



## Australian Government

### Department of the Environment and Water Resources

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Mr Peter Millington  
Chief Executive Officer  
Department of Fisheries, Government of Western Australia  
Locked Bag 39  
CLOISTERS SQUARE WA 6850

Dear Mr Millington

Thank you for your letter of 9 August 2007, regarding progress towards the implementation of conditions and recommendations for the Western Australian South Coast Trawl Fishery (the Fishery) under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

An important consideration in the Delegate of the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources' decision in declaring the Fishery a Wildlife Trade Operation (WTO) was agreement to the conditions and recommendations. Accordingly, there is keen interest in their implementation and I am encouraged by your progress particularly in regard to the recommendations.

I also note the progress you have made in the development and implementation of the interim management plan for the Fishery and following an anticipated September consultation period on the current draft, the plan should be implement shortly there after. Additionally you indicate that there is little to no fishing currently occurring within the Fishery and as a result, I note that the Fishery is having a negligible risk on fish stocks and the wider marine environment.

Therefore in light of the progress made on the interim management plan and the lack of fishing effort in the Fishery, I agree to extend Condition 1, which will now be due by 29 February 2008 (Attachment A).

Yours sincerely

Andrew McNee  
Delegate of the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources  
30 August 2007

**Declaration of the Harvest Operations of the Western Australia South Coast  
Trawl Fishery as an approved Wildlife Trade Operation**

**ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS (section 303FT)**

Relating to the harvesting of fish specimens that are, or are derived from, fish or invertebrates, other than specimens of species listed under Part 13 of the Act, taken in the Western Australia South Coast Trawl Fishery.

1. By 29 February 2008, Department of Fisheries, Western Australia to develop and implement a formal interim management plan for the South Coast Trawl Fishery that includes the management commitments contained within the Discussion Paper *Management of the Proposed South Coast Trawl Fishery – a Discussion Paper*, and improves the ecological sustainability of the fishery.
2. Operation of the fishery will be carried out in accordance with the management regime in force under the Western Australian *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.
3. The Department of Fisheries, Western Australia to advise the Department of the Environment and Water Resources of any material change to the South Coast Trawl Fishery's legislated management regime that could affect the criteria on which *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* decisions are based, within three months of that change being made.
4. Annual reporting on the following:
  - progress on implementation of the recommendations;
  - annual catch and catch-per-unit-effort trends and data;
  - performance against objectives, performance indicators and measures once developed; and
  - research undertaken or completed relevant to the fishery.