon Jones and environmental science undergraduate students of Murdoch University	For the purposes of undergraduate teaching regarding the effect of nitrogen on macroalgal growth
2094	16/10/2012	Murdoch University – various	For the purposes of undergraduate teaching regarding the effect of nitrogen on macroalgal growth
2095	31/08/2014	Luke Thomas of University of Western Australia	For the purposes of establishing baseline information on the diversity of algal symbionts in reef building <i>Acropora</i> corals at the Houtman Abrolhos Islands
2096	30/12/2012	Dr Stephen Beatty Assoc Prof, and others as listed in schedule 1 from Murdoch University	For the purposes of determining goldfish movement patterns using acoustic tracking in the Vasse River
2097	31/12/2012	Mr Roger Parker of Catesby Nominees Pty Ltd	For the purpose of enabling Mr Roger Parker of Catesby Nominees Pty Ltd to continue to operate in the West Coast Demersal Scalefish (Interim) Managed Fishery without holding a WCDS Interim Managed Fishery Permit, as if he is the holder FBL2458
2098	31/12/2012	Mr Dion Boddington	For the purposes of assisting the Fisheries Research Division, Department of Fisheries, in collecting required samples for biological analysis
2099	31/12/2012	Mr Ian Keay	For the purposes of assisting the Fisheries Research Division, Department of Fisheries, in collecting required samples for biological analysis
2100	31/12/2012	Mr Danny Wimpress	For the purposes of assisting the Fisheries Research Division, Department of Fisheries, in collecting required samples for biological analysis
2101	31/12/2012	Mr Colin Wimpress	For the purposes of assisting the Fisheries Research Division, Department of Fisheries, in collecting required samples for biological analysis

Exemption No.	Expiry	Holder	Purpose
2102	31/12/2012	Mr Ryan Thiphthorp	For the purposes of assisting the Fisheries Research Division, Department of Fisheries, in collecting required samples for biological analysis
2103	31/12/2012	Mr Harry Bauman	For the purposes of assisting the Fisheries Research Division, Department of Fisheries, in collecting required samples for biological analysis
2104	20/09/2012	Mr Steve McLeary	For the purposes of assisting the Research Division, Department of Fisheries, in conducting the annual independent breeding stock survey required to monitor the sustainability of the rock lobster fishery
2105	30/04/2015	Mr Matthew Fong	For the purposes of assisting the Department of Fisheries in conducting the annual independent breeding stock survey required to monitor the sustainability of the rock lobster fishery, and to assist the Department of Fisheries obtain the biological data required to facilitate a fishing mortality based stock assessment
2106	30/04/2015	Jonathan Murphy, Michael Klunzinger and others as listed in Schedule 1	For the purposes of scientific research
2107	30/04/2015	Jonathan Murphy, James Keleher and others as listed in Schedule 1	For the purposes of scientific research
2108	31/12/2014	Department of Fisheries	To allow fishing by net, or from a licenced fishing boat, in the waters of the GDS fishery (other than south of Long Point at 25° 28.828' S or north of Red Bluff at 24° 02.000' S) to sell or deal in fish without prosecution under s74 FRMA 1994
2109	30/11/2012	Dr Christopher Rawson	For the purposes of investigating the comparative estrogenic potentials of sewage treatment plants, agricultural and urban drains
2110	30/10/2014	Artemis Kitsios, Gillian White and others as listed in Schedule 1	For the purposes of conducting an assessment of river health and water quality within the Lower Blackwood catchment
2111	30/10/2014	Gary Kendrick, Dr John Statton and others as listed in Schedule 1	For the purposes of investigating the drivers of kelp resilience in the Abrolhos Islands

Exemption No.	Expiry	Holder	Purpose
2112	31/08/2014	Luke Thomas, Matt Frasier and others as listed in Schedule 1	For the purposes of establishing baseline information on the diversity of algal symbionts in Scleractinian corals at the Houtman Abrolhos Islands
2113	01/09/2013	Clay Bryce of WA Museum and others as listed in Schedule 1	For the purposes of ascertaining the correct taxonomic status of the various species in the gastropod genus <i>Melo</i> occurring in Western Australia
2114	31/12/2013	Adam Harman and Andrew Storey (Wetland Research and Management)	To conduct baseline research on the freshwater fish of Duck Creek
2115	31/12/2013	Jessica Delany, Alex Riemer, Thomas De Silva and Kim Nuyen (Wetland Research and Management)	To conduct baseline research on the freshwater fish of Whaleback, Weeli Wolli, Marillana, Coondinner and Kalgan creeks; and Fortescue, Ashburton, De Grey and Robe rivers
2116	31/08/2013	Sinclair Knight Mertz Pty Ltd	To undertake marine environmental surveys and scientific studies for the purpose of research to support potential environmental approvals for a gas development project from date of signing until 31 August 2013
2117	31/12/2012	Sinclair Knight Mertz	To provide information on coral reproduction to input into research towards understanding the impact of plumes (associated with port-related dredging activity) on coral spawning
2118	16/09/2015	Mr Harold Richard (Bobby) Hoult	To explore and/or develop a commercial cockles, pipis, Venus clams, tellins, trough clams and wedge shells fishery in Western Australia and associated fishing technology
2119	16/09/2015	Mr John Leyland Craike	To explore and/or develop a commercial cockles, pipis, Venus clams, tellins, trough clams and wedge shells fishery in Western Australia and associated fishing technology
2120	31/12/2014	Peter Coulson of Murdoch University	For the purposes of scientific research
2121	28/02/2014	Robyn Paice, Dr Stephen Beatty and others as listed in Schedule 1	For the purposes of studying the role of fish in the food web of restored submerged macrophyte beds in the Lower Vasse River

Exemption No.	Expiry	Holder	Purpose
2122	22/10/2012	Mr James Chandler	For the purposes of assisting the Research Division, Department of Fisheries, in conducting the annual independent breeding stock survey required to monitor the sustainability of the rock lobster fishery
2123	22/10/2012	Mr Nils Stokke	For the purposes of assisting the Research Division, Department of Fisheries, in conducting the annual independent breeding stock survey required to monitor the sustainability of the rock lobster fishery
2124			2124 – Cancelled – data input error – refer to EXEM2125
2125	6/10/2012	Mr Mark Watts	For the purposes of assisting the Research Division, Department of Fisheries, in conducting the annual independent breeding stock survey required to monitor the sustainability of the rock lobster fishery
2126	22/10/2012	Mr Antonio Guarino	For the purposes of assisting the Research Division, Department of Fisheries, in conducting the annual independent breeding stock survey required to monitor the sustainability of the rock lobster fishery
2127	31/04/2013	Oceanica Pty Ltd	To undertake marine environmental surveys and scientific studies for the purposes of research to support potential environmental approvals for the Department of Fisheries Aquaculture Zones Project
2128	30/04/2015	Jonathan Murphy, James Keleher and others as listed in Schedule 1	For the purposes of scientific research
2129	31/10/2013	Malcolm McCulloch, Jens Zinke and others as listed in Schedule 1	For the purposes of determining coral skeleton archives of paleoclimatic records of sea surface conditions across Western Australia
2130	31/11/2012	Sinclair Knight Merz Pty Ltd	To provide marine environmental baseline data for proposed Woodside oil and gas development projects in the Cimatti, Laverda and Eastern Flank Fields of Western Australia
2131	31/12/2013	Australian Limological Services Pty Ltd	To conduct baseline water quality sampling and ecological monitoring in a number of south-west Western Australian dams on behalf of the Water Corporation

Exemption No.	Expiry	Holder	Purpose
2132	31/03/2015	Peter Coulson, James Tweedley and others as listed in Schedule 1	For the purposes of determining the dynamics of WA squid populations through research and recreational fishing
2133	30/11/2012	Jeff Cooke and Daniel Cooke (Eagle Bay Fisheries)	For the purposes of scientific research (tagging 90 whiskery and 35 gummy sharks)
2134	03/11/2014	R L and M A Alexander	1. To commercially explore and/or develop the octopus fishery and fishing technology of that activity 2. To gather baseline data about octopus stocks within WA waters under a controlled management regime
2135	03/11/2014	Fremantle Octopus Company Pty Ltd	1. To commercially explore and/or develop the octopus fishery and fishing technology of that activity 2. To gather baseline data about octopus stocks within WA waters under a controlled management regime
2136	30/06/2015	WA Ocean Park Pty Ltd	For commercial and community education purposes
2137	31/12/2017	West Coast Demersal Scalefish and West Coast Demersal Gillnet and Longline Fisheries	To permit the persons in Schedule 1 to land pink snapper which were legally taken from waters north of 31°00' south latitude in areas south of 31°00' south latitude
2138	30/09/2015	Curtin University, Murdoch University and Department of Fisheries	For the purposes of validation of ageing methods used for southern calamari, <i>Sepioteuthis australis</i>
2139	28/02/2012	Prof Jonathan P Evans and others as listed in schedule 1	For the purposes of studying the quantitative genetics of sperm performance in the Australian sea urchin, <i>Heliocidaris erythrogramma</i>
2140	30/06/2013	Peter Malanczak of Edith Cowan University	For the purposes of investigating the impacts of change to the hydrological characteristics of the Upper Swan Estuary is having on the spawning and recruitment of <i>Nematalosa vlaminghi</i> over the summer-autumn period
2141	30/11/2015	Prof Jonathan P Evans and Cameron Duggin	For the purposes of studying the quantitative genetics and sperm performance in the blue mussel, <i>Mytilus edulis</i>
2142	30/11/2015	CSIRO (persons as listed in schedule 1)	For the purposes of undertaking a regional-scale assessment of the conditions of, and threats to, marine biodiversity assets that are valued as Key Performance Indicators

Exemption No.	Expiry	Holder	Purpose
2143	30/10/2013	CSIRO (persons as listed in schedule 1)	For the purposes of identifying threats to marine biodiversity of the Ningaloo World Heritage Area
2144	19/04/2015	University of Western Australia – various	For the purposes of investigating the impact of Binningup Desalination Plant outfall on benthic marine communities
2145	19/11/2012	Australian Institute of Marine Science	For the purposes of scientific research
2146	31/10/2015	Oceanica Consulting Pty Ltd	To conduct annual macroinvertebrate sampling as a requirement for environmental compliance reports for the Mermaid Marine Monitoring Program at the Dampier Supply Base
2147	30/11/2013	Wetland Research and Management – various	To conduct baseline studies of fish populations and assemblages in Lake Jualbup
2148	20/12/2015	Shanta Barley, Beverley Oh and others as listed in Schedule 1	For the purposes of studying the impact of shark overexploitation on the density, behaviour and growth-rate of coral reef fish communities
2149	30/11/2015	CSIRO – various	For the purposes of undertaking a regional-scale assessment of the conditions of, and threats to, marine biodiversity assets that are valued as Key Performance Indicators
2150	10/10/2015	University of Western Australia – various	For the purposes of the characterisation of nursery areas and their functional role as a tool for assessing the effectiveness of MPAs for the protection of coastal shark species
2151	18/11/2013	Western Australian Disabled Sports Association	Community education about and compliance with this Act
2152	30/10/2014	University of Adelaide, SARDI Aquatic Services and PIRSA	To collect marine macroalgae for a variety of academic research purposes
2153	22/11/2013	Holder of Fishing Boat Licence 1056 or persons acting on behalf	For a commercial purpose
2154	17/12/2012	Mr Neil Oliver	For the purpose of using set nets in all waters of Area 1 of the West Coast Estuarine Interim Managed Fishery as part of the Department of Fisheries response to the Asian paddle crab biosecurity incident

Exemption No.	Expiry	Holder	Purpose
2155	01/01/2014	Edith Cowan University – various	For the purposes of determining the effects of the invasive Mozambique tilapia ( <i>O. mossambicus</i> ) on the size structures and diets of the native fish of Lake McLeod, WA
2156	30/11/2014	University of Western Australia – Murdoch University – various	For the purposes of investigating the evolution and development of vision and other sensory organs in aquatic vertebrates
2157	31/12/2015	Australian Centre for Applied Aquaculture Research	For the purpose of enabling the collection of aquaculture broodstock
2158	31/12/2015	Onslow Prawn Managed Fishery 'A' class licence holders	To provide for the development of gear technology and consistency in fishing gear in the Onslow Prawn Managed Fishery for commercial purposes
2159	31/12/2013	Murdoch University – various	For the purposes of studying seagrass distribution and abundance and seagrass epiphyte loads
2160	15/02/2013	Murdoch University – various	For the purposes of teaching – marine and estuarine biology field camp
2161	31/12/2013	Department of Water – various	For the purposes of a river health assessment
2162	24/12/2012	West Coast Estuarine Interim Managed Fishery – Licence Holders in Area 2	For the purpose of allowing crab pots to be set and remain in the waters of Area 2 of the West Coast Estuarine Interim Managed Fishery in order to service public demand for fresh crabs on Christmas Eve
2163	30/05/2013	Murdoch University – various	For the purposes of an Aquatic Fauna Study Blackwood River at Southampton, WA
2164	31/12/2015	Mr Raymond Walker – Specimen Shell Managed Fishery Licence (SPSH 2442)	To use remotely operated vehicles to take specimen shells for a commercial purpose
2165	31/12/2015	South Coast Salmon Managed Fishery Licence Holders	To enable the holder of a South Coast Salmon Managed Fishery Licence to fish by line for Australian salmon from a Licensed Fishing Boat
2166	15/12/2014	Abalone Managed Fishery Licence Holders – Nominated divers as listed in Schedule 1	The disposal of the shell of shucked Roe's Abalone ( <i>Haliotis roei</i> ) prior to the consignment of abalone being received by the consignee
2167	03/11/2014	J and E Macdonald – persons acting on behalf	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To explore and/or develop the octopus fishery and fishing technology of that activity for a commercial purpose</li> <li>2. To gather baseline data about octopus stocks within WA waters under a controlled management regime</li> </ol>

Exemption No.	Expiry	Holder	Purpose
2168	31/12/2013	Paul Christopher English	For the purpose of conducting commercial aquaculture
2169	31/12/2015	Holders of Fishing Boat Licences – as listed in Schedule 1	1. To fish for beche-de-mer for a commercial purpose 2. To gather baseline data about the bêche-de-mer stocks in Western Australian waters under a controlled management regime
2170	11/12/2014	Ms Amanda Bamford	For the purpose of educational and community awareness programs
2171	30/06/2013	Jeff and Daniel Cooke – Eagle Bay Fisheries	For the purposes of scientific research (tagging 90 whiskery and 35 gummy sharks)
2172	14/01/2014	Fisheries Research – persons as listed in Schedule 1	For the purposes of assisting the Fisheries Research Division in determining the complete size range of lobsters present in the various water depths and areas of the fishery
2173	31/12/2014	Mr Paul Mitchell	To elucidate biological parameters such as growth rate and the age and size at sexual maturity of Bight redfish ( <i>Centroberyx gerrardi</i> ) in the South Coast Bioregion
2174	31/12/2014	Mr Graham Cooper	To elucidate biological parameters such as growth rate and the age and size at sexual maturity of Bight redfish ( <i>Centroberyx gerrardi</i> ) in the South Coast Bioregion
2175	31/03/2016	Abalone Managed Fishery Licences – current licence holders	To permit a nominated operator to be named on more than one Abalone Managed Fishery Licence of any species provided that one of those licences satisfies the relevant minimum unit holding requirements
2176	18/01/2013	University of Western Australia – various	For the purposes of a marine science open day
2177	31/01/2013	Marine Aquarium Fish licence holders – as listed in Schedule 1	To take fish of the genus <i>Hippocampus</i> for a commercial purpose
2178	31/01/2015	University of Western Australia – various	For the purposes of studying the population ecology and genetic diversity of endemic tuskfish in Western Australia
2179	31/05/2015	Murdoch University – various	For the purposes of monitoring the ecological condition of the Swan-Canning Estuary using fish community indices



Exemption No.	Expiry	Holder	Purpose
2180	12/03/2016	Mr Steven Da Silva	For the purpose of allowing Mr Da Silva to continue his commercial crab fishing operation in the waters of the Warnbro Sound Crab Managed Fishery as described in Schedule 4 without a Warnbro Sound Managed Fishery licence
2181	14/01/2014	West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery Licence Holders – MFL numbers as listed in Schedule 1	To operate in the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery when the usual entitlement on the Managed Fishery Licence is less than 600 units
2182	30/06/2013	Claudia Mueller and Michael Taylor	For the purposes of teaching
2183	31/12/2015	Australian Institute of Marine Science and WA Museum – persons as listed in Schedule 1	For the purposes of studying the biology of WA filter-feeders
2184	10/02/2013	Australian Institute of Marine Science – persons as listed in Schedule 1	For the purposes of a survey of coral reproductive synchrony along the NW Shelf
2185	15/05/2013	West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery – successful applicants	To extend the date by which the first instalment must be made in order for licensees to pay their 2013 access fee by instalments
2186	14/02/2013	West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery – current licence holders	To enable proposed transferees to use the number of pots they could operate as though the transfer had been approved from the start of the 2013 West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery licensing period
2187	31/12/2015	Sinclair Knight Mertz Pty Ltd	To undertake marine environmental surveys and analysis for the purpose of scientific research to demonstrate compliance to all required environmental regulations, licences and Ministerial Conditions
2188	30/06/2014	Murdoch University – various	For the purposes of surveying the fish fauna of the Dampier Salt concentrator ponds in Port Hedland and Dampier
2189	08/12/2013	Murdoch University – various	For the purposes of a pre-rehabilitation aquatic fauna survey of the Lower Serpentine River

Exemption No.	Expiry	Holder	Purpose
2190	01/01/2014	Drew Wassman (LFB G124) and Aaron Schofield (LFB F312)	For the purposes of assisting the Fisheries Research Division in determining the complete size range of crabs present in the various water depths and areas of the fishery
2191	01/01/2014	Drew Wassman	For the purposes of assisting the Fisheries Research Division in determining the age structure of crabs
2192	10/05/2013	Taryn Foster	For the purposes of studying the impacts of warmer water and ocean acidification on coral in the early life stages
2193	31/03/2016	Australian Institute of Marine Science – various	For the purposes of studying the key ecological processes in Kimberley benthic communities
2194	31/12/2015	Mr Raymond Walker – persons under the authority – Specimen Shell Licence 2442	To use a Remote Operated Vehicle (ROV) to take specimen shells for a commercial purpose
2195	31/12/2013	Andrew Hammond – persons acting on behalf	This exemption is granted for the purpose of public safety for the optimal passage of boats, safe navigation and the facilitation of dredging within the proposed designated channel
2196	30/11/2013	Mike Van Keulen and Navid Moheimani	For the purposes of studying the effect of <i>Lyngbya majuscula</i> on a benthic invertebrate community
2197	30/04/2015	University of Western Australia – persons as listed in Schedule 1	For the purposes of studying the larval dispersal and connectivity on a topographically complex high latitude reef archipelago: The Houtman Abrolhos Islands
2198	20/02/2014	Dampier Port Authority – persons as listed in Schedule 1	For the purposes of assisting the Fisheries Research Division, Department of Fisheries, to monitor for introduced marine pest crab species at Dampier Port
2199	20/02/2014	Port Hedland Port Authority – various	For the purposes of assisting the Fisheries Research Division, Department of Fisheries, to monitor for introduced marine pest crab species at the port of Port Hedland
2200	31/12/2015	Australian Centre for Applied Aquaculture Research – persons acting on behalf	For research and commercial purposes

Exemption No.	Expiry	Holder	Purpose
2201	30/11/2013	Malcolm McCulloch James Falter and Claire Ross – University of Western Australia	For the purposes of studying the influence of seasonal temperature fluctuations and ocean chemistry on coral skeletal size and growth during 2013
2202	31/12/2015	Managed Fishery Licence Holders – managed fisheries listed in Schedule 2	To provide licensees with operational flexibility and to maximise economic efficiency for commercial purposes
2203	31/12/2013	Wetland Research and Management – various	To conduct baseline research on the freshwater fish of the Beasley River within the Hardey River catchment
2204	28/02/2015	Edith Cowan University – various	For the purposes of characterising the ecology of microorganisms associated with corals, sponges and algae and determining if temperature effects these associations
2205	30/04/2015	University of Western Australia – various	For the purposes of studying coral connectivity in the Shark Bay region, Western Australia
2206	28/02/2014	CSIRO – various	For the purposes of studying climate change impacts in the coastal waters of WA
2207	31/01/2015	Edith Cowan University – various	For the purposes of studying the structural and functional response of benthic filter feeders to increased sedimentation
2208	01/01/2014	Drew Wassman (LFB G124) and Aaron Schofield (LFB F312)	For the purposes of assisting the Fisheries Research Division in determining the complete size range of crabs present in the various water depths and areas of the fishery
2209	10/10/2015	University of Western Australia – various	For the purposes of the characterisation of nursery areas and their functional role as a tool for assessing the effectiveness of MPAs for the protection of coastal shark species
2210	30/04/2015	Murdoch University – various	For the purposes of scientific research
2211	20/02/2014	Fremantle Port Authority – various	For the purposes of assisting the Fisheries Research Division, Department of Fisheries, to monitor for introduced marine pest crab species at Fremantle Port
2212	24/02/2013	Australian Institute of Marine Science – various	For the purposes of a survey of coral reproductive synchrony along the NW Shelf

Exemption No.	Expiry	Holder	Purpose
2213	14/03/2013	West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery – current licence holders	To enable proposed transferees to use the number of pots they could operate as though the transfer had been approved from the start of the 2013 West Coast Rock Lobster Manged Fishery licensing period
2214	31/01/2016	Marine Farms Pty Ltd	For the purpose of enabling the collection of aquaculture broodstock
2215	31/01/2016	Fishing Boat Licences – as listed in Schedule 4	To trawl for scallops and demersal scalefish of the Class Osteichthyes (except fish as described in Schedule 2)
2216	10/05/2013	Taryn Foster - University of Western Australia	For the purposes of studying the impacts of warmer water and ocean acidification on coral ability to up-regulate internal pH
2217	30/01/2014	Managed Fishery Licence Holders - as listed in Schedule 1	For purposes of conducting translocation experiments in cooperation with Fisheries Research to assist recovery of Roe's abalone stocks decimated by the recent marine heatwave, and ascertain the genetic source of assisted and naturally restored populations
2218	30/04/2013	Australian Institute of Marine Science – various	For the purposes of scientific research
2219	19/02/2014	Jing Chun Li and Peter Middlefart – WA Museum	For the purposes of scientific research
2220	31/01/2015	University of Western Australia – various	For the purposes of studying the population ecology and genetic diversity of endemic tuskfish in Western Australia
2221	30/06/2016	Agents and Employees of Sinclair Knight Mertz Pty Ltd	This exemption is granted for the purpose of research to monitor coral spawning to ensure the protection of coral from dredging activities as part of the Wheatstone Development Project
2222	31/08/2014	Murdoch University – various	For the purposes of studying the photosynthetic response of seagrass to altered oceanic pH
2223	30/06/2014	Mr Paul Greenwood	For the purposes of assisting the Fisheries Research Division, Department of Fisheries, in collecting required samples for biological analysis and monitoring the rebuild of west coast demersal fish stocks
2224	20/03/2016	UWA, AIMS and Florida international university – various	For the purposes of understanding the spatial ecology of the near threatened tiger shark

Exemption No.	Expiry	Holder	Purpose
2225	31/12/2014	Shark Bay Prawn or Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fisheries – current licence holders	To facilitate the assessment of operational and economic efficiencies of various fishing gear and configurations within the Shark Bay prawn and Shark Bay scallop managed fisheries for a commercial purpose
2226	26/03/2013	Wally Gibb and Tom Stewart – University of Western Australia	For the purposes of teaching
2227	20/03/2014	University of Western Australia and AIMS – various	For the purposes of research
2228	31/12/2016	Florida International University – various	For the purposes of understanding the role of top predators and teleosts in seagrass dominated ecosystems
2229	01/03/2016	Mike Travers – Department of Fisheries and others as listed in Schedule 1	For the purposes of studying the ecological connectivity of Kimberley marine communities
2230	20/12/2015	University of Western Australia – other organisations and individuals as listed in Schedule 1	For the purposes of studying the impact of shark overexploitation on the density, behaviour and growth rate of coral reef fish communities
2231	31/03/2013	Amanda Buckland, Alan Cottingham and Emily Fisher – Murdoch University	For the purposes of research
2232	31/08/2013	Dr Mike Van Keulen – Murdoch University	For the purposes of research
2233	31/03/2016	Western Australian Museum – various	For the purposes of research
2234	31/01/2014	Aldo Turco and Federico Vitelli – Edith Cowan University	For the purposes of research
2235	30/04/2016	University of Western Australia – various	For the purposes of research
2236	23/03/2013	University of Western Australia – various	For the purposes of teaching – Ecological Field Methods

Exemption No.	Expiry	Holder	Purpose
2237	31/03/2018	Antosh Sokol of Oceanica Consulting Pty Ltd	To provide samples for the marine monitoring for the Gorgon Gas Development and Jansz feed gas pipeline upstream facilities – Feed Gas Pipeline Installation Marine Monitoring Program
2238	28/02/2015	Antosh Sokol of Oceanica Consulting Pty Ltd	To provide samples for the Water Corporation's annual monitoring program of the Alkimos Wastewater Outlet (part of its environmental conditions of operation)
2239	31/12/2014	Internally generated. No applicant. Shark Bay Prawn Managed Fishery licence holders	To permit the retention of demersal scalefish taken in prawn trawl nets by authorised operators in the waters of the Shark Bay Prawn Managed Fishery for the 2013 and 2014 fishing seasons
2240	30/12/2016	Joel Williams	Collection of black bream from Moore estuary, Swan estuary basin/river, Peel estuary, Walpole-Nornalup estuary, Wilson estuary, Wellstead estuary and Culham estuary
2241	03/11/2014	Fremantle Octopus Pty Ltd	To explore and/or develop the octopus fishery and fishing technology for commercial purposes
2242	30/04/2014	Anthony Bougher of URS Australia Pty Ltd	To sample and monitor the recolonisation and rehabilitation of disturbed algal mats in the Pilbara tidal flats as part of the Mangrove, Algal Mat and Tidal Creek Protection Management Plan for the Wheatstone Project
2243	31/03/2015	N/A (recreational boat fishing licence holders)	For the purpose of allowing up to a maximum of six octopus trigger traps to be used for recreational fishing for octopus by the holder of a Recreational (Boat) Fishing Licence (RBFL)
2244	31/01/2015	Mr R Walker	The trial of up to 50 baited 'habitat structures' for use within the Specimen Shell Fishery to opportunistically target hermit crabs which are inhabiting specimen shells
2245	07/04/2013	Staff and students (University of Western Australia)	Collection of intertidal infaunal molluscs from Princess Royal Harbour
2246	07/04/2013	Staff and students (University of Western Australia)	Collection of mussels and oysters from Oyster Harbour
2247	30/06/2015	Dr James Tweedley	Collection of prawns from the Swan-Canning Estuary
2248	22/03/2016	Sinclair Knight Merz	Surveying and collection of samples to identify invasive marine species

Exemption No.	Expiry	Holder	Purpose
2249	31/01/2015	University of Western Australia – persons as listed in Schedule 1	For the purposes of studying the population ecology and genetic diversity of endemic tuskfishes in Western Australia
2250	30/12/2013	Worley Parsons	Surveying and collection of samples to identify invasive marine species
2251	15/04/2013	One Sea Pty Ltd	To undertake fishing activities for the promotion of the Western Australian fishing industry and associated fishing product
2252	15/04/2013	One Sea Pty Ltd	To undertake fishing activities for the promotion of the Western Australian fishing industry and associated fishing product
2253	20/12/2015	Shanta Barley	Collection of fish with scales from Scott Reef, including Seringapatam, North and South Scott reefs, and Rowley Shoals, including Clerke and Imperieuse reefs
2254	30/12/2013	Phillip Whittle of Hydrobiology WA Pty Ltd	To collect information on finfish, crustaceans, and macroinvertebrates species and abundance in Bonnie Creek, Nullagine River catchment
2255	17/05/2013	Dr Mark Meekan	Collection of larval and pre-settlement juvenile reef associated fish from five nautical miles south of Point Cloates north to Point Edgar, Norwegian Bay, Ningaloo Reef
2256	30/06/2015	Dr Craig Lawrence	Collection of freshwater fish from Goodga River, Angove River, Hay River, Kent River, Blackwood River and other rivers adjacent to, and between, the above catchments
2257	25/03/2014	Michael Klunzinger	Collection of freshwater fish, crayfish and mussels from Yule Brook, Woodlupine Brook and Bickley Reservoir
2258	01/03/2016	Paul Lavery	Collection of seagrass from Perth metropolitan area, Geographe Bay, Exmouth Gulf, Albany, Rottnest Island, Leschenault Inlet and Peel-Harvey Estuary
2259	15/06/2013	Anders Hallan	Collection of microgastropods from estuaries and mangrove environments near Kalumburu and Derby
2260	30/04/2017	Adam Gartner, Oceanica Consulting Pty Ltd	To sample blue mussels in the Fremantle area as part of the Fremantle Ports Marine Quality Monitoring Program
2261	30/06/2013	Graeme Bradley of Seafood Bites Pty Ltd	To enable employees of seafood bites to process prawns on board the <i>Simon-K</i> while participating in the Kimberley Prawn Managed Fishery season while a decision is made on outstanding processing applications

Exemption No.	Expiry	Holder	Purpose
2262	30/11/2013	Dr Johan Hollander	Collection of mangrove periwinkle from Denham, Monkey Mia, Carnarvon, Broome and Derby
2263	30/12/2013	Helen Nice	Collection of mosquito fish, <i>Gambusia holbrooki</i> from Harvey Diversion Drain, Drakesbrook Drain, Mangosteen Drain and Serpentine River
2264	31/03/2014	Jennifer Chaplin	Collection of brine shrimp, ostracods and gastropods from saline water bodies in southern and central Western Australia
2265	30/06/2016	John Keesing	Collection of molluscs, echinoderms, cnidarians, fish, sponges, crustaceans and ascidians from King George River region
2266	24/04/2016	URS Australia Pty Ltd	Monitoring and sampling to identify invasive marine species
2267	31/07/2013	Dr Martin Lourey, Oceanica Consulting Pty Ltd	To sample and monitor the impacts of the Kwinana Desalination Plant on the benthic habitats and macrofauna on behalf of the Water Corporation
2268	31/05/2016	Roland Pitcher	Collection of all types of seabed plants and animals from waters between NW Cape to Dampier
2269	30/04/2016	Mr Alan Fraser	To enable Mr Alan Fraser to continue fishing for crabs until alternative management arrangements for commercial mud crab fishing are implemented
2270	30/04/2016	Mr Robert McIntosh	To enable Mr Robert McIntosh to continue fishing for crabs until alternative management arrangements for commercial mud crab fishing are implemented
2271	30/04/2016	Milari Aboriginal Corporation	To enable Milari Aboriginal Corporation to continue fishing for crabs until alternative management arrangements for commercial mud crab fishing are implemented
2272	30/04/2016	Mr Warren Arms	To enable Mr Warren Arms to continue fishing for crabs until alternative management arrangements for commercial mud crab fishing are implemented
2273	30/04/2016	Emama Nguda Aboriginal Corporation	To enable Emama Nguda Aboriginal Corporation to continue fishing for crabs until alternative management arrangements for commercial mud crab fishing are implemented
2274	31/07/2013	Dr Heroen Verbruggen	Collection of macroalgae and small pieces (1-2cm) of <i>Ostreobium</i> -infested limestones from Shark Bay, Ningaloo Reef and Rottneest Island



Exemption No.	Expiry	Holder	Purpose
2275	30/06/2015	Department of Fisheries	For the purposes of enabling the research personnel of the Department of Fisheries to undertake aquatic science research projects to provide scientific knowledge for the sustainable management and development of the State's fish resources and the protection of fish habitats
2276	10/11/2013	UWA, Department of Fisheries and Hillarys Yacht Club – various	Collection of Western rock lobster ( <i>Panulirus cygnus</i> ) from Rottne Island, Kingston Reef and Green Island sanctuary
2277	30/06/2013	Colin Johnson	Collection of freshwater fish from Chapman, Greenough, Irwin and Murchison rivers
2278	31/10/2013	Emma Thillainath	Collection of fish from Ningaloo Marine Park
2279	31/12/2014	Katherine Bennett	Collection of freshwater fish and crayfish from the locations in Table 2
2280	30/06/2016	University of Western Australia	Collection of seaweeds, corals, ascidians and urchins from between Albany and Exmouth, specifically the Capes (Dunsborough to Augusta, predominantly Hamelin Bay near Cape Leeuwin), Perth metropolitan (Warnbro Sound to Marmion Lagoon) and Ocean Reef, Cervantes, Jurien Bay, Dongara, Horrocks, Port Gregory, Kalbarri
2281	30/09/2013	Kade Parmenter	Collection of black bream from Swan-Canning Estuary, Murchison River and Walpole-Nornalup Estuary
2282	31/12/2013	Wetland research and management	Conduct surveys to determine the relative abundances and distributions of fish species in Minderoo and Scotties Pool
2283	30/06/2013	Stephen Beatty	Collection of freshwater fish and crayfish from Angove River (upstream and downstream of Clear Pool, and the Angove River Gauging Station (to a few hundred metres downstream)
2284	15/07/2013	Euan Harvey	Collection of sedimentary macro invertebrates from within the Sepia Depression
2285	30/09/2013	Marine Produce Australia Pty Ltd (MPA)	Return of escaped barramundi to MPA's sea cages at Cone Bay
2286	09/06/2016	Dr Steve Whalan	Collection of Corals and sponges from Coral Bay, Ningaloo Reef

Exemption No.	Expiry	Holder	Purpose
2287	31/08/2013	Permit holders in the Shark Bay Crab Interim Managed Fishery	Exemption to enable permit holders in the Shark Bay Crab Interim Managed Fishery, or persons operating on their behalf, to fish in the waters of the Fishery without a current permit, to provide additional research information
2288	01/06/2018	Ardyaloon Incorporated	To enable Ardyaloon Incorporated to continue to collect trochus for commercial purposes
2289	31/12/2014	Tim Leary Department of fisheries	Collection of up to 100 undersize Bight redfish ( <i>Centroberyx gerrardi</i> ) over a period of 19 months from the South Coast Bioregion
2290	29/06/2013	Dr Mike van Keulen	Collection of small quantities of macroalgae and benthic invertebrates will be undertaken to conduct laboratory-based identification and dry weight biomass measures. Fish will be only studied by visual and video censuses in shallow water from Ningaloo Marine Park
2291	21/06/2016	URS Australia Pty Ltd	To collect shoreline sediment and oysters ( <i>Saccostrea cucullata</i> ) for baseline sediment and oil spill monitoring to develop environmental impact assessments within Western Australian waters
2292	31/12/2013	Darren Friend (Chief Executive Officer) – Shire of Coorow	To construct a boating facility in Leeman
2293	20/09/2013	Bodhi Williamson	To place blue mussels ( <i>Mytilus edulis</i> ) at four sites, for the purpose of studying the oxidative stress response of <i>Mytilus edulis</i> to marine pollution
2294	01/04/2015	Luke Thomas	Collection of Corals <i>Acropora spicifera</i> and <i>Pocillopora damicornis</i> from the leeward side of all island groups, Pelsaert, Easter, Wallabi and North Island in shallow water environments (<18 m)
2295	1/03/2016	Oliver Berry	Collection of <i>Astrarium rotularia</i> from between the south side of Cape Keraudren and the northern Kimberley up to Cape Londonderry. Site selection will focus around Cygnet Bay area for investigating fine-scale connectivity and more broadly throughout the Buccaneer Archipelago and Camden Sound Marine Park
2296	30/06/2015	Joel Williams	Collection of black bream, sea mullet, yellowfin whiting, King George Whiting from Moore estuary, Swan estuary basin/river, Peel estuary, Walpole-Nornalup estuary, Wilson estuary, Wellstead estuary and Culham estuary

## Appendix 3 – Department of Fisheries offices and addresses

### Head Office

3rd Floor, The Atrium  
168-170 St Georges Terrace  
Perth WA 6000  
Locked Bag 39  
Cloisters Square WA 6850  
(08) 9482 7333  
customerservice@fish.wa.gov.au  
ABN: 55 689 794 771

### Regional and district offices

#### Metropolitan Region

- **Fremantle District Office**  
(and Metropolitan Regional Office)  
14 Capo D'Orlando Drive  
South Fremantle WA 6162  
(08) 9432 8000
- **Hillarys District Office**  
WA Fisheries and Marine Research  
Laboratories  
39 Northside Drive  
Hillarys WA 6025  
PO Box 20, North Beach WA 6920  
(08) 9203 0111
- **Lancelin District Office**  
Gingin Road  
Lancelin WA 6044  
(08) 9655 1111
- **Mandurah District Office**  
107 Breakwater Parade  
Mandurah Ocean Marina  
Mandurah WA 6210  
(08) 9583 7800

- **Rockingham District Office**

Suite 4 Commerce House  
3 Benjamin Way  
Rockingham WA 6168  
PO Box 7070  
Safety Bay WA 6169  
(08) 9527 3699

- **Victoria Park Marine Operations Centre**

5 Ellam Street  
Victoria Park WA 6100  
(08) 6163 0900

#### Northern Region

- **Broome District Office**  
(and Northern Regional Office)  
Port of Pearls House  
401 Port Drive  
Broome WA 6725  
PO Box 71  
Broome WA 6725  
(08) 9193 8600

- **Karratha District Office**  
Unit 1/17-19 Crane Circle  
Karratha WA 6714  
(08) 9144 4337
- **Kununurra District Office**  
C/- Department of Parks and Wildlife  
Lot 248 Ivanhoe Road  
Kununurra WA 6743  
PO Box 2483  
Kununurra WA 6743  
(08) 9168 4243

#### Gascoyne Region

- **Carnarvon District Office**  
(and Gascoyne Regional Office)  
59 Olivia Terrace  
Carnarvon WA 6701  
PO Box 774  
Carnarvon WA 6701  
(08) 9941 1185
- **Denham District Office**  
Knight Terrace  
Denham WA 6537  
(08) 9948 1210

- **Exmouth District Office**  
10 Maley Street  
Exmouth WA 6701  
PO Box 103  
Exmouth WA 6701  
(08) 9949 2755

#### Midwest Region

- **Geraldton District Office**  
(and Midwest Regional Office)  
69-75 Connell Road  
Geraldton WA 6530  
PO Box 1171  
Geraldton WA 6530  
(08) 9921 6800
- **Dongara District Office**  
Fishing Boat Harbour  
McIntyre Cove  
Dongara WA 6525  
PO Box 63  
Dongara WA 6525  
(08) 9927 1187
- **Jurien Bay District Office**  
Harbour Office Complex  
Jurien Harbour  
Jurien WA 6516  
(08) 9652 1048

#### Southern Region

- **Albany District Office**  
(and Southern Regional Office)  
88 – 90 Stead Road  
Albany WA 6330  
(08) 9845 7400
- **Bunbury District Office**  
96 Stirling Street  
Bunbury WA 6230  
(08) 9721 2688
- **Busselton District Office**  
48a Bussell Hwy  
Busselton WA 6280  
PO Box 671  
Busselton WA 6280  
(08) 9752 2152
- **Esperance District Office**  
Bandy Creek Boat Harbour  
Esperance WA 6450  
PO Box 798  
Esperance WA 6450  
(08) 9071 1839

## Other Department of Fisheries offices, branches and facilities

- **Aquaculture and Native Fish Breeding Laboratory**  
The University of Western Australia  
Shenton Park Field Centre (please note there is no public access).  
0419 928 889  
craig.lawrence@fish.wa.gov.au
- **Aquaculture Research and Development Group**  
39 Northside Drive  
Hillarys WA 6025  
PO Box 20  
North Beach WA 6920  
(08) 9203 0220
- **Aquatic Animal Health Unit**  
Fish Health Laboratories  
C/- Animal Health Laboratory  
Department of Agriculture and Food  
3 Barron-Hay Court  
South Perth WA 6151  
PO Box 20  
North Beach WA 6920  
(08) 9368 3357
- **Biosecurity Unit**  
(08) 9482 7333  
biosecurity@fish.wa.gov.au
- **Fisheries and Marine Library**  
39 Northside Drive  
Hillarys WA 6025  
PO Box 20  
North Beach WA 6920  
(08) 9203 0120
- **Fleet Maintenance**  
14 Capo D'Orlando Drive  
South Fremantle WA 6162  
(08) 9432 8000
- **Interlibrary loans and document delivery**  
(08) 9203 0118
- **Marine Operations Centre**  
14 Capo D'Orlando Drive  
South Fremantle WA 6162  
(08) 9432 8000
- **Naturaliste Marine Discovery Centre**  
39 Northside Drive  
Hillarys WA 6025  
PO Box 20  
North Beach WA 6920  
(08) 9203 0339  
(08) 9203 0112 (school bookings)  
nmdc@fish.wa.gov.au  
www.nmdc.com.au
- **Pemberton Freshwater Research Centre**  
Pump Hill Road  
Pemberton WA 6260  
PO Box 91  
Pemberton WA 6260  
(08) 9776 1044  
TroutHatchery@fish.wa.gov.au
- **Western Australian Fisheries and Marine Research Laboratories**  
39 Northside Drive  
Hillarys WA 6025  
PO Box 20  
North Beach WA 6920  
(08) 9203 0111