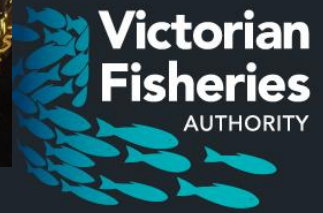


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# RLRAG #41

09 February 2024

Ewan Flanagan, EO



# Agenda



Item	Description	Lead	Timing
<b>1.</b>	<b>Preliminaries</b> 1.1 Welcome and apologies 1.2 Overview of meeting and adoption of agenda 1.3 Minutes and actions from last meeting	I Knuckey I Knuckey E Flanagan	09:30 – 10:00
<b>2.</b>	<b>Management Update</b> 2.1 Overview of 2023 RLRAG discussions 2.2 Recreational reporting program update 2.3 Recreational tool development update	E Flanagan E Flanagan D Reilly	10:00 – 10:30
<b>3.</b>	<b>Monitoring Program Discussion</b> 3.1 Sampling strategy (Eastern Zone) 3.2 Fixed site surveys (Western Zone)	D Reilly D Reilly	10:30 – 11:00
	<b>Morning tea</b>		11:00 – 11:15
<b>4.</b>	<b>Rock lobster stock assessment results (for consideration)</b> 4.1 Presentation of Draft 2022/23 stock assessment results 4.2 Application of the harvest strategy 4.3 Consideration of results and sector perspectives	K Hartmann K Hartmann All	11:15 – 12:15
<b>5.</b>	<b>Zonal trajectory under rebuild strategy</b> 5.1 Review of current results in each zone under rebuild strategy	K Hartmann	12:15 – 12:30
	<b>Lunch</b>		12:30 – 13:00
<b>6.</b>	<b>Australian Rock Lobster Model</b> 6.1 Stock assessment comparison results	G Phillips	13:00 – 13:30
<b>7.</b>	<b>RL Management Plan Perspective</b> 7.1 Management Plan Presentation	L Joyce	13:30 – 14:00
	<b>Afternoon tea (short break as required)</b>		14:00 – 14:15
<b>8.</b>	<b>Giant crab stock assessment results (for consideration)</b> 8.1 Presentation of Draft 2022/23 stock assessment results 8.2 Application of the harvest strategy 8.3 Consideration of results and sector perspectives	K Hartmann K Hartmann All	14:15 – 14:45
<b>9.</b>	<b>Other Business</b> 9.1 SRL Update 9.2 Other	G Ryan Other	14:45 – 15:15

# Actions – Meeting 40



	Action	Responsibility	Timing
1	Circulate the workplan with the draft minutes.	Ewan	December
2	Create standing item to review the previous year at first RLRAG meeting.	Ewan	February
3	Discussion with NSW fisheries regarding Eastern Rock Lobster Quota	Ewan	January
4	VFA, SIV and an industry representative to meet regarding monitoring program targets	David	January
5	Provide a trajectory of how each zone is tracking under the rebuild strategy at next RAG.	Klaas	February
6	VFA to consider data agreement with the fishers in the San Remo region (if required)	Ewan	January
7	Consideration of the effects of no fishing effort on the new Harvest Strategy	Klaas / Ewan	January
8	Provide optimal OzLob model alongside stock assessment.	Genevieve	February
9	VFA to provide Anthony Ciconte with giant crab stock assessment summary presentation	Ewan	December
10	Raise future enhancement to Vic e-Catch to include functionality to report under voluntary pot program.	David	Ongoing
11	Vessel Efficiency Factors – raise discussion with commercial members at next RLRAG	Klaas	Ongoing
12	Discussion with Eastern Zone fishermen regarding voluntary observer data.	David	December

# Overview of 2023 RLRAG



## Key Discussion Items

### 1. Management Plan

- RLRAG input into new Management Plan
- RLRAG endorsement of final draft plan

### 2. Harvest Strategy Development

- RLRAG input into development of new harvest strategy
- Introduction of a formalised recreational allocation
- Introduction and application of revised strategy in setting TACCs based on 20-year rebuilding targets

### 3. Australian Rock Lobster Model

- Discussion of the application of the new model
- Assessment of the model alongside the current model

### 4. Giant Crab e-Monitoring Project

- Introduction of electronic monitoring on-board GC vessels operating offshore
- Improvements in compliance capabilities for offshore fishery

### 5. Giant Crab data collection project

- Victoria's involvement in multi-jurisdictional FRDC project
- Focused on the use of 3D imaging equipment for data collection on giant crab and rock lobster
- Project considers length frequency data and possible identification

# Overview of 2023 RLRAAG



## Key Discussion Items

### 6. Amendments to Rock Lobster Recreational Reporting Program

- Development and implementation of new reporting app
- Focus on simplification and improvement in levels of reporting

### 7. Development of Recreation Measuring Device

### 8. Eastern Zone Fee Relief

- \$150,000 fee relief package allocated across three seasons
- Reduction in VFA services relating to compliance and observer coverage
- Reduction in stock assessment services
- Temporary solution during ministerial review of the cost recovery model

### 9. Puerulus Monitoring Program

- Discussion regarding ongoing use of crevice collectors compared to basket collection
- Consideration for crevice collector calibration with SA program – ultimately not deemed cost effective
- Final consensus to proceed only with basket collectors

### 10. AVG Outbreak

- Effects on the rock lobster industry
- Likely to be an ongoing consideration
- FRDC project application to consider level of risk associated with rock lobster gear in transmitting virus



# GoFishVic RL Update



Catch summary as at 29/02/2024

	<b>Total</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>West</b>
<b>Total Registered Users</b>	2,459		
<b>Total RL Caught</b>	1,452	536	916
<b>Total Male</b>	1,052	356	696
<b>Total Female</b>	400	180	220
<b>Average Length (cm)</b>	16.27	16.72	16.00
<b>Weight (kg)</b>	2,191	864	1,327

# Recreation RL Tool Update



- Quoting options for plastic and non-plastic tools
- Preference was to avoid plastic if possible
- VFA proceeded with an order of stainless RL tool – still in testing phase
- These will be distributed in collaboration with VRFish across dive clubs and groups over the next month
- Training information will be provided on how to measure accurately using this tool
- Aim to improve accurate reporting through the RL reporting program

# Monitoring Program



## Eastern Zone Sampling Strategy

- Scheduled meeting last month unable to go ahead
- Aim is to meet with industry at next available opportunity to progress discussions
- Further utilise upcoming port meetings to discuss with broader stakeholder group

## Western Zone Fixed Site Surveys

- Low level of interest in completing surveys of certain fixed site surveys for upcoming season
- Key topic at upcoming port meetings



# Other Business:

## 1. SRL Update

