



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

**Revocation of Accreditation of a Plan, Regime or Policy for the purposes of Part 13
Accreditation of a Plan, Regime or Policy for the purposes of Part 13
PILBARA FISH TRAWL INTERIM MANAGED FISHERY, AUGUST, 2018**

I, MELISSA PRICE, Minister for the Environment:

- a) revoke the accreditation of the management regime for the Western Australian Pilbara Fish Trawl Interim Managed Fishery dated 14 May 2014, and
- b) being satisfied that:
 - i) the Pilbara Fish Trawl Interim Managed Fishery Management Plan 1997, in force under the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* (Western Australia) and the Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995, requires persons engaged in fishing under the management regime to take all reasonable steps to ensure that members of listed threatened species, listed migratory species, cetaceans and listed marine species are not killed or injured as a result of the fishing, and
 - ii) the fishery to which the management regime relates does not, or is not likely to, adversely affect:
 - a) the survival or recovery in nature of any listed threatened species, or
 - b) the conservation status of a listed migratory species, cetacean, or listed marine species or a population of that species,

accredit the Pilbara Fish Trawl Interim Managed Fishery Management Plan 1997 for the Western Australian Pilbara Trawl Interim Managed Fishery in force under the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* (Western Australia) and the Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995 (Western Australia) under sections 208A, 222A, 245 and 265 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) for the purposes of Divisions 1, 2, 3 and 4 respectively of Part 13 of the EPBC Act.

Unless amended or revoked, this accreditation is subject to the following three conditions applied under section 303AA:

Condition A:

The WA Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development to:

- a) undertake ongoing fishery independent monitoring (electronic or human) if reported interactions with EPBC Act protected species increase outside of historical ranges.
- b) review and update the Bycatch Action Plan, to take into account relevant research that has occurred since the plan was last updated. The plan should include clear goals and objectives aimed at minimising interactions with EPBC Act listed species. The Bycatch Action Plan review and update should be completed by early 2020 and be publicly available.

Condition B:

The WA Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, to ensure fishing operations are not adversely affecting the conservation status of dolphin populations, by:

- a) incorporating the use of dolphin mitigation plans by fishers into the industry code of practice. Dolphin mitigation plans are to be prepared by vessel operators, and outline the actions being taken by the fisher to minimise dolphin interactions on that particular vessel.
- b) developing a clear set of criteria for protected species interaction management, to be included in the Bycatch Action Plan or Harvest Strategy. The criteria should specify escalating management responses taken by the Western Australian Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, depending on the rate and scale of interactions with protected species by fishers.
- c) evaluating any relevant new mitigation measures as identified in emerging research in the field of bycatch mitigation, and adopting such measures where they show promise.

Condition C:

The WA Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, to continue to monitor interactions, to ensure that fishing operations do not adversely affect sawfish (in particular Green Sawfish) through:

- a) continuing to ensure the WA Pilbara Fish Trawl (Interim) Managed Fishery operates in accordance with the national recovery plan for sawfish (Sawfish and River Sharks Multispecies Recovery Plan).
- b) developing and implementing additional mitigation measures and alternative strategies (as appropriate), to reduce the impact on Green Sawfish.

Dated this 12th day of November 2018

.....Melissa Price.....

Minister for the Environment