

Wren FIP Stakeholder Meeting November minutes

Attendees

Max Giaroli	Tina Hutchinson	Dan Mcinnes
Ian Knuckey	Maddison Cross	Joni Pini-Fitzsimmons
Emily Taljaard	Amy Kirke	Shawn McAtamney

Apologies

Richard Pillans	Madeleine Glacken	Eliza Kimlin
Michael Usher	Frank Wren	

Previous Minutes

Action Item	Summary	Responsible party	Progress
Draft Wren protected species management plan	Identify learnings from EM and logbook data and identify actions to reduce and manage interactions. Several action items will flow from this process	Wren Fishing MaxG	In Progress: Actions implemented, and early data suggests strong positive effect
Continued reporting and analysis of camera data and logbook validation	Continued analysis of camera data to validate catch, discards, and TEPS interactions.	CDU	In progress: Continuing, need to establish future validation program
Publish Wren onboard shark processing letter	Publish Wren onboard shark processing letter and begin collating evidence that the practice of shark-finning does not occur	Wren Fishing MaxG	Completed: Uploaded to FP and available upon request
Identify and participate in existing hammerhead shark research	There is currently east coast hammerhead shark research. Wren Fishing will consider participating in this research	Wren Fishing MaxG	In progress: First batch of samples have been sent
QLD harvest strategy update	QDPI to provide continued updates on the harvest strategy process	MaddieG	In Progress: Consultation is continuing and Wren Fishing has provided a letter

			of recommendations
Identify mechanisms to study manta and devil ray interactions	Identify research opportunities either in an assisting capacity or to run independently to ensure positive outcomes for both species.	Wren Fishing MaxG NT DITT	In progress

Action item 1 (on track)- development and implementation of the GOCIF harvest strategy

- Wren Fishing has provided a letter of recommendations
- Still consulting on the draft
- Specific to GOCIF working group and received Wren feedback
- Harvest strategy workshop has occurred
- Final feedback now being collated
- Full public consultation expected in April, for implementation January 2027
- All actions listed in the FIP are likely to be included, except for an MSE. Other options are likely to be available

Action item 2 (complete)- Evaluate the effectiveness of ONLF harvest strategy

Action item 3 (on track)- grey mackerel stock assessment

- Protocol adjusted earlier this year to reflect sample collection and efficiency. Stock assessment still on track to begin in 2026
- Still a bit of a gap in inshore fishery (N3), Wren Fishing will be fishing in the N3 fishery next year but weren't this year
- Hoping to use data from the NT

Action item 4 (complete)- Camera-based onboard monitoring program

- 2 validation reports delivered, 3rd in Jan. Strong agreeance for grey mackerel
- Some inaccuracies for non-target species, and sharks (hard ot ID), ETP generally well recorded, except for batoids including Mobulid rays
- Significant reporting improvements which will be recognised in 3rd report
- Still some technical issues being worked through with the camera manufacturer and Wren

Action item 5 (on track)- management effectiveness of Spanish mackerel

- Update as per Action item 1

Action item 6 (Clarification required)- Fins naturally attached policy

- Could be considered complete, need to confirm, that FP are satisfied with letter
- Investigate a compliance audit review, from fisheries QLD. Urgent action
- Ian strongly recommends we do this as it is an independent source to validate non-shark finning practices

Action item 7 (On track)- Direct impacts to ETP

- NESP update

2026 is last year for sample collection

No update on results but others suggest results indicate significant numbers of narrow sawfish

- CDU logbook validation update (incl. Effectiveness of training)
-

I.D. manual and onboard training and discussion with CDU has been effective
Annual training to continue

- Hammerhead shark research update

Require more samples from larger sharks (>1.8m), action to catch up with Maddison to discuss sampling

IK mentioned that there is a close-kin mark-recapture study currently underway

- Mobulid ray research update

Next month there is a project team update to discuss funding options

Completed and continuing actions include:

1. SOCI logbook validation,
2. crew and captain handling, release, and identification training,
3. development of handling and release guide,
4. support of sawfish research,
5. EM and logbook analysis of devil ray and sawfish interactions

Additional

- SM mentioned GOCCFA online training module development with OceanWatch and supported by DETSI, this could be an option for further training and education in the N12 fishery
- IK mentioned NT ONLF developing a code of conduct for sharks and teps, run by Samatha Sherman. Need to reach out and align both programs
- IK mentioned the NPF program that has identified sawfish research and action priorities. When Fishing were possible should attempt to align with this report

Action item 8 (on track)- ETP species management

- Update as per action 1

Action item 9 (on track)- ETP management strategy for NT

- Update as per Mobulid ray research

Action item 10 (on track)- Development and management of ecosystem functions

- Update as per action 1

Action 11 (on track)- Fishery-specific management objectives

- Update as per action 1

Action 12 (on track)- Fishery specific decision-making processes

- Update as per action 1

Action 13 (on track)- Fishery specific management review

- Update as per action 1

Additional items

QLD DPI funding through commercial and charter fishing grants

- Action item- meet with Emily and Joni to discuss options moving forward

Onboard LED light trials to reduce TEPS interactions and shark bycatch

Action Items-

Action Item	Summary	Responsible party
Hammerhead shark sampling meeting	Catch up with Maddison to discuss hammerhead shark sampling and protocols	MG MC TH
LED light trial and grant	Meeting with Emily and Joni	MG ET JPF TH
Investigate compliance audit review	Follow up with Dan regarding a compliance audit review and process for investigating shark finning during QBFP inspections	DM MaxG TH
Discuss other training modules/ codes of conduct being developed	GOCCFA and ONLF developed training modules and codes of conduct. Need to reach out to both groups to ensure we align and where possible coordinate with these projects	MG SM IK

NPF sawfish priorities	Ian mentioned a report due for release in a few months related to sawfish research and industry action priorities. Ian to share report with Max when available	IK MG
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