

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ACT 1991
NORTHERN PRAWN FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN 1995

NPF DIRECTION No. 138
(revoking NPF Direction No. 117)
BUG SIZE LIMITS

I, **Glenn Hurry**, Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Fisheries Management Authority, as delegate of powers conferred upon AFMA under the Plan of Management in accordance with s17(5A), make the following Direction under **sub-section 25(1)** of the ***Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995***.

Date 9 March 2010

GLENN HURRY

Chief Executive Officer
Australian Fisheries Management Authority

Citation

1. This Direction may be cited as NPF Direction No. 138.

Commencement

2. This Direction commences the day after it is registered on the Federal Register of Legislative Instruments.

Application

3. This Direction applies to a holder of statutory fishing rights in the Northern Prawn Fishery, and to a person acting on behalf of the holder, when fishing in the area of the Northern Prawn Fishery.

Period of Application

4. This Direction applies for a period beginning on the date this Direction commences and ending on 31 March 2014.

Interpretation

- 5.1 In this Direction:
"boat" means a boat that is nominated on statutory fishing rights for the Northern Prawn Fishery;
"bugs" means fish of the species *Thenus indicus* and *Thenus orientalis*;
"carapace width" means the width of the carapace when measured at its widest point;
"egg-bearing female bugs" includes bugs that have been 'scrubbed' to remove any eggs and includes bugs that have had their eggs removed using chemicals;
"equipment" means equipment for fishing;
"trip" means the period between the unloading of a catch, or part of a catch, to a mothership or port or any other point where catch is unloaded;

"UTC" means Coordinated Universal Time, the time scale based on the second (SI), maintained by the International Bureau of Weights and Measures. For the purposes of this Direction UTC is equivalent to mean solar time at the prime meridian (0 degrees longitude), formerly expressed in Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).

- 5.2** For the purposes of this Direction, the master of a boat is, at any time, presumed to have taken all of the fish present on the boat at that time and, in so doing, to have been acting on behalf of the holder of the statutory fishing rights in respect of which the boat is nominated.
- 5.3** A term used in this Direction that is defined for the purposes of the *Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan* 1995 has the same meaning in this Direction as it has in that plan.
- [Notes: 1. Terms defined in the *Fisheries Management Act* 1991 have the same meanings in this Direction.
2. Terms defined in the Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995 include "Northern Prawn Fishery" and "Northern Prawn Fishery area".]
- 5.4** This Direction is to be read consistently with other Directions made under the *Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan* 1995.
- 5.5** The origin of geographical coordinates used in this Direction is the Australian Geodetic Datum 1966 (AGD66).

Prohibitions on taking bugs

- 6.1** No fishing for the following types of fish can be engaged in the Northern Prawn Fishery:
- (a) bugs with a carapace width less than 75mm; and/ or
- (b) female egg-bearing bugs.
- 6.2** All bugs must be taken in accordance with this Direction and must be retained whole.
- 6.3** Bugs that are on board a boat are presumed to have been taken during:
- (a) the current trip; or
- (b) if the boat is not on a trip, the most recent trip.

To whom do the prohibitions in clause 6 not apply

- 7.** The prohibitions in clause 6.1 and clause 6.2 do not apply to a person if the person is fishing in accordance with another plan of management in force under the Management Act, or a law of a State or Territory that is in force in relation to the Northern Prawn Fishery area.

Revocation of NPF Direction No. 117

- 8.** This Direction revokes NPF Direction No. 117 with effect from the day of commencement.