



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

**Instrument imposing conditions on accreditation of plans, regimes and policies –
COMMONWEALTH SMALL PELAGIC FISHERY, JUNE 2020**

I, WILLIAM QUINN, Acting Assistant Secretary, Environment Approvals and Wildlife Trade Branch, as Delegate of the Minister for the Environment, pursuant to subsection 303AA(5) of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, hereby vary the accreditation of the Small Pelagic Fishery Management Plan 2009 for the Commonwealth Small Pelagic Fishery, in force under the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* (Cth) and the Fisheries Management Regulations 2019 (Cth) (accredited pursuant to an instrument dated 21/10/2018) by varying the conditions to which the accreditation of the Small Pelagic Fishery Management Plan 2009 for the Commonwealth Small Pelagic Fishery is subject by replacing the conditions with the following condition

- a) Prior to fishing, mid-water trawl vessels must have in place effective mitigation approaches and devices to minimise interactions with dolphins, seals and seabirds.
- b) Until 21 December 2020, or for the time period that AFMA's on-board observer program is suspended due to COVID-19 restrictions (whichever is shorter), that each new midwater trawl vessel be subject to 100 per cent electronic monitoring, with 100 per cent review of electronic monitoring footage for the first ten fishing trips, and that one observer be deployed for at least one fishing trip as soon as practicable, with additional observer coverage or other monitoring implemented as appropriate, following scientific assessment of the Small Pelagic Fishery.

From 21 December 2020, or from when AFMA's on-board observer program is re-instated (whichever comes first) that at least one observer be deployed on each new mid-water trawl vessel for the first 10 fishing trips, with additional observer coverage or other monitoring implemented as appropriate, following scientific assessment of the Small Pelagic Fishery.

Dated this

26

day of

JUNE

2020

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Delegate of the Minister for the Environment