

Panel review board

All fishermen that I have had discussion with agree that.

1. No commercial fishing should be excluded from most marine reserves, nearly all of the commercial fishery in Western Australia are managed fishery with only a couple that coming under management in the near future.
2. No fisher should be excluded from any proposed marine park. Until they have been completely compensated for loss of area
3. Funding should be made available to help business, fishers apply for compensation.
4. Prospective fishing rights, as per attachment southwest marine social and economic assessment page 42.
5. Please find attached information on the first proposed marine parks and map 13 from abares region social economic assessment page 61. Given to the Colin and peter at the in formal meeting with wafic on the 10 march 2015
6. Does the government have enough money to pay condensation for the large area of marine reserves proposed?
7. Is the government able to provide funding, in the future for the management, enforcement and research of these proposed marine reserves?

Points to note

The first proposed marine reserves overlapped the highly productive fishing grounds, around the southwest corner of Western Australia.

These are very few marines reserve proposed for the eastern coastline around NSW and Victoria

Licensee holders are of the view that there fish returns that are used to manage a fishery have been used in the formation of these proposed marine reserves. This highlights the effect that these marine reserve will have on catch rates, the displacement effect of fishers displaced from these areas.

. Concern of the further management of their fishery, caused by result of displacement of effort.

Re risk assessment of fishing gear

1. Regarding Tactical research funding: measuring dropout rates from commercial demersal gillnets in Western Australia. Project No. 2009/097 by Neil Macguffe and Euan S Harvey.

By WAFIC The University of western Australia Fisheries Research & development Corporation.

This research was develop by Wafic, who are currently waiting for the final draft to be approved by the FRDC. Mark Cammilleri from Wafic has spoken to Crispian Ashby from FRDC who is dealing with the finally draft, but has not been able to get a date on when the final draft will be available.

In the draft conclusion, it states that the physical impact the fishing gear has on the substrate was also shown to be negligible, and it is unlikely that demersal gillnets pose a threat to the natural structure of the benthos.

At no stage during then project was there any indication that any threatened, endangered or protected spices interacted with the Demersal gillnets.

This is the only research that relates to how the gillnets affects the benthos, as stated in the past commonwealth marine reserve information, that there was no available information on the effect gillnets have on the seabed.

This is new research. Even though the outcome and project cover a small area that was filmed, it didn't state that gillnets, had a very destructive effect on the seabed.

The demersal gillnet and longline fishery is currently being assessed for marine stewardship and has a current WTO arrangement to export products.

Demersal gillnets are anchored on the bottom and are not like drift nets.

2. The Geographe commonwealth marine reserve

This parks affects the zone 1 demersal gillnet and longline fishery and the wet line fishery,

This proposed reserve has a special purpose zone and the multiple use.

The ngari state marine park has had it outside boundary gazette, this proposed park extends out to 3nm miles to adjoin commonwealth waters. Please find attachment (ngari Marine Park). There are 11 sanctuary zones, which excludes any form of commercial fishing.

Three of these Sanctuary zones are in Geographe bay, the remaining water in ngari marine in Geographe Bay permits demersal gillnet and longline fishing to occur. The risk assessment by the Western Australia fishery dept. must vary to the commonwealth marine park risk assessment, of demersal gillnet and longline fishery because of the proposed multiple use zone, proposed for geographe bay which borders onto state waters. The demersal gillnet and longline fishery is jointly managed by both commonwealth and state fishery. How has this been able to occur?

As proposed, inconsistent arrangement between the state ngari park and proposed commonwealth parks are unworkable and nonsensical.

Licence holders are of the view that this is a resource sharing issue between commercial and recreational fisher, which has been allowed to occur with the formation of the multiple use zone, because of other reasons then the terms and conditions of a marine park.

IT DOES NOT EXCLUDE GILLNETTING FROM THE REMAINING AREA. WHY HAS THE COMMONWEALTH EXCLUDED GILLNETTING WHEN THE STATE MARINE PARK HAS NOT EXCLUDED GILLNETTING IN THE NAGARI STATE MARINE PARK, ADJOINING BOUNDARY OF THE MULTIPLE USE ZONE?

THE DISPLACEMENT OF EFFORT FROM HAVE THE MULTIPLE USE ZONE IN THE GEOGRAPHE ZONE, WILL PUT INCREASE PRESSURE ON THE STATE WATERS ADJOINING THIS ZONE.

Recommendations

a. That special purpose zone and the multiple use zone be combined, to one zone i.e. changed to either special purpose or change to multiple use zone that allows, demersal gillnet and longline to occur.

b. That if any area inside Geographe Bay that is not a sanctuary zone, and Demersal Gillnet and Longline fishing is not allowed to fish, that this is a resource sharing issue and should deal with though the IFM management arrangement.

c. Gillnetting not be put in the same gear assessment as trawling.

b. That if the multiple use zone is retained, that longline fishing be allowed to be used over a certain depth.

3. Proposed commonwealth marine zones

A. 115" 33' east by 115"42' east 34" 36 South

This proposed marine park zone (1UNC 11)

This area is located between the anchorage (now harbour) of Augusta and the anchorage of the small settlement of windy harbour. There is no access to the ocean for recreational or commercial fishers along the coastline between these two areas.

Very limited access to the coastline for vehicles.

One of the main concern with this zone is the ability of the marine parks management to be able enforce and police this area for recreational fishers. All commercial licence holders will be required to have a vms (Vessel Monitoring System) on their boats, once the south coast wet line fisheries is managed. The biggest threat to this park is from recreational fisher who have big enough boats, to travel the 30 miles to this area land catch at either port without being able to be observed from shore or sea. Very unfair on the commercial operators in this area.

This park will impact on zone 1, of the demersal gillnet and longline fishery, the Augusta /windy harbour cray fishery and the south coast wet line fishery (which is coming under management in the near further).

This proposed park is too large and will affect fishers greatly. There is already a great number more of proposed marine parks in Western Australia and Queensland waters, then in areas around NSW Victoria and Tasmania why?

Recommendation,

Option (1) if the boundary cannot be changed then the usage of the area inside should be changed to special purpose Zone (1UNCN V1) oil and gas exclusion.

Option (2) the area inside should be divided up with a smaller green area and the rest changed to special purpose zone

In the further then will be state parks established and the ground that is state water, will be earmarked to join onto the commonwealth marine parks. As per nagari Marine Park, cape Freycinet sanctuary, will the commonwealth park joining the states waters.

4. Hamelin bay Marine Park

This area affected Zone 1 of the Demersal Gillnet and longline fishery, west coast wet line fishery, the zone c of rock lobster industry and the deep water crab industry

Option (1) Reduce the width, and length of the proposed area. Change zoning inside this area.

This submission has been prepared by Jeffrey and Beverley Cooke, on behalf of licence holders of the Demersal Gillnet and Longline gillnet and longline association.

Wafic has also prepared a submission on behalf of licence holders, which has had input from fisherman from Western Australia.

Jeffrey and Beverley Cooke

30 Turner Street, Augusta W.A. 6290

capcooke@wn.com.au 00897581961, 0427991269

