



Australian Government
Australian Fisheries Management Authority



SOUTHERN SQUID JIG FISHERY

**Management Arrangements Booklet
Season 2011**

Produced December 2010

Important note

Every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained in this document is correct and accurate at the time of printing. However the information provided is intended to serve as a guide only, and therefore AFMA shall in no way be liable for any loss caused, whether due to negligence or otherwise, arising from the use of or reliance upon this document.

This booklet is intended as guide only and does not replace the terms, condition and provisions of the *Southern Squid Jig Fishery Management Plan 2005* (the Plan). Ensure you read and understand the conditions specified in your fishing concession and your obligations under the Plan.



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Introduction

This booklet has been prepared as a summary of the operating conditions that apply in the Southern Squid Jig Fishery. While every attempt has been made to ensure the accuracy of this booklet please make sure that you read it in conjunction with the conditions on your statutory fishing right (SFR) certificate, the *Southern Squid Jig Fishery Management Plan 2005* (the Plan) and any Directions and Determinations made under it.

The legislative framework

The Southern Squid Jig Fishery (SSJF) is managed by AFMA in accordance with the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* (the Act) under the Plan.

In managing the SSJF, as with all other AFMA managed fisheries, AFMA is required to pursue the objectives of the Act in the performance of its functions. AFMA must:

- implement cost-effective and efficient fisheries management; and
- ensure that the fisheries are managed consistent with the principles of ecologically sustainable development and the exercise of the precautionary principle; and
- maximise economic efficiency; and
- be accountable to the fishing industry and to the Australian community; and
- achieve government targets in relation to the recovery of the costs of AFMA.

The Plan was determined by AFMA on 8 March 2005, accepted by the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation on 20 April 2005 and commenced upon registration on 28 April 2005. SFRs were issued to all eligible stakeholders in the fishery in late 2005 and the management arrangements took effect on 1 January 2006 following the granting of SFRs.

The SSJF is also subject to management arrangements specified in the Arrow Squid Fishery Harvest Strategy. This harvest strategy specifies processes for monitoring and conducting assessments of the biological and economic conditions of the fishery. The harvest strategy covers the SSJF as well as sectors of the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery and other fisheries which may take arrow squid in the Australian Fishing Zone. The Arrow Squid Fishery Harvest Strategy was implemented on 1 January 2008.

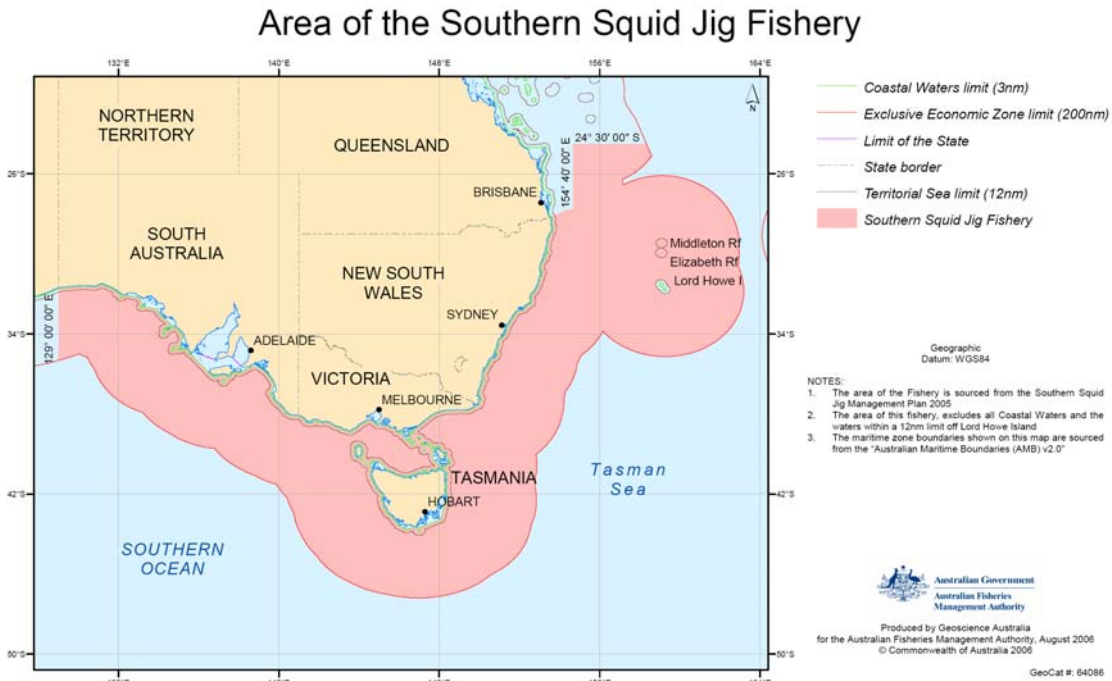
For further information on the Arrow Squid Fishery Harvest Strategy please check the AFMA website at www.AFMA.gov.au or contact AFMA on 1300 723 621.



Area of the fishery

The waters of the Southern Squid Jig Fishery are described as part of the AFZ that is:

- (a) off the east coast of Queensland, south of the parallel of latitude 24°30' S and east of a line joining the following points:
- latitude 24°30' S, longitude 154°40' E;
 - latitude 27°47' 25.29" S, longitude 154°40' E;
 - latitude 27°48' S, longitude 154°22' E;
 - latitude 27°58' S, longitude 154°00' E; and
 - the intersection of the eastern shore of Australia with the parallel of latitude 28°10' S; and
- (b) adjacent to New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania, excluding coastal waters.



Definition of the squid jiggling fishing method

Standard squid jiggling machines

A standard squid jiggling machine is defined in the Plan as "...a *squid jiggling machine that has 2 elliptical spools with 1 jig line on each spool*". There is no limit to the amount of line, number or type of squid jigs that can be used with each standard squid jig machine however AFMA may deem any gear type to be non-standard if it decides this is appropriate.





The use of non-standard squid jigging machines

Any other variations of squid jigging machines that don't meet the specifications for a standard machine may be considered by AFMA for use in the fishery. If you wish to use non standard squid jigging machines you must contact AFMA directly providing photographs, diagrams and as much substantiating information as possible for your application to be fully considered. A conversion factor to calculate the required number of SFRs to operate a non standard squid jigging machine will be determined on a case by case basis in consultation with South East Management Advisory Committee (SEMAC). Details of any approved non standard squid jigging machines will be recorded and a written notice, including the number of required SFRs to operate that machinery, will be provided to you.

Please note that approval will only be granted for the current year's fishing and therefore SFR holders must apply to use non standard squid jigging machines on an annual basis.

Total allowable effort

Before the start of each fishing year AFMA must, in association with Squid Resource Assessment Group (SquidRAG) and SEMAC, set the total allowable effort (TAE) for the year. The TAE determines the total number of standard squid jigging machines that can be used in the SSJF during the relevant fishing year. For details of the current SSJF TAE please check the AFMA website at www.AFMA.gov.au or contact AFMA Direct on 1300 723 621. All SFR owners will be notified of the TAE prior to the commencement of each SSJF fishing season.

How many standard squid jigging machines can I use?

The number of squid jigging machines allocated to each gear SFR is determined by dividing the TAE for the fishing year by the total number of gear SFRs in force on 1 January of the fishing year. For example, if the TAE is 100 standard squid jigging machines and there are 1000 SFRs in the SSJF, operators require 10 SFRs to be nominated to their boat to use each standard squid jigging machine. In this example, nominating 60 SFRs to a boat authorises the use of 6 standard squid jigging machines. SFRs are tradeable on a permanent and seasonal basis, therefore individual SFR holders may be able to use different numbers of machines provided they hold the appropriate number of SFRs and have these nominated to their boat.



Scientific research in the fishery

Scientific research using boats equipped with standard squid jigging machines can be carried out in the fishery under a scientific permit. Applicants wishing to undertake research programs must apply to AFMA on the approved form which is available on the AFMA website at <http://www.afma.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2010/06/sp1.pdf>, attaching a full description of the proposed research program.

If approved, AFMA may apply certain conditions to scientific permits. These could include, but are not limited to, the requirement to carry observers, the sale or disposal of fish taken and adherence to any specific spatial or temporal closures. The provision of a written report on the program is obligatory.

Please note these permits may take between 7 – 10 days for AFMA to process.

Logbooks

Squid Jigging Daily Fishing Log

The SFR holder, or an authorised agent, must ensure that the most current available *Squid Jigging Daily Fishing Log* is completed in line with the directions provided under “General Information” in the front cover of the logbook.

It is an offence to operate in the fishery without a copy of the correct logbook on board. Please contact the AFMA Data Processing Section directly on 02 6225 5382 or AFMA Direct on 1300 723 621 to have a logbook issued to you.

Catch Disposal Records

The SFR holder, or an authorised agent, must ensure that the Commonwealth Scallop/Squid Catch Disposal Record (SCQ02) is completed in line with the directions provided under “About this catch disposal record” in the front cover of the catch disposal record book.

It is an offence to operate in the fishery without a copy of the correct catch disposal record book on board. Please contact the AFMA Data Processing Section directly on 02 6225 5382 or AFMA Direct on 1300 723 621, to have a catch disposal record issued to you.

All catch must be unloaded directly to an AFMA licensed fish receiver. The SFR holder (under whose concession the catch was taken) and the AFMA licensed fish receiver (to whom the catch is unloaded) must not be the same person.

Levies

All current and prospective SFR holders should be aware of the arrangements relating to levies outlined in AFMA’s Fisheries Management Paper number 6 (FMP6), titled Procedure for handling unpaid and overdue levy for Commonwealth domestic fishing concessions.

A copy of FMP6 can be found on the AFMA website or by contacting AFMA Direct on 1300 723 621.



FMP6 outlines a range of issues including AFMA's procedure for collecting levies, how to enter into an arrangement to pay an overdue levy and certain arrangements relating to leasing and transferring SFRs.

Currently, the management plan provides that AFMA will not process a transfer of gear SFRs if there are any overdue levy payments associated with the SFR.

Please check FMP6 for current arrangements and further details relating to levy collection.

Levy calculation methodology

Levies are charged per gear SFR. Levies are calculated for the fishery based on the total industry funded costs of management for the fishery divided by the total number of gear SFRs in the fishery.

In addition to management costs a Fisheries Research and Development Corporation (FRDC) levy is also included in the total levy amount. The FRDC levy is charged at the same rate across all Commonwealth managed fisheries and is based on the average gross value of production for the fishery.

AFMA expects to issue all SFR owners with a Levy Invoice on all owned gear SFRs early in the calendar year. The Levy Invoice states the amount of levy that must be paid by the due date specified on the Levy Invoice or within, at time of writing, 28 days of the date the Levy Invoice was issued, whichever is the later date. It is important that all SFR owners check their levy invoices carefully for the due date for payments. If you have any questions please contact Licensing on 1300 723 621.

Nomination of a boat

What boats can be nominated to fish in the Southern Squid Jig Fishery?

Only Australian boats can be nominated to fish in the SSJF. An Australian boat is defined under section 4 (1) of the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* (The Act) as a boat that satisfies any one of the following three conditions:

- a boat that is operated from Australia and is wholly owned by an Australian resident or Australian Company and was built in Australia;
- a boat that is listed on the *Australian Shipping Register*, except if it is owned by a foreign resident and under a demise charter arrangement;
- a boat that has been declared by AFMA to be an Australian boat under subsection 4(2) of the *Act*.

If a boat does not satisfy any of these conditions it is regarded as a foreign boat under the Act. An Australian flagged boat is not necessarily an Australian boat for the purposes of the Act.

Nomination of a boat

You must nominate the boat that you wish to use to fish in the SSJF against your SFRs before you can go fishing.

The holder of an SFR can apply to nominate or remove a boat on the approved form, a BN form and BN-SQJ attachment found on the AFMA website at



http://www.afma.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2010/06/bn_sqj_20060223.pdf, by calling Licensing on 1300 723 621 or on GOFish. A boat can only be nominated to one SSJF SFR holder at any one time.

If AFMA approves the nomination application, the boat's name and distinguishing symbol will be entered into the Register for the duration of the nomination. AFMA will provide the holder with an extract of the Register showing those details. The most current extract or a true copy of this extract must be maintained on the boat at all times while fishing under its authority.

Transfer and lease of SFRs

Any number of whole SFRs can be traded, SFRs can only be traded in whole units, there is no minimum number of SFRs required to be traded and SFRs can be traded to and from multiple persons and traded on to other persons in any number. For example, an operator can lease 10 SFRs from one person and 100 from another. This person can then choose to on-lease these SFRs to third parties in any number from one SFR up to the total number of SFRs they hold.

Transfer of SFRs

The owner of gear SFRs may apply to AFMA, on the approved form, a TC form and SQJ attachment found on the AFMA website at <http://www.afma.gov.au/resource-centre/publications-and-forms/fisheries/licensing-and-quota-management/> to transfer SFRs to another person. The original SFR certificate (as per S27(2) of the Plan) must be included in the application. Copies of all AFMA Licensing forms can also be obtained from Licensing by calling 1300 723 621 or on GOFish.

AFMA will not process the transfer if;

- the SFRs are currently leased to another person;
- litigation under the Act or any Regulation under the Act is proceeding;
- the SFR has been suspended;
- the person to whom the SFRs are to be transferred has been ordered not to be on a boat in the AFZ for commercial fishing purposes;
- AFMA has grounds to suspend the SFRs but this has not yet occurred; and
- there are any overdue levy payments associated with the SFR.

If AFMA approves the transfer of SFRs, certificates that show the change in ownership will be provided to both the seller and buyer of the SFRs. If an operator is selling out of the fishery all together they will be provided with a confirmation note advising the transfer has been completed.

Lease of SFRs

The owner of gear SFRs may apply to AFMA, on the approved form, an LC form and SQJ attachment found on the AFMA website at <http://www.afma.gov.au/resource-centre/publications-and-forms/fisheries/licensing-and-quota-management/> to lease SFRs to another person. Copies of all AFMA Licensing forms can also be obtained from Licensing on 1300 723 621 or on GOFish. Under the Plan SFR holders can lease their SFRs to other persons for the duration of the fishing year.



All leases registered with AFMA automatically expire at the end of the fishing year, 31 December, at which point the SFRs will revert back to their owner. AFMA will only process the lease application if all overdue levies are fully paid.

GOFish

GOFish is AFMA's online business facility which allows concession holders the ability to complete every day transactions online.

GOFish allows;

- Applications to be completed online
- View your record of fishing concessions as held by AFMA
- Keep your contact details up to date
- View transactional information
- Receive messages from AFMA
- Monitor progress of applications submitted to AFMA

To register for GOFish go to www.afma.gov.au and click on the GOFish link to download your application forms or contact Licensing on 1300 723 621.

Obligations of SFR holders under the Plan

General Obligations

SFR holders must comply with the Plan, any Direction or Determination made under it and SFR conditions. SFR holders are also required to provide AFMA with any biological, economic or technical information and samples if requested to do so. SFR Holders must carry on board the nominated boat a copy of the extract from the Register provided by AFMA when the nominated boat's details were entered onto the Register.

Bycatch obligations

Australia is a signatory to a number of international treaties and conventions that seek to reduce the direct and non-direct take and impact of bycatch species on the environment. Bycatch Action Plans have been prepared for all formally managed Commonwealth fisheries. These plans aim to address the specific bycatch issues of the fishery and to include strategies and actions for the development and implementation of processes, including mitigation measures, to reduce the take of non-target species. AFMA is required to report on the status of the strategies on a six monthly basis and review the Bycatch Action Plan for each fishery every two years. The Bycatch Action Plan for the SSJF is at http://www.afma.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2010/06/squid_bap.pdf.

Under the Plan SFR holders are required to record the catch and discard of any non-target species in their current *Squid Jigging Daily Fishing Log*. This data is used by AFMA and SEMAC to report on the progress made towards addressing bycatch issues as well as the inclusion of catch statistics in annual data summaries.

Protected, endangered and threatened species reporting

SFR holders are obligated to take all reasonable steps to ensure that their fishing operations minimise bycatch and habitat destruction.



SFR holders should note that it is an offence under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) to kill, injure, take or trade a cetacean, marine species listed under section 248, migratory species listed under section 209, threatened ecological communities listed under section 181 or threatened species listed under section 178 of the *EPBC Act*.

The SSJF has been accredited under the *EPBC Act*. Therefore, any operator that interacts with a protected species as listed in Part 13 of the *EPBC Act* who is acting in accordance with the Plan is not committing an offence. A copy of the *EPBC Act* can be found at <http://www.environment.gov.au/about/legislation.html>.

Any capture or contact with a protected species must be reported in the "Wildlife and Other Protected Species Form" located in the back of the *Squid Jigging Daily Fishing Log* issued to each active fisher.

In accordance with a Memorandum of Understanding made in August 2005 between AFMA and the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (SEWPaC) (the then Department of the Environment and Heritage), AFMA will report information on protected species interactions to SEWPaC.

Carriage of observers

Under the Plan AFMA can request that SFR holders carry observers on any nominated boat.

If you don't believe that your boat can safely carry an observer you will be required to provide written confirmation to this effect. AFMA will remove a holder's nominated boat from the Register if the holder fails to provide written advice about the holder's ability to, or acceptance of, the request to carry an observer. This will also apply if the holder advises AFMA that the boat is not capable of safely carrying an observer.

Please also be aware that all observers boarding your boat will undertake a pre-cruise inspection. If after the inspection the observer has any concern for their own safety they can refuse to board the boat, this may also result in the boat being removed from the Register.

Directions made under the Plan

To date two Directions have been made under the Plan: the first SSJFDIR 1 sets out bycatch limits, the second SSJFDIR 2 prohibits shark finning. Detailed descriptions of SFR holder obligations under these Directions are provided below. Copies of both Directions are attached at the back of this book.

Bycatch Limits

The retention of bycatch is limited to a maximum of 100 kilograms per trip. In addition to this, SFR holders are prohibited from taking any tuna or tuna like species, marlin, billfish, blue eye trevalla, pink ling, blue warehou or gemfish.

Prohibition on Shark Finning

This Direction prohibits SFR holders from carrying, retaining, or landing dorsal, pectoral, caudal, pelvic and anal fins for all shark species unless they are attached to the carcass and weigh less than 100 kilograms, including any other bycatch retained, from that trip.



Reporting illegal fishing activity

Please report any incidence or suspicion you may have of illegal fishing activity. You can make a report anonymously if you wish and any information you provide will be treated confidentially. There are different contact numbers for reporting suspected illegal domestic and foreign fishing and they are listed below. Reports can be made to both contact numbers 24 hours a day.

Reports of **illegal domestic** fishing activity can be made to AFMA Compliance by calling **FREECALL 1800-CRIMFISH (1800 274 634)** or **0419 205 329**.

Reports of **illegal foreign** fishing should be reported to Coastwatch by calling the Customs Hotline on **FREECALL 1800 061 800**.

Please provide as much information as possible to the operator including:

- the date, time and location of the suspicious activity
- a description of the vessel involved
- the names of any verifying witnesses; and
- be prepared to provide any photographs and/or other supporting evidence.

AFMA contacts

You can contact AFMA between 08:15 and 17:15 from Monday to Friday for the cost of a local call on the AFMADirect number below.

 **AFMADIRECT 1300 723 621**

AFMA's mailing address

AFMA
Box 7051
Canberra Business Centre
ACT 2610

State Government contacts

Tasmania

Department of Primary Industries, Parks,
Water and the Environment

Marine Resources Group

Phone 03 6233 3157

Victoria

Department of Primary Industries

Licensing enquiries

Phone 03 9658 4304

South Australia

PIRSA

Licensing enquiries

Phone 08 8347 6107



Advisory Committees

SquidRAG and SEMAC

AFMA's management philosophy involves a partnership approach to the management of marine resources under its jurisdiction. Cooperation with relevant stakeholders, such as the fishing industry, government agencies, the community and others with an interest in the sustainable management of the Commonwealth's fisheries resources, is a vital part of this approach. This approach provides opportunities for stakeholders to have input into the management process through, in the case of the SSJF, the Southern Squid Jig Fishery Resource Assessment Group (SquidRAG) and the Southern Squid Jig Fishery Management Advisory Committee (SquidMAC) (up to July 2009).

SquidMAC was dissolved after 1 July 2009 and merged into the South East Management Advisory Committee (SEMAC) on 1 July 2010. This merger was part of a decision to rationalise Management Advisory Committees (MACs) with the objective of reducing costs and improving the efficiency of the MAC advisory system. The SEMAC also provides management advice for the Small Pelagic Fishery, and the Commonwealth Trawl and the Gillnet, Hook and Trap Sectors.

SquidRAG and SEMAC are comprised of representatives from industry, environment, research, and state and Commonwealth government agencies.

SEMAC considers issues that directly affect the fishery and provides recommendations to the AFMA Board on management options to address them. SEMAC generally meets at least twice a year and considers issues out-of-session on an as needs basis.

SquidRAG provides current scientific advice to SEMAC and AFMA management on the status of target and non target species that are affected by fishing operations in the SSJF. SquidRAG generally meets twice a year.

A list of current SEMAC members can be found on the AFMA website at <http://www.afma.gov.au/managing-our-fisheries/consultation/management-advisory-committees/south-east-mac/membership/>. For a list of current SquidRAG members please contact AFMA on 1300 723 621.

Interested persons can apply through AFMA to attend a SEMAC meeting as an observer.



List of Acronyms

AFMA	Australian Fisheries Management Authority
FRDC	Fisheries Research & Development Corporation
SFR	Statutory Fishing Right
SSJF	Southern Squid Jig Fishery
SEMAC	South East Management Advisory Committee
SquidRAG	Squid Resource Assessment Group
TAE	Total Allowable Effort
SQ05	Squid Jigging Daily Fishing Logbook
SCQ02	Commonwealth Scallop/Squid Catch Disposal Record





Australian Government

Australian Fisheries Management Authority

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ACT 1991
SOUTHERN SQUID JIG FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN 2005

DIRECTION No. SSJFDIR 1
BYCATCH LIMITS

The AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY determines this Direction under section 17(5A) and 17(5B) of the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* and section 18(1) of the *Southern Squid Jig Fishery Management Plan 2005*.

Dated 26 October 2005

PETER WITHERIDGE
Common seal of the
Australian Fisheries
Management Authority

Citation

1. This Direction may be cited as Direction No. SSJFDIR 1.

Commencement and period of application

2. This Direction commences on registration and ceases once revoked.

Interpretation

3. A term used in this Direction by way or priority, or if there is any inconsistency:
 - (a) takes the meaning given to it in the *Southern Squid Jig Fishery Management Plan 2005*; and then
 - (b) if no meaning is given to the word in the *Southern Squid Jig Fishery Management Plan 2005*, takes the meaning given to that word under the *Fisheries Management Act 1991*.



Prohibition on bycatch

4. This Direction prohibits the fishing for or taking of fish of the species named in parts 1, 2 and 3 of the Schedule.

Exemptions to the prohibition on taking fish in clause 4

5. The prohibition in clause 4 does not apply, if in any one fishing trip:
 - (a) the total combined weight of fish taken and carried is less than 100 kilograms, and
 - (b) does not include any fish of the species described in parts 2 and 3 of the Schedule.



SCHEDULE

Part 1

Fish species of the Superclass Pisces

Part 2

Common name	Scientific Name
Blue Eye Trevalla	<i>Hyperoglyphe antarctica</i>
Pink Ling	<i>Genypterus blacodes</i>
Blue Warehou	<i>Seriolella brama</i>
Gemfish	<i>Rexea solandri</i>

Part 3

Common name	Family Name
Tuna	<i>Scombridae</i> – except fish of the genera <i>Scomberomorus</i> , <i>Scomber</i> , <i>Acanthocybium</i> , <i>Rastrelliger</i> and <i>Grammatorcynus</i>
marlins	<i>Istiophoridae</i>
billfish	<i>Xiphiidae</i>





Australian Government

Australian Fisheries Management Authority

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ACT 1991
SOUTHERN SQUID JIG FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN 2005

DIRECTION No. SSJFDIR 2
PROHIBITION ON SHARK FINNING

The AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY determines this Direction under section 17(5A) and 17(5B) of the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* and section 18(1) of the *Southern Squid Jig Fishery Management Plan 2005*.

Dated 26 October 2005

PETER WITHERIDGE
Common seal of the
Australian Fisheries
Management Authority

Citation

1. This Direction may be cited as Direction No. SSJFDIR 2.

Commencement and period of application

2. This Direction commences on registration and ceases once revoked.

Interpretation

3. A term used in this Direction by way or priority, or if there is any inconsistency:
 - (c) takes the meaning given to it in the *Southern Squid Jig Fishery Management Plan 2005*; and then
 - (d) if no meaning is given to the word in the *Southern Squid Jig Fishery Management Plan 2005*, takes the meaning given to that word under the *Fisheries Management Act 1991*.



Prohibition on shark finning

4. This Direction prohibits the carrying, retaining, or landing of dorsal, pectoral, caudal, pelvic and anal fins for all shark species (Class *Chondrichthyes*).

Exemptions to the prohibition on taking fish in clause 4

5. The prohibition in clause 4 does not apply if these are attached to the carcass and their combined weight, with any other fish of the Superclass Pisces taken in one fishing trip, is less than 100 kilograms.

