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*Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*

**DECLARATION OF AN APPROVED WILDLIFE TRADE OPERATION**

I, CLAIRE HOWLETT, Acting Assistant Secretary, Marine Environment Branch, as Delegate of the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, have considered in accordance with section 303FN of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (the EPBC Act) the application from the Australian Fisheries Management Authority, public comments on the proposal as required under section 303FR, and advice on the ecological sustainability of the operation. I am satisfied on those matters specified in section 303FN of the EPBC Act. I hereby declare the operations for the harvesting of specimens that are, or are derived from, fish or invertebrates, other than specimens of species listed under Part 13 of the EPBC Act, taken in the Western Deepwater Trawl Fishery and the North West Slope Trawl Fishery, as defined in the *Western Trawl Fisheries Statement of Management Arrangements 2004* made under the *Fisheries Management Act 1991*, to be an approved Wildlife Trade Operation, in accordance with section 303FN (2) and (10)(d), for the purposes of the EPBC Act.

Unless amended or revoked, this declaration:

- a) is valid until 19 March 2009 and;
- b) is subject to the conditions applied under section 303FT specified in the Schedule (dated November 2007).

Dated this

15<sup>th</sup>

day of

November

2007

*CP Howlett*

Delegate of the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources

Under the *Administrative Appeals Tribunal Act 1975*, a person whose interests are affected by this decision may apply for a statement of reasons and for independent review of the decision. An application for a statement of reason may be made in writing to Department of the Environment and Water Resources within 28 days of the date of the declaration. An application for independent review may be made to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal on payment of the relevant fee within 28 days of the date of the declaration, or if reasons are sought, within 28 days of receipt of reasons. Further information may be obtained from the Director, Sustainable Fisheries Policy and Assessment Section.

## SCHEDULE

**Declaration of the Harvest Operations of the Western Deepwater Trawl Fishery and the North West Slope Trawl Fishery (Western Trawl Fisheries) as an approved Wildlife Trade Operation, November 2007****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 EPBC Act, taken in the Western Trawl Fisheries.

1. Operation of the North West Slope Trawl Fishery and the Western Deepwater Trawl Fishery will be carried out in accordance with the *Western Trawl Fisheries Statement of Management Arrangements 2004* made under the *Fisheries Management Act 1991*.
2. The Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) to inform the Department of the Environment and Water Resources (DEW) of any intended amendments to the management arrangements that may affect the criteria on which EPBC Act decisions are based.
3. AFMA to produce and present reports to DEW annually as per Appendix B to the *Guidelines for the Ecologically Sustainable Management of Fisheries - 2nd Edition*.
4. By 31 July 2008 AFMA to:
  - a) finalise the Ecological Risk Assessment (ERA); and
  - b) finalise and implement the harvest strategy;for both the North West Slope Trawl Fishery and the Western Deepwater Trawl Fishery.
5. By 19 December 2008, AFMA to finalise and implement the management response to the risks identified in the North West Slope Trawl Fishery ERA and the Western Deepwater Trawl Fishery ERA.