



If you have any interesting stories, or articles that you would like included in the Abalone Stories, please send them to email [FISHING STORIES](mailto:FISHING STORIES)

These are provided in PDF versions which may restrict some links. If you would like greater functionality then HTML and MHT files are available on request. All previous copies of Fishing, Abalone and Aquaculture Stories can be located at [www.searead.net](http://www.searead.net) .  
[Fishing Stories](#)

## Minister rethinks commercial rock lobster strategies

**JOSEPH SAPIENZA**

January 22, 2010

Commercial rock lobster fishermen in the south-west of WA will be breathing a sigh of relief after the Fisheries Minister agreed to not close the fishery twice over the next several months.

Under the previous management plan that was developed through the Rock Lobster Industry Advisory Committee (RLIAC), the fishery's C Zone was to have a couple of fishing closures for the rest of the season from January 18-31 and from March 12 to April 11.

But after meetings with the biggest crayfish processors and peak fishing bodies including the WA Fishing Industry Council and the Western Rock Lobster Council this week, Fisheries Minister Norman Moore has decided to revise the management strategy for the remainder of the season.

This will include a reduction in pots - to 30 per cent of licensed pots - after Mr Moore said the industry preferred "to keep fishing with fewer pots than have extended closures".

"Industry now wants to lower the current pot usage ratio from 44 per cent for the 2009-10 season and adjust fishing days to slow the catch and smooth peak fishing periods," he said.

"It wants alternative arrangements involving a mix of non-fishing days and additional pot reductions (and) I have agreed to this."

The new proposal - offered with the support and agreement of the five C Zone Professional Fishing Associations and the WRLC - was for a return to fishing as soon as possible and a single 10-day closure from March 12-21.

"I will now allow fishers to fish from Monday to Thursday of next week in C Zone and for the rest of the season except for the 10-day closure in March," the Minister said.

Mr Moore said there would be ongoing monitoring of the fishery for the remainder of the season, and hinted at some flexibility if the total allowable catch of 2475 tonnes for the zone was unlikely to be achieved under the new measures.

"Options include increasing pot numbers and returning extra fishing days to fishers, (which also) occurred towards the end of last season," he said

[www.watoday.com.au/wa-news/minister-rethinks-commercial-rock-lobste...](http://www.watoday.com.au/wa-news/minister-rethinks-commercial-rock-lobste...)

## Wilderness zoning planned for Nullarbor

Posted Fri Jan 22, 2010 3:58pm AEDT

- **Map:** [Ceduna 5690](#)

It is planned that the Nullarbor Plain will become a protected wilderness area.

The South Australian Government has released a plan to protect 900,000 hectares in the far west of SA.

Environment Minister Jay Weatherill says it would be the state's biggest nature reserve.

"There's no infrastructure or development that's inconsistent with the wilderness values, so roads, car parks, houses, hotels, shops and mining, so we'll still be able to continue the low-impact visitor-type experience so that people can come into the area, but it's really those things which enable us to protect the wilderness experience," he said.

He says the zoning would preserve the area for tourism and the plan is now out for public consultation.

"This forms part of a series of parks and reserves that stretch all the way from the Western Australia border through, across the west coast of South Australia," he said.

"The effect of that is to provide a landscape-scale style of protection, ensuring that the plants and animals can move across that landscape in a way that ensures that they're protected."

The plan has been welcomed by the Wilderness Society's Peter Owen who says the Nullarbor is a truly spectacular and valuable landscape.

"Wedge-tailed eagles and huge wombat nests and we looked over the cliffs and there was probably ... 500 dolphins just swarming there as the eagles circled above us," he said.

"You know, this is real wilderness. It's a spectacular area, you know, obviously it's adjacent to the Great Australian Bight Marine Park.

"This is where the southern right whales move through. Dingoes moving across the landscape. It is an icon."

[www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2010/01/22/2799176.htm?section=australia](http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2010/01/22/2799176.htm?section=australia)

It is planned that the Nullarbor Plain will become a protected wilderness area.

ABC Local - Barramundi season opens in the Gulf today

Sunday, 24 January 2010 3:23 PM

## Barramundi season opens in the Gulf today

By Meera Nambiar

Posted January 22, 2010 13:02:00



Mr Watt calls the barramundi a "sensational fighting fish" and the bigger the catch, the better the fishing experience is. (Flickr: Garry Frayne)

- **Map:** [Burketown 4830](#)

Residents in the Gulf of Carpentaria are getting their rods and lines ready for the barramundi season which opens today in Burketown.

Publican Greg Watt says fishing has been prohibited for several months to allow the barramundi to breed.

He calls the barramundi a "sensational fighting fish" and the bigger the catch, the better the fishing

experience is.

"We claim to be the barra capital of Australia and we have the big barra fishing competition here in Easter," he said.

"It's been going for quite a few years now and [is] fairly famous around Queensland and we also get a few interstate visitors for the event.

"Barra [are] pretty important to us and a lot of the locals enjoy a feed of fresh barramundi."

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2010/01/22/2798981.htm?site=idx-qld>

☐ Lobster fishers to quiz Moore - ABC News (Australian Broadcasting Corporation) Sunday, 24 January 2010 3:22 PM

## Lobster fishers to quiz Moore

Posted Fri Jan 22, 2010 2:21pm AEDT

- **Map:** [Geraldton 6530](#)

The Western Australian Fisheries Minister, Norman Moore, is today expected to face tough questioning when he meets lobster fishermen in Geraldton.

Some fishers have labelled the State Government's management of this season's total allowable catch a disaster, after Mr Moore had to intervene three times to suspend fishing.

Senior executives from the Department of Fisheries will accompany the Minister at a combined meeting of fishers from A and B zones.

Anthony Pirrationa from the Geraldton Professional Fishermen's Association says the fishing community welcomes the opportunity to question the Minister.

"I think the general mood of fishers is that they will be pleased that he is coming," he said.

"It shows that Minister Moore has respect for fishermen to meet them in person and hopefully fishers have some respect back for him and listen properly to directed questions and answers

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2010/01/22/2799087.htm>

The Western Australian Fisheries Minister, Norman Moore, is today expected to face tough questioning when he meets lobster fishermen in Geraldton.

☐ Bay of Plenty shellfish warning continues - National - NZ Herald News Sunday, 24 January 2010 3:21 PM

## Bay of Plenty shellfish warning continues

1:55 PM Friday Jan 22, 2010

1. [Facebook](#)
2. [Twitter](#)
3. [Email](#)
4. [Print](#)

Shellfish on the Bay of Plenty coastline remain toxic and should be avoided, the Waikato District Health Board says.

A warning was issued in December after an outbreak of paralytic poisoning, but people have continued to eat shellfish - much to their detriment - medical officer of health Dr Phil Shoemack said.

Eating the shellfish can cause numbness and tingling around the mouth, muscle weakness, loss of coordination and breathing problems.

"Two people have been admitted to hospital, at least four have been seen in emergency departments and there are anecdotal reports of other people whose symptoms have resolved without the need for medical attention. This emphasises the importance of the health warning being observed," Dr Shoemack said.

The warning covers all bi-valve shellfish, which include mussels, pipi, tuatua, cockles, oysters, scallops, cats-eyes and kina.

Areas affected were the coastline from Tairua south including Whiritoa, Whangamata, Onemana, and east along the Bay of Plenty coastline from Waihi beach to the mouth of the Whakatane River.

- NZPA

[http://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c\\_id=1&objectid=10621682](http://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=10621682)

Shellfish on the Bay of Plenty coastline remain toxic and should be avoided, the Waikato District Health Board says.

Govt shells out to aquaculture | Stuff.co.nz

Sunday, 24 January 2010 3:20 PM

## Govt shells out to aquaculture

By FELICITY WOLFE - Waikato Times

Last updated 12:00 21/01/2010

[Share](#)

[Print](#)

[Text Size](#)



BRUCE MERCER

**BIG PLANS:** Greenshell New Zealand managing director and Aquaculture New Zealand chairman Peter Vitasovich says the mussel and aquaculture industry will double its value in the next 10 years.

### Relevant offers

Waikato and Coromandel mussel and aquaculture projects will be contenders for part of an additional \$550,000 worth of government aquaculture funding launched this week.

Economic Development Minister Gerry Brownlee announced the funding, which is part of a larger \$6.5 million programme to help the aquaculture industry reach its goal of becoming a \$1 billion industry by 2025.

Last year \$600,000 was given to five projects focusing on opportunities for the sector in key markets, including Asia and North America.

Greenshell New Zealand managing director and Aquaculture New Zealand chairman Peter Vitasovich said the industry was already worth \$50m a year to the Coromandel and Hauraki region and the increased farming space becoming available over the next 12 months, "will give us the ability to double that over the next 10 years".

He said there would be applications from Coromandel and Hauraki companies for the new funding round.

The new funding was aimed at supporting export initiatives.

The support of the Government was a critical factor in meeting the industry's goal of becoming a key exporter.

"They [the Government] need an export-led recovery [from recession] and ... we are going to grow," Mr Vitasovich said.

That support had also been evident with more research and development funding and a legislative review. While the industry is concentrated on mussels, pacific oysters and salmon farming, research on the possibilities of farming other fin-fish could lead to opportunities for groper and kingfish farms to be established around Waikato's coastlines over the next five to 10 years, he said.

The aquaculture market development contestable fund is open to applications for proposals to build new offshore opportunities until March 31.

[www.stuff.co.nz/waikato-times/news/3249779/Govt-shells-out-to-aquac...](http://www.stuff.co.nz/waikato-times/news/3249779/Govt-shells-out-to-aquac...)

Waikato and Coromandel mussel and aquaculture projects will be contenders for part of an additional \$550,000 worth of government aquaculture funding launched this week.

Anglers angry at proposed mako ban - Local News - Geelong, VIC, Australia

Sunday, 24 January 2010 3:12 PM

## Anglers angry at proposed mako ban

Christie Peucker

January 20th, 2010

**ANGRY recreational fisherman, charter operators and tackle shop owners say proposed bans on fishing mako sharks will cripple their sport, and the economy to the tune of \$150 million a year.**

A public meeting attracted more than 400 people to Torquay Angling Club last night, forcing organisers to move the rally outside as they called for the Rudd Government's decision to be overturned.

### **Have your say on the feedback form below**

Environment Minister Peter Garrett is scheduled to list longfin mako, shortfin mako and porbeagle shark species under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act from January 29.

The proposed ban comes as a result of a complex international treaty and despite Mr Garrett saying there is no evidence suggesting Australian mako shark populations are under threat.

Torquay Angling Club secretary Shane Korth said a Queenscliff charter company, servicing 15,000 people each year, took 70 per cent of its business from mako fishing.

"It's their livelihoods. No one knows how it will be policed," he said.

"We are all very angry and agitated."

Mr Korth said anglers were conservationists at heart and that mako could be protected through management not banning.

"Why shouldn't you be able to give your family a catch of fish and chips? There is no shortage of shortfin mako around," he said.

Sarah Henderson, Liberal Candidate for Corangamite, said conservative estimates have the ban stripping the state's economy by \$150 million a year.

Member for Corangamite Darren Cheeseman said under the new ban, mako could still be tagged and released.

[www.geelongadvertiser.com.au/article/2010/01/20/139021\\_news.html](http://www.geelongadvertiser.com.au/article/2010/01/20/139021_news.html)

ANGRY recreational fisherman, charter operators and tackle shop owners say proposed bans on fishing mako sharks will cripple their sport, and the economy to the tune of \$150 million a year. - Geelong and Surf Coast News, VIC, Australia

SA crayfish poaching rates surge - 19/01/2010

Sunday, 24 January 2010 3:09 PM

## SA crayfish poaching rates surge

Tuesday, 19/01/2010

Crayfish poaching is on the rise in South Australia.

The South Australian Department of Primary Industries says there's been a large spike in reports of people illegally taking crayfish from waters in the south east of the state.

Fisheries regional manager, Mel Snart, says people are telling them craypots are being stolen or interfered with.

Ms Snart says people are blaming their poor season on poachers.

"We have had a 30 per cent increase this season in the number of pots that have been reported as lost or stolen that may include the tag or the whole pot, whether it's been cut off or removed," she says.

"The real threat of that it that it can be fished else where and people just aren't aware of that."

<http://www.abc.net.au/rural/news/content/201001/s2795826.htm>

Coverage of rural industries and issues.

25,000 fish killed by Top End algal bloom - ABC News (Australian Broadcasting Corporation) Sunday, 24 January 2010 3:08 PM

## 25,000 fish killed by Top End algal bloom

By David Coady and Alex Johnson

Posted Tue Jan 19, 2010 12:03pm AEDT

- **Map:** [Nhulunbuy 0880](#)

A massive algal bloom that has killed thousands of fish at Nhulunbuy, east of Darwin, is expected to resolve itself, Northern Territory Government scientists say.

The Environment Department says the algae is naturally occurring and caused by rain washing nutrients into Port Bradshaw.

Julia Fortune from the Environment Department says the bloom should clear-up during the wet season.

"It's quite common for that to occur in NT waterways, particularly around the commencement of the wet season where a lot of the nutrients and sediment that are stored in the catchment are conveyed to receiving waterways with the commencement of flows in many of these systems that pretty much don't flow during the dry season at all," she said.

The former president of the Nhulunbuy Regional Sports Fishing Club, Peter Cox, says a range of target species were among the 25,000 dead fish.

"I had reports of some medium-sized spanish mackerel up to six to eight kilos," he said.

"Also there were queen fish and trevally amongst them and of course some mangrove jack and a small amount of barramundi, and as we said, bait fish took up a large proportion of the kill."

[www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2010/01/19/2795765.htm?section=australia](http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2010/01/19/2795765.htm?section=australia)

A massive algal bloom that has killed thousands of fish at Nhulunbuy, east of Darwin, is expected to resolve itself, Northern Territory Government scientists say.

DPI reports rise in illegal cray fishing - ABC News (Australian Broadcasting Corporation) Sunday, 24 January 2010 3:07 PM

## DPI reports rise in illegal cray fishing

Posted Tue Jan 19, 2010 2:22pm AEDT

- **Map:** [Mount Gambier 5290](#)

The Department of Primary Industries (DPI) says it has had a large spike in reports of people illegally taking crayfish from south-east South Australian waters.

A phone-in campaign is being held across the Limestone Coast for people to report any misuse of lobster pots.

The Fisheries Regional Manager, Mel Snart, says poor catch rates this season may have led to more people looking out for illegal fishing.

"We've had a 30 per cent increase this season in the number of pots that have been reported as lost or stolen - that may include the tag or the whole pot," he said.

"Whether it's been cut off or removed and the real threat of that [is] it can be fished elsewhere and people just aren't aware of that."

The campaign is called Operation Community and it will run until the end of the Australia Day long weekend.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2010/01/19/2796007.htm>

The Department of Primary Industries (DPI) says it has had a large spike in reports of people illegally taking crayfish from south-east South Australian waters.

ABC Hobart - East coast lobster fisherman rescued Sunday, 24 January 2010 3:05 PM

## East coast lobster fisherman rescued

Posted January 18, 2010 15:00:00

- **Map:** [Port Arthur 7182](#)

A commercial rock lobster fisherman was airlifted to Hobart from the Tasman Peninsula last night suffering hypothermia.

The Saltwater River man had been setting rock lobster pots off Port Arthur when a large wave hit his boat causing him to fall in the water.

The crew of a nearby fishing boat came to the man's assistance.

The 61-year-old was treated by ambulance officers before being flown to Hobart.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2010/01/18/2794997.htm?site=hobart>

☐ Taking a bite of Portland | Herald Sun

Sunday, 24 January 2010 3:03 PM

## Taking a bite of Portland

- Steve Cooper
- From: [Herald Sun](#)
- January 18, 2010 11:34AM

- 

**WHEN the fishing gets serious, many anglers head to the southwest Victorian city of Portland, where the waters are highly regarded for the quality and quantity of fish available.**

This summer, anglers have been enjoying the epicurean delights of King George whiting of more than 1kg, and averaging 750-800g. Top spots for whiting include the harbour, Black Nose Point and the North Shore, with most fish taking pipi and fresh squid. Portland harbour has been producing good numbers of whiting and silver trevally to 1.5kg. Snapper averaging 1.5 to 2kg but up to 7kg continue to be caught from the Lee Breakwater.

Over summer and autumn, the North Shore is a standout destination for yellowtail kingfish to about 15kg. These tough, delectable fish school along the North Shore and are hooked trolling lures or fishing in a berley trail with squid strips. As the weather warms, the kingfish action improves, and early reports are excellent.

If the kingfish aren't on the bite, anglers can still catch King George whiting, squid, pinkies, gummy sharks and mulloway.

Portland's offshore waters have established a big reputation for sharks, tuna and bottom species. Anglers are hooking mako sharks to 140kg in 70m of water off Cape Nelson. These waters are not solely for shark fishing anglers fishing the bottom catch big gummy and school sharks, morwong, flathead and pinkies.

Mako sharks will come under federal government restrictions at the end of this month. Under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 the Government was obligated to list them due to an international agreement, the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS). The listing (protection) of the species is expected to occur on January 29.

However, Federal Environment Minister Peter Garrett has indicated catch-and-release fishing for these sharks will be allowed. "The Government is conscious that listing these species as migratory under the EPBC Act could have significant implications for recreational fishers in Commonwealth marine areas where mako sharks are targeted for catch-and-release fishing," Garrett said. "As catch-and-release activities, when carried out properly, are not likely to have a significant impact on populations of these shark species, they equally are unlikely to be subject to enforcement action."

Portland has become tuna central in Victoria owing to its annual run of big southern bluefin tuna. Last season the tuna, with fish to more than 100kg, started in late January. Somehow the locals managed to keep the news under wraps for a few weeks. Southern bluefin tuna are a serious game fish that will fully test experienced anglers with top-shelf tackle. Battles lasting more than three hours have been reported, with the anglers tag teaming and still losing out.

Portland has become tuna central in Victoria owing to its annual run of big southern bluefin tuna. Last season the tuna, with fish to more than 100kg, started in late January. Somehow the locals managed to keep the news under wraps for a few weeks. Southern bluefin tuna are a serious game fish that will fully

test experienced anglers with top-shelf tackle. Battles lasting more than three hours have been reported, with the anglers tag teaming and still losing out.

Methods Anglers wanting to go offshore game fishing for sharks or tuna should use 15-24kg outfits for sharks and 24-37kg for tuna. The easiest way is to split the difference and go for a 24kg outfit.

You will also need a gimbal belt and kidney harness for heavy tackle. Use seven-strand wire, starting about 100kg breaking strain and 10/0 hooks for sharks; for tuna you should be using wind-on leaders of about 100kg breaking strain.

Sharks will take most bait including whole fish, squid and tuna fillets. Most tuna are being caught trolling large skirted jigs or bibless minnow lures. Ensure your hooks and shackle are strong and troll at about 8-12 knots, or until the lure is ``smoking'' through the waves.

Tackle for yellowtail, gummy sharks, mulloway and snapper should be in the 8-10kg range. Kings will take lures including surface poppers, large bibbed minnows and skirted jigs. All three species can be caught on live bait and squid strips.

Recommended outfit for King George whiting and pinkies is 3-4kg. Use a running sinker and No.4 medium shank stainless-steel hooks on a running sinker rig. Bait to use includes pipi, squid and mussel.

### **Bitemarks**

#### **Port Phillip Bay**

King George whiting have displaced snapper in the popularity stakes. Captures of whiting are reported from many areas including Swan Bay, Corio Bay, Little River, Altona and Frankston to Portsea. Most fish are 30-33cm and taking pipi, mussel and squid. Snapper to 3kg are being caught in about 20m of water off Mt Martha on pilchard and garfish. Anglers trolling white skirted jigs near Black Rock are hooking salmon, yellowtail kingfish to 4.5kg and snook to 1.5kg.

#### **Western Port**

King George whiting to 44cm are being caught along the Middle Spit and Cleeland Bight on mussel, pipi and squid. Good numbers of garfish to 30cm being caught from most piers.

#### **Surf**

In the southwest near Portland, the beach between the Surrey and Fitzroy rivers is a hot spot for mulloway, gummy sharks, bronze whalers and snapper. Gummy sharks are biting on squid and fish fillets at Paynesville, and at Lakes Entrance salmon are taking bluebait and surf poppers.

#### **Gippsland**

In the Gippsland Lakes, the Mitchell, Tambo and Nicholson rivers are producing bream and flathead on prawn, sandworm and soft plastic lures. It's a similar story at Metung and Hollands Landing. Lakes Entrance jetties are producing silver trevally and flathead are being caught on lures from the Kalimna Jetty. Lake Tyers has dusky flathead taking soft plastic lures, and bream biting on prawn. Marlo estuary is producing bream to 46cm, luderick and estuary perch on prawn. Bemm River has bream, estuary perch and luderick being caught on sandworm and prawn. At Mallacoota, the wharf is producing silver trevally on pilchard.

#### **Southwest**

Offshore at Portland, anglers are catching mako sharks to 178kg. King George whiting to 1kg and yellowtail kingfish to 13kg are being caught along the North Shore. Lee Breakwater has pinkies, squid, King George whiting and yellowtail kingfish. The Hopkins, Curdies, Gellibrand and Aire river estuaries are steady for bream to about 40cm on scrubworms.

#### **Freshwater**

The Delatite arm of Lake Eildon is producing Murray cod to 16.75kg on large yabbies. Rainbow trout to 700g are being caught trolling pink Tassie Devils at Fraser Park, the Main arm and Jerusalem Creek. Big River has redfin to 650g being caught on scrubworms fished deep among the timber. Eildon Pondage has brown trout to 1.8kg and rainbow trout to 700g caught on Powerbait, mudeyes and lures. The Goulburn River is producing brown trout to 2.2kg and smaller rainbow trout on scrubworms and lures. The Howqua River near Murchison is holding reasonable numbers of brown and rainbow trout to 750g, and they are taking small bladed lures. River blackfish to 2kg are being caught in the Gellibrand River on black yabbies. Lake Purrumbete is patchy for rainbow trout to 1.2kg on mudeyes under a float.

[www.heraldsun.com.au/news/special-reports/taking-a-bite-of-portland...](http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/special-reports/taking-a-bite-of-portland...)

WHEN the fishing gets serious, many anglers head to the southwest Victorian city of Portland, where the waters are highly regarded for the quality and quantity of fish available.

published

**Rock Lobster Fishing in Australia - Industry Risk Rating Report****Rock Lobster Fishing in Australia - Industry Risk Rating Report - new report published**

Print article



Refer to a friend

© [companiesandmarkets.com](http://companiesandmarkets.com)[companiesandmarkets.com](http://companiesandmarkets.com)[companiesandmarkets.com](http://companiesandmarkets.com)2010-01-15 20:33:54 - **Rock Lobster Fishing in Australia - Industry Risk Rating Report - a new market [research report](#) on [companiesandmarkets.com](http://companiesandmarkets.com)**[www.companiesandmarkets.com/Summary-Market-Report/rock-lobster-f..](http://www.companiesandmarkets.com/Summary-Market-Report/rock-lobster-f..)

This is the replacement for the October 2008 edition of Rock Lobster Fishing in Australia Industry Risk Ratings Report. Industry Risk Ratings Synopsis This Industry Risk Ratings report evaluates the inherent risks associated with the Rock Lobster Fishing in Australia industry. Industry Risk is assumed to be 'the difficulty, or otherwise, of the

business operating environment'. The report looks at the operational risk associated with this industry. Three types of risk are recognized in our analysis. These are: risk arising from within the industry itself (structural risk), risks arising from the expected future performance of the industry (growth risk) and risk arising from forces external to the industry (external sensitivity risk). This approach is new in that it analyses non-financial information surrounding each industry. Industries are scored on a 9-point scale, where 1 represents the lowest risk and 9 the highest. The Industry Risk score measures expected Industry Risk over the coming 12-18 months. Industry Definition This industry consists of establishments mainly engaged in catching rock lobsters from the ocean or coastal waters. Report Contents Risk Overview The Risk Overview chapter includes sections on Industry Definition and Activities, Industry Risk Score and Risk Rating Analysis. The Industry Definition and Activities section provides a detailed definition of the activities carried out by operators in this industry as defined in NAICS. A list of the primary activities of the industry is also included. The Industry Risk Score section provides the Overall Industry Risk Score as well as the Risk Scores for each of the three types of risk covered that combine to form the Overall Industry Risk Score. These three types of risk are Structural Risk, Growth Risk and External Sensitivity Risk. The Risk Rating Analysis section discusses the underlying factors contributing to the Overall Industry Risk Score. Structural Risk The Structural Risk chapter looks at risk arising from within the industry itself and provides a detailed discussion of the industry's level of exposure to seven key indicators. These key indicators are Barriers to Entry, Competition, Industry Exports, Industry Imports, Level of Assistance, Life Cycle Stage and Volatility of Industry. The Overall Structural Risk Score is a weighted aggregation of these seven key indicators. Each of the key indicators is discussed in detail in this section. Growth Risk The Growth Risk chapter looks at risks arising from the expected future performance of the industry. The Overall Growth Risk Score is determined by amalgamating the scores for Recent Industry Growth and Forecast Industry Growth. Detailed analysis is provided discussing the reasons for the growth scores of both. Sensitivity Risk The Sensitivity Risk chapter looks at risks arising from forces (sensitivities) external to the industry. The Overall External Sensitivity Risk Score is determined by identifying the most significant (up to 6) external factors and weighting them to represent how significant each sensitivity is to the performance of the industry. Examples of External Sensitivities are Exchange Rates, Interest Rates,

Commodity Prices and Government Regulations. There is also a detailed analysis of the affect each of the sensitivities has on the industry, including charts and data tables where appropriate. Industry Risk and Industry Risk Scoring Methodology This chapter provides an overview of how IBISWorld defines Industry Risk and discusses the methodology used to arrive at an Industry Risk Score. There is also a table that provides a definition of the seven levels of Industry Risk. A0411 - Rock Lobster Fishing in Australia C2173 - Seafood Processing in Australia F4714 - Fish Wholesaling in Australia

[www.pr-inside.com/rock-lobster-fishing-in-australia-r1670967.htm](http://www.pr-inside.com/rock-lobster-fishing-in-australia-r1670967.htm)

Rock Lobster Fishing in Australia - Industry Risk Rating Report - new report published Rock Lobster Fishing in Australia - Industry Risk Rating Report

☐ The end of the fishing line - Local News - News - General - The Independent Weekly

Sunday, 24 January 2010 2:50 PM

## The end of the fishing line

HARRY THRING

16 Jan, 2010 04:00 AM

Every day, be it in pelting rain, searing heat or, fingers crossed, perfect weather, thousands of South Australians cast out a line in the hope of snaring a beauty.

The SA Recreational Fishing Advisory Council calculates recreational anglers contribute up to \$750 million towards the economy each year.

But angling participation rates are dropping – fast.

A government survey in December found the number of recreational fishers over the age of five has dropped by almost a third in 10 years. In the five to 29-year age group, the decline is closer to 40 per cent.

In economic terms, the fishing council says this translates to a loss of \$290 million a year, and the council wants more funding to ensure the decline is reversed.

“Current funding is barely enough to pay wages,” said executive officer Trevor Watts.

“The Government seems to be purely focused on advancing commercial fishing. It doesn’t seem to understand recreational fishing.”

Mr Watts said there was a “contrast in fishing culture” to other states, which receive far more funding from their respective governments.

He said SA spent just \$5 million on recreational angling in 2008, compared with NSW’s \$13 million (2008), Queensland’s \$48 million (2009) and Victoria’s \$18 million (2007/08).

Mr Watts said the funding would be used to promote fishing as a recreation, especially to those aged five to 29, who represented the future of the sport.

“The decline we’re seeing is due to a lack of opportunities and knowledge. There are plenty of areas around that people don’t think are fishable, but they are,” he said.

“We want to map the River Torrens, for one thing. There are plenty of spots families can go and have a great time – but getting that information out there costs money.

“Just the other day I had a little girl ring up and ask where her mum could take her fishing and what she needed to go.

“I said you don’t need much at all: a cheap line and a piece of sweetcorn or dough for bait would do. I told her if they couldn’t get to the beach, they could drop a line in under OG road.”

However, all the funding in the world isn’t going to replenish South Australia’s fish stocks, which are dropping just as quickly as the number of anglers. SA is home to more unique marine life than the Great Barrier Reef, but less than 1 per cent of its waters is protected.

Protected species such as the western blue groper, the largest reef-dwelling fish which provides ecological stability to reefs, survive despite the decimation of their habitats and fishing pressure.

All SA’s major fish stocks are over-fished or fully-fished, with cockle, abalone, rock lobster and tuna in serious decline.

With no more water between the fish, the fight over access to proposed marine parks has only just begun.

“We’d love for the whole of Gulf St Vincent to be kept open,” Mr Watts said, “but we know that’s pretty unrealistic. At the very least we’d want the South Australian shoreline kept open, so that people who can’t

afford boats, or families, can throw a line in wherever they want.

"The Conservation Council will probably object, given its fetish for seals and sea lions."

Object the Conservation Council did. Council spokesperson Shen Dycer said the fishing body's request was unrealistic.

"It's an issue of balance. We'd like the zones to be nicely balanced between environmental needs and the economic needs of the state," she said.

"Most existing boat ramps and jetties will remain open, as will most iconic fishing beaches. But there will be some areas of the coast that need protection."

But science is in no doubt that SA fish stocks are declining.

Only 1 per cent of the state's coast and ocean are protected, compared with 25 per cent of its land.

SA recreational fishers remove more than 6.5 million fish and 3.3 million marine shellfish from our oceans every year. Ms Dycer said this meant more than six in every 10 mulloway, one in every two whiting and four in 10 squid swimming in our seas are taken every year.

There's now a lot more water between the fish, and they need as much help as they can get.

[www.independentweekly.com.au/news/local/news/general/the-end-of-the...](http://www.independentweekly.com.au/news/local/news/general/the-end-of-the...)

Every day, be it in pelting rain, searing heat or perfect weather, thousands of South Australians cast out a line.

☐ Rock lobster industry gets tick of approval

Sunday, 24 January 2010 2:44 PM

## Rock lobster industry gets tick of approval

**JOSEPH SAPIENZA**

January 15, 2010

Fisheries Minister Norman Moore cut a happy figure yesterday after an international review gave the Government's management of the rock lobster fishery the thumbs up, despite a challenging two years for the embattled fishery.

The Marine Stewardship Council - which recognises and rewards sustainable fishing management and practices with international endorsement - renewed its coveted certification of the WA fishery after an expanded annual assessment of lobster stocks.

Yesterday, Mr Moore beamed the MSC's renewal of certification was "a vote of confidence" in how the State was managing the once-lucrative \$300 million industry.

He said the re-certification was welcome in light of the fishery having to deal with low juvenile lobster settlements - which began two years ago - and the **new fishing restriction measures** that have been implemented in the past 18 months by the State Government.

"This Government has taken the tough decisions to protect the long-term sustainability and economic viability of the fishery and we can see this reflected in the MSC's endorsement," he said.

However, there were some concerns raised in the MSC audit into the lobster fishery, particularly in relation to the assessment of stock levels.

"The assessment team felt it reasonable to maintain the certificate for the fishery," the MSC report said.

"However, this is contingent on producing a much more reliable stock assessment to ensure that the breeding stock levels are above and will continue to be above the recommended threshold levels.

"The fact that there is still reasonable substantial uncertainty about the current status of the breeding stock is the basis for enacting additional conditions (in order to achieve future re-certification) as well as raising existing conditions to more significant levels of concern."

Nevertheless, Mr Moore was adamant the current methods used by Fisheries Department scientists were sufficient in analysing numbers of juvenile lobster, or puerulus.

"Fisheries science is a relative inexact science," he said. "You can't go out into the ocean and count how many fish there are.

"They use all sorts of scientific methodology to count how many fish there are in the ocean.

"I'm satisfied to the extent anybody can ever be satisfied that this is as good advice as you could get and I

accept their advice. There are one or two scientists with a different view altogether and if you can come to me and prove that they're wrong then I will listen to you."

Mr Moore said the State Government would take into account all of the MSC's suggestions and recommendations and do what they were required to do under their accreditation, but said the MSC "fundamentally agreed" with the measures already in place.

"Be assured that this is an industry that is very fragile at the moment and the Government will take whatever action is necessary to make sure it is sustained," he said.

"So if it means taking pain now for long-term gain then we're not going to resile from making the hard decisions we've taken.

"It has caused people some grief and I regret that very much but long-term sustainability is my ultimate ambition."

Western Rock Lobster Council board member James Paratore applauded the re-certification of the industry via a "crucial independent process".

But one vital condition put forward by the MSC which pleased the fishermen was that a review of the State Government's stock assessment model must take place before June 2010.

"This will enable independent experts an opportunity to scrutinise the uncertain models currently being used in our fishery, (which is) seeking to restore some degree of certainty on the status of the stock," Mr Paratore said.

"Achieving recertification from an independently scrutinised process, (shows) the industry has done everything it can to ensure ecological sustainability will continue for generations.

"But the cost of ensuring sustainability has been the loss of many members of the industry from the fall out and severe restrictions imposed over the past two seasons - which has amounted to 70 per cent effort reductions and a 35 per cent reduction in fleet numbers in 18 months."

[www.watoday.com.au/wa-news/rock-lobster-industry-gets-tick-of-appro...](http://www.watoday.com.au/wa-news/rock-lobster-industry-gets-tick-of-appro...)

Tourists spreading deadly abalone virus - 14/01/2010

Sunday, 24 January 2010 2:42 PM

## Tourists spreading deadly abalone virus

Thursday, 14/01/2010

Victoria's abalone industry is concerned tourists and recreational divers could spread the deadly ganglioneuritis abalone virus.

Geoff Ellis from the state's eastern zone abalone industry association says the virus, which decimated the industry in western Victoria, is heading east.

He wants all tourists to disinfect dive equipment, surf boards, fishing and other recreational equipment with soapy water, to ensure other abalone zones remain free from the virus.

"It's critical that it be stopped by human movement and that people who are moving from any waters along the coast west of Melbourne, that they do disinfect their boats and other dive equipment and such," he says

<http://www.abc.net.au/rural/news/content/201001/s2792265.htm>

Coverage of rural industries and issues.

Report backs lobster restrictions - ABC News (Australian Broadcasting Corporation)

Sunday, 24 January 2010 2:36 PM

## Report backs lobster restrictions

Posted Thu Jan 14, 2010 7:00pm AEDT

Updated Thu Jan 14, 2010 7:29pm AEDT



The report finds the rock lobster industry in WA will remain sustainable for at least five years.

- **Audio:** [Keith Sainsbury from the Marine Stewardship Council comments on the report into WA rock lobster indu \(ABC News\)](#)

An independent report into WA's rock lobster industry has found it will remain sustainable for at least the next five years.

The Western Rock Lobster Council commissioned the report to determine if the sustainability of the fishery was in jeopardy over the coming years.

The report found that recent government restrictions on lobster fishing have ensured that stock levels will remain at acceptable levels.

Keith Sainsbury from the Marine Stewardship Council says the report has raised concerns about the way the Fisheries Department monitored stock levels, and has called for an urgent review of those methods.

The Fisheries Minister Norman Moore says the independent report proves Government fishing restrictions are working.

"The Marine Stewardship Council which is an international body has given us a tick of approval in respect of the way in which we are managing this fishery," he said.

Shortly before the report was made public, Mr Moore imposed further restrictions on the industry.

Rock Lobster fishing will be suspended in the C-zone, from Green Head to Cape Leeuwin, including the Perth metropolitan area from the 18th to the 31st of January

The suspension comes a week after Mr Moore extended the closure of fishing in the B-zone from Green Head to the North West Cape and along the Mid West coast.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2010/01/14/2792660.htm>

An independent report into WA's rock lobster industry has found it will remain sustainable for at least the next five years.

Rock lobster fishery certified 'sustainable' | Perth Now

Sunday, 24 January 2010 2:35 PM

## Rock lobster fishery certified 'sustainable'

- Narelle Towie
- From: PerthNow
- January 14, 2010 5:17PM
- 
-



Source: PerthNow

**WA'S lucrative rock lobster industry has been re-certified as sustainable despite fears that the fishery is about to collapse.**

International seafood accreditation group Marine Stewardship Council today renewed certification of WA's rock lobster fishery.

Fisheries Minister Norman Moore said the renewal is a vote of confidence in how the State is managing the fishery.

But conservation groups are calling for the fishery to close after a major decline in puerulus (juvenile) lobster numbers over the past two years to almost nil.

Last September, Mr Moore slashed catch entitlements from 11,000 tonnes per annual harvest to 5,500.

Industry representatives cried blue murder over the change, with some families saying the new restrictions will put them out of business.

to gain global MSC certification in March 2000.

Mr Moore said the MSC insisted on an unprecedented complete re-scoring of the way it applied certification.

"It is my understanding that the MSC was fully satisfied that the rock lobster fishery continues to meet its stringent standards of management and overall stock viability.

"This endorsement reflects the Government's tough decisions to protect the long-term sustainability and economic viability of the fishery."

Mr Moore said the decision to close the fishery over Christmas has seen prices rise from \$22 a kilogram to \$32.

The most immediate change will be closure of C zone, which includes the port of Jurien, the Perth coast and South-West waters to Cape Leeuwin.

C zone will be closed to rock lobster fishing from January 18 until January 31, following the existing weekend closure.

Fishing will resume in C zone on February 1 through until March 11, using the balance of the catch target for the full C zone season.

There will be a further C zone closure from March 12 to April 11, with fishing resuming on April 12 if that target has not been exhausted.

When C zone is open, fishing will be restricted to four days per week.

The Minister said in B zone, which stretched from north of Jurien to North West Cape, the current closure was due to end on January 24, when additional management changes would apply.

"A zone commercial rock lobster fishers will fish in B zone from January 25 until the catch target for the first half of the season is exhausted," he said.

"After that, A zone licensees will then cease fishing until the Abrolhos Islands (A zone) season opens on March 15.

"B zone commercial fishers will fish from January 25 until March 11. B Zone will then be closed from March

12 to April 11, with fishing allowed again from April 12.

"I will continue to consult with the industry to achieve the best possible outcome for the remainder of the season."

[www.perthnow.com.au/lifestyle/rock-lobster-fishery-credited-as-sust...](http://www.perthnow.com.au/lifestyle/rock-lobster-fishery-credited-as-sust...)

WA'S lucrative rock lobster industry has been re-certified as sustainable despite fears that the fishery is about to collapse.

More closures tighten squeeze on lobster fishermen

Sunday, 24 January 2010 2:33 PM

## More closures tighten squeeze on lobster fishermen

**JOSEPH SAPIENZA**

January 14, 2010

Commercial rock lobster fishermen in the state's South-West face more lengthy bans this year in an attempt by the State Government to keep catches within target limits.

The south-western C-zone, which is home to the bulk of the state's fishermen, will face three more stages of closures by season's end to ensure the overall catch for the season remained around the forecast 5500 tonne-mark.

Upon accepting advice from the Rock Lobster Industry Advisory Committee, Fisheries Minister Norman Moore has decided to "apply further adjustments" to the management of the commercial crayfish industry to prevent over-fishing and the annual catch from spilling over the target.

In recent years, the State Government has put in place a number of restrictions on the fishery - once worth \$300 million to the WA economy - due to the low settlement numbers of juvenile lobsters, known as puerulus.

And as part of this week's announcement, the C-zone - which stretches from Jurien to Cape Leeuwin - will close from January 18 to January 31, following the existing weekend closure.

Fishing will then resume on February 1 until March 11 and will use the remainder of the catch target for the full C-zone season.

Department of Fisheries chief executive Stuart Smith said there will be a further closure from March 12 to April 11, "with fishing resuming on April 12 if that target has not been exhausted".

And while open during these times, fishing in the C-zone will be restricted to four days per week.

In the Rock Lobster Management plan for 2009-10, the State Government set a target of 1550 tonnes for the first half of the C-zone season, which began in late November and runs through until March 14.

The second half target - which will begin on March 15 and end on June 30 - was set at 925 tonnes.

Meanwhile, the B-zone - which stretches from north of Jurien to the North West Cape - will stay closed until January 24.

B-zone commercial fishers will be able to resume work from January 25 until March 11, before the zone is shut again from March 12 to April 11.

Mr Smith said there would be another progress review of the management arrangements during the second half of February.

"The aim of restricting the catch in 2008-09 and in this season is to increase the number of lobsters available during the coming seasons, as the impact of the recent low puerulus settlement years flows into the fishery," he said.

The latest closures come on top of the Christmas shut-downs in the C-zone, which saw fishermen lock up their boats from Christmas Eve to January 4 - a decision Western Rock Lobster Council board member James Paratore said was "born of the inadequacies of the current management package in accurately predicting our catches and stock abundance".

"An inequitable total allowable catch (of 5500 tonnes) coupled with greater than expected stock abundance and catches has caused the early closure," he told WAtoday on December 22.

"Management decisions have been made on models that were meant to accurately forecast our catches, however this season's catches have far exceeded the modelled projections.

Meanwhile, Labor spokesman for Fisheries Jon Ford said the opposition did not support mid-season changes

to the management of the fishery, and renewed calls for ex-gratia payments from the State Government to offset fishers' costs.

"Fishers would struggle to keep their deck crew and manage their loans and business expenses if they don't know when, or if, they will receive an income," he said.

"Minister Norman Moore and the Department of Fisheries have failed the WA public and rock lobster fishers in their management of the industry. The Minister is yet to introduce a plan that will last a season."

Mr Ford again called for an independent inquiry into the management of the industry.

"Fishers have lost faith in the Department of Fisheries and the Minister and the industry is clearly in crisis," he said.

"Labor supports a quota system and an adjustment package which would assist fishers leave the industry with dignity and not lose the results of lifelong work."

[www.watoday.com.au/wa-news/more-closures-tighten-squeeze-on-lobster...](http://www.watoday.com.au/wa-news/more-closures-tighten-squeeze-on-lobster...)

☐ Boat lost after wrong turn made | Northern Rivers News | Local News in Northern Rivers | Clarence Valley Daily Examiner

Sunday, 24 January 2010 2:32 PM

## Boat lost after wrong turn made

Mel Mcmillan | 14th January 2010

- 
- -
- -
- -



Fishermen were rescued at Chinamans Beach, Evans Head, yesterday.

AN EARLY morning boating accident off Evans Head yesterday led to a dramatic sea rescue which left one of the rescuers in hospital.

A four-metre aluminium runabout, the *Nikkiana*, got into trouble and capsized at Chinamans Beach at the southern end of Evans Head yesterday morning.

It is understood the boat, carrying two men, crossed the bar at Evans Head before sunrise on a fishing outing.

The boat's skipper was using a global position satellite device to find his location on the water, but became confused and motored off in the wrong direction toward the beach.

When the skipper realised he was almost on the beach he turned back and successfully made his way through two breaking waves. However, a third wave crashed into the boat, swamping it. It then capsized. Fishermen on a commercial fishing boat, the *Julia*, were nearby when they saw the overturned boat, and went to assist.

Australian Volunteer Coast Guard radio operator Christian Booker said a deckhand on the *Julia* became entangled in rope while in the water during the rescue.

The deckhand, who was trying to secure a tow rope to the runabout, began to suffer chest pains.

He was taken to hospital.

[www.dailyexaminer.com.au/story/2010/01/14/wrong-turn-by-skipper-lea...](http://www.dailyexaminer.com.au/story/2010/01/14/wrong-turn-by-skipper-lea...)

AN EARLY morning boating accident off Evans Head yesterday led to a dramatic sea rescue which left one of the rescuers in hospital.

## Rock Lobster industry faces further restrictions

Posted January 14, 2010 09:25:00

Updated January 14, 2010 10:29:00



Rock lobster fishing will be suspended temporarily in a number of areas (ABC TV)

- **Audio: Rock Lobster Advisory Committee Chairman Ron Edwards says new restrictions are needed (ABC News)**

The Fisheries Minister Norman Moore has imposed further temporary suspensions on rock lobster fishing in Western Australia.

Rock Lobster fishing will be suspended in the C-zone, from Green Head to Cape Leeuwin, including the Perth metropolitan area from the 18th to the 31st of January

It comes a week after Mr Moore extended the closure of fishing in the B-zone from Green head to the North West Cape and along the mid west coast.

The Department of Fisheries has released a statement saying the decision was made by the Minister acting on the advice of the Rock Lobster Industry Advisory Committee.

The Committe says most fishermen accept the additional bans are needed.

Chairman Ron Edwards says without the closures fishers would exceed the seasonal catch limit of 5,500 tonnes.

"Our fishermen are very good and they've been catching at very high rates, higher than I think anyone had really wanted," he said.

The new arrangements do not apply to recreational fishermen.

### Sustainable

Meanwhile, an independent report has found WA's rock lobster industry remains sustainable but the fishery needs to be more accurately monitored.

The Marine Stewardship Council will today release the full details of its assessment of the fishery which was yesterday re-certified as sustainable after an audit last year.

The council indicated its support for current measures imposed by the State Government to prevent overfishing but raised concern over the low juvenile lobster count.

The report recommends closer monitoring of the juvenile lobster count and calls for a review of the modelling used to predict future stocks in the fishery.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2010/01/14/2791981.htm?site=perth>



SeaRead P/L

If you would like to **SUBSCRIBE** to any of the stories please click the appropriate link [ABALONE STORIES](#), or [AQUACULTURE STORIES](#), or [FISHING STORIES](#) or [ALL STORIES AND EMAIL DISTRIBUTION NEWS](#)

If you would like to **UNSUBSCRIBE** from any or all the stories please click on the appropriate link. [UNSUBSCRIBE FISHING STORIES](#) or [UNSUBSCRIBE ABALONE STORIES](#) or [UNSUBSCRIBE AQUACULTURE STORIES](#) or [UNSUBSCRIBE ALL STORIES](#)