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MRAG Americas, Inc.

Shark Bay Prawn Fishery

MSC Fishery Announcement

Table 1 – Fishery announcement

1	Fishery name
	Shark Bay prawn fishery
2	Assessment number
	First reassessment
3	Reduced reassessment (Yes/No)
	No
4	Statement that the fishery is within scope
	MRAG Americas confirms that this fishery is within scope for MSC assessment.
5	Unit(s) of Assessment - UoA(s)
UoA 1	Description
Species	Brown tiger prawn (<i>Penaeus esculentus</i>)
Stock	Shark Bay brown tiger prawns
Geographical area	The Shark Bay Prawn Trawl Fishery operates in the waters of Shark Bay, a tropical gulf, 26°S, which is an enclosed marine embayment (approx. 13,000 km ²) within the Gascoyne Coast Bioregion of Western Australia, Indian Ocean (FAO 57). The area stretches approximately 250 km from the northern point of Bernier Island to the southern end of Freycinet Harbour. The Bay is enclosed in the north by Bernier, Dorre and Dirk Hartog Is
Harvest method/gear	Quad rigged otter trawl

Client group	WAFIC
Other eligible fishers	None at this time
UoA 2	Description
Species	Western king prawn (<i>P. latisulcatus</i>)
Stock	Shark bay western king prawns
Geographical area	The Shark Bay Prawn Trawl Fishery operates in the waters of Shark Bay, a tropical gulf, 26°S, which is an enclosed marine embayment (approx. 13,000 km ²) within the Gascoyne Coast Bioregion of Western Australia, Indian Ocean (FAO 57). The area stretches approximately 250 km from the northern point of Bernier Island to the southern end of Freycinet Harbour. The Bay is enclosed in the north by Bernier, Dorre and Dirk Hartog Is
Harvest method/gear	Quad rigged otter trawl
Client group	WAFIC
Other eligible fishers	None at this time
6	Certificate sharing statement
	All Shark Bay prawn trawlers fishing from Carnarvon are members of the SBPTOA, and will be eligible to be covered by the MSC fisheries certificate.
7	Name of proposed team leader
	<p>Richard Banks (Lead assessor and P3) has considerable MSC experience having served as the Lead Assessor on several Australian Full Assessments, including the first assessment of the Exmouth Gulf Prawn Managed Fishery. Mr. Banks is an MSC qualified ND ISO 1901 team leader and qualified in the MSC risk-based framework (RBF). Richard has also designed several fishery improvement plans in South East Asia and the Pacific, and has acted as external reviewer to a number of MSC assessments on behalf of WWF. Richard is also co-author of the blueprint for sustainable tropical shrimp trawl fisheries, prepared for WWF. He has over 30-years' experience in fisheries management, research and consultancy covering all regions of the World. Richard currently works as an advisor to PNA and Pacific Island countries as an offshore tuna advisor. He is an economist and fisheries management and policy programming specialist having worked on similar issues for international agencies including FAO, World Bank, ADB, MFAT, DFAT and the European Union in more than 70 countries. Richard has also worked with a number of Australian Commonwealth and State Fisheries. Richard holds a Bachelors degree in Fisheries Economics and a Masters in Agricultural Economics from the University of Portsmouth, and Imperial College, London, respectively.</p> <p>MRAG Americas confirms that Mr. Banks meets the competency criteria in Annex PC for team leader as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He has an appropriate university degree and more than three years' experience in management and research in fisheries; • He has passed the MSC team leader training; • He has the required competencies described in Table PC1, section 2; • He meets ISO 19011 training requirements;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He has undertaken two fishery assessments as a team member in the last five years, and • He has experience in applying different types of interviewing and facilitation techniques and is able to effectively communicate with clients and other stakeholders. <p>In addition, he has the appropriate skills and experience required to serve as a Principle 3 assessor as described in FCP Annex PC table PC3.</p> <p>MRAG Americas confirms that Mr. Banks has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment.</p>
8	Name(s) of proposed team members
	<p>Kevin McLoughlin (P1) has over 25 years' experience in fisheries science and currently works as a fisheries consultant. His recent work includes Marine Stewardship Council assessments and pre-assessments in Australia and Fiji. In addition, he has undertaken review of fisheries assessed under the World Wildlife Fund Common Wild Capture Fishery Methodology. Previously, as a Senior Fisheries Scientist with the Bureau of Rural Sciences, he engaged in a wide range of international and domestic fisheries issues with close links to Government policy. Responsibilities included production of BRS Fishery Status Reports—these have had a major influence on the direction of Australia's fisheries management and policy. Mr McLoughlin represented BRS on many committees and groups such as Australian Fishery Management Authority fishery assessment groups (including for the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery, the Northern Prawn Fishery, the Bass Strait Scallop Fishery, and the Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery), DAFF's Shark Implementation Group for implementation of the National Plan of Action for Sharks, and others. He represented Australia on scientific issues at the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission and was Chair of the IOTC Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch for its first 3 annual meetings. In 2006 he led Australia's delegation during 2 weeks of scientific meetings of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna in Tokyo. His responsibilities with BRS required a high level of interaction with policy and industry clients, and with international organisations.</p> <p>MRAG Americas confirms that Mr. McLoughlin meets the competency criteria in Annex PC for team members as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He has an appropriate university degree and more than five years' experience in management and research in fisheries; • He has undertaken at least two MSC fishery assessments or surveillance site visits in the last five years; and • He is able to score a fishery using the default assessment tree and describe how conditions are set and monitored. <p>In addition, he has the appropriate skills and experience required to serve as a Principle 1 assessor as described in FCP Annex PC table PC3, and MRAG Americas confirms he has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment.</p> <p>Ms. Mihaela Zaharia (P2) has over 20 years experience in marine biology and ecosystem sciences. Her relevant experience includes involvement as a marine science researcher for the National Institute for Marine Research and Development, Romania and for Poseidon Aquatic Resources Management Consultants Ltd. Ms. Zaharia was the P2 Assessor for a number of Australian Commonwealth fishery and South Australian fishery assessments. These include the Spencer Gulf Prawn trawl and Northern Prawn fisheries. Mihaela has also participated as a team member in a number of pre-assessments on clam, tuna, blue swimming crab and tropical prawn assessments and Fisheries Improvement Plans and prepared Risk Based Framework templates for the MSC. In addition to her employment history, Ms. Zaharia has also contributed several publications on fishery biology and science. Ms Zaharia holds a B.Sc (Marine Biology) M.Sc. in Ecosystem Sciences, "-OVIDIUS" Univ. Constanta, 1991-97 and a B Bus (Economics) and B Psych (with Hons), James Cook University 2012-2016.</p> <p>MRAG Americas confirms that Ms. Zaharia meets the competency criteria in Annex PC for team members as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She has an appropriate university degree and more than five years' experience in

	<p>management and research in fisheries;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• She has undertaken at least two MSC fishery assessments or surveillance site visits in the last five years;• She is able to score a fishery using the default assessment tree and describe how conditions are set and monitored; and• She has passed the MSC Traceability training module. <p>In addition, she has the appropriate skills and experience required to serve as a Principle 2 assessor as described in FCP Annex PC table PC3, and MRAG Americas confirms she has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment.</p> <p>The whole assessment team collectively meets the requirements as described in FCP Annex PC table PC3.</p> <p>A discussion between team members regarding conflict of interest and biases was held and none were identified.</p>																																																																																																	
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	<p>Provide input or comments on the Announcement Comment Draft Report (ACDR). We ask stakeholders to provide input or comments on the ACDR by 5pm UTC on 16 April 2020.</p> <p>Stakeholders must use the MSC Template for Stakeholder Input into Fishery Assessments v3.0 (Ctrl+click to follow link)</p> <p>Participate in the site visit: all team members are available to meet in person (FCP v2.1 7.12.2.e.i).</p>																																																																																																	
10	Assessment tree to be used																																																																																																	
	The default assessment tree contained within MSC Fisheries Standard version 2.01 will be used for this assessment.																																																																																																	
11	Estimated timeline																																																																																																	
	<table><tr><th rowspan="3">Activity</th><th colspan="8">Month</th></tr><tr><th colspan="8">2020</th></tr><tr><th>M</th><th>A</th><th>M</th><th>J</th><th>J</th><th>A</th><th>S</th><th>O</th></tr><tr><td>MSC Announcement, team and assessment visit notification</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Stakeholder consultation (ongoing)</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Assessment visit, stakeholder meetings</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Consultation and confirmation of peer reviewers</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Client review of draft report</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Peer review of draft report</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Stakeholder review of draft report</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Final report/certification determination/objections</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	Activity	Month								2020								M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	MSC Announcement, team and assessment visit notification									Stakeholder consultation (ongoing)									Assessment visit, stakeholder meetings									Consultation and confirmation of peer reviewers									Client review of draft report									Peer review of draft report									Stakeholder review of draft report									Final report/certification determination/objections								
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	period								
	Certification decision (if no objection)								
12	Site visit								
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A key purpose of the site visit is to collect information and to speak to stakeholders with an interest in the fishery. We encourage any stakeholders with experience or knowledge of the fishery to participate in these meetings. - (FCP v2.1 7.12.3 and Annex PF2.3.2) 								
	<p>A remote site visit will occur on 28-29 April 2020 in conjunction with the Exmouth Gulf prawn fishery reassessment.</p> <p><i>*Note: Due to the current COVID-19 recommendations, the client and assessment team have decided to change the on-site visit to remote.</i></p>								
13	Assessment tree modifications								
	None								

MRAG Americas, Inc. is pleased to announce that a Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) assessment of Shark Bay prawn fishery has begun. The assessment will evaluate the fishery for compliance with the MSC's Standard for well-managed and sustainable fisheries. MRAG Americas has determined that the fishery is in scope.

As part of the assessment, MRAG Americas announces that stakeholder meetings and assessment of relevant documentation will be undertaken with a visit to the fishery in April 2020. **The assessment team will meet remotely from 28-29 April 2020.** The purpose of these meetings is for a fishery assessment and stakeholder consultation to receive information from fishery representatives, government management agencies, non-governmental organizations, and other interested stakeholders.

MRAG invites stakeholders to provide input on the Announcement Comment Draft Report or any other information considered relevant, including knowledge and concerns about the fishery and to the assessments of the fishery. Unless covered by FCP 4.4.1 any information that cannot be shared with other stakeholders even under a confidentiality agreement shall not be: referenced in the assessment, used to determine the assessment outcome or used as the basis for an objection to a certification. MRAG will schedule meetings with stakeholders if requested. To schedule a meeting please provide:

- your name and contact details
- your association with the fishery
- the issues you would like to discuss
- where and when you would like to meet

Stakeholders may provide input at any time. We ask stakeholders who wish to meet with the team to make the request for a meeting by 5pm UTC on 21 April 2020.

Stakeholders wishing to comment on the Announcement Comment Draft Report must do so by 5pm UTC 16 April 2020.

The MSC has developed a guide for stakeholder input, available at <https://www.msc.org/what-you-can-do/engage-with-a-fishery-assessment> and a template (MSC template for stakeholder input into fishery assessments v3.0) for stakeholder response can be found at <https://www.msc.org/for-business/certification-bodies/supporting-documents>. You must use the template to provide your response.

More information on the fishery is available at <https://fisheries.msc.org/en/fisheries/shark-bay-prawn/@@view>.

Please send any documentation, requests for meetings, or inquiries to:

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Submitted by: Michealene Corlett

Date: 17 March 2020 (revised site visit logistics)

Appendix 1: Summaries of CVs of team leader and team members

Richard Banks (Lead assessor and P3) has considerable MSC experience having served as the Lead Assessor on several Australian Full Assessments, including the first assessment of the Exmouth Gulf Prawn Managed Fishery. Mr. Banks is an MSC qualified ND ISO 1901 team leader and qualified in the MSC risk-based framework (RBF). Richard has also designed several fishery improvement plans in South East Asia and the Pacific, and has acted as external reviewer to a number of MSC assessments on behalf of WWF. Richard is also co-author of the blueprint for sustainable tropical shrimp trawl fisheries, prepared for WWF. He has over 30-years' experience in fisheries management, research and consultancy covering all regions of the World. Richard currently works as an advisor to PNA and Pacific Island countries as an offshore tuna advisor. He is an economist and fisheries management and policy programming specialist having worked on similar issues for international agencies including FAO, World Bank, ADB, MFAT, DFAT and the European Union in more than 70 countries. Richard has also worked with a number of Australian Commonwealth and State Fisheries. Richard holds a Bachelors degree in Fisheries Economics and a Masters in Agricultural Economics from the University of Portsmouth, and Imperial College, London, respectively.

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Appendix 2: Client certificate sharing statement

All Shark Bay prawn trawlers fishing from Carnarvon are members of the SBPTOA, and will be eligible to be covered by the MSC fisheries certificate.