



**COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA**

*Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*

**DECLARATION OF AN APPROVED WILDLIFE TRADE OPERATION**

I, NIGEL ROUTH, Assistant Secretary, Marine Biodiversity Policy Branch, as Delegate of the Minister for Environment Protection, Heritage and the Arts, have considered in accordance with section 303FN of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (the EPBC Act) the application from South Australian Seahorse Marine Services, 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 harvest of *Hippocampus breviceps*, *Stigmatopora argus*, *Stigmatopora nigra*, *Phyllopteryx taeniolatus* and *Phycodurus eques* from South Australian waters, by South Australian Seahorse Marine Services, in accordance with relevant state permits; to be an approved Wildlife Trade Operation in accordance with section 303FN (2) and (10)(b), for the purposes of the EPBC Act.

Unless amended or revoked, this declaration:

- a) is valid until 04 August 2013; and
- b) is subject to the conditions applied under section 303FT specified in the Schedule.

Dated this 12<sup>th</sup> day of August 2010

.....Nigel Routh.....

Delegate of the Minister for Environment Protection, Heritage and the Arts

## SCHEDULE

### **Declaration of the Harvest Operations of South Australian Seahorse Marine Services as an approved Wildlife Trade Operation, July 2010**

#### **ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS (section 303FT)**

Relating to the harvesting of fish specimens that are, or are derived from, fish or invertebrates taken by South Australian Seahorse Marine Services:

1. Export of *Syngnathidae* species is restricted to the offspring of specimens held or taken under permits issued by Primary Industries and Resources South Australia. Export is restricted to the following *Syngnathidae* species:  
*Hippocampus breviceps*  
*Stigmatopora argus*  
*Stigmatopora nigra*  
*Phyllopteryx taeniolatus*  
*Phycodurus eques*
2. South Australian Seahorse Marine Services to advise the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts (DEWHA) of any upcoming change to the legislated permit conditions or intended change to operating arrangements of the facility that could affect the criteria on which *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* decisions are based.
3. Annual reports are to be provided by South Australian Seahorse Marine Services to DEWHA and should include:
  - total harvest; including species, location, quantities, size, reproductive state and sex of individuals collected;
  - results of spawning, mating and rearing trials and the number of mortalities that have occurred;
  - quantities and numbers of specimens for each species sold or held as stocks; and
  - details of the reproductive success of the operation.
4. Harvest of *Syngnathidae* is prohibited in Commonwealth waters in accordance with Part 13 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.
5. Wild caught and cultured *Syngnathidae* are not to be returned to the wild.