

NSW SPANNER CRAB HARVEST STRATEGY WORKING GROUP

Chair's Summary - 6th Meeting - 21st October 2022

The Sixth meeting of the NSW Spanner Crab Harvest Strategy Working Group was held online on the 21st of October 2022. This meeting continued the review of the draft harvest strategy, with the discussion focused on finalising the draft harvest strategy for public comment.

The meeting commenced with reviewing the various elements of the draft harvest strategy and the amendments made since the last meeting. The members have a strong understanding of the importance of the harvest strategy and are keen to support the draft harvest strategy.

The main topic of discussion and objective for the meeting was to again review the decision rules, indicators and reference levels and how they will guide determinations of Total Allowable Catch for Spanner Crab. The members evaluated and tested various scenarios and were confident that the spanner crab harvest strategy is suitable for ensuring the fishery performance is maintained or improved once adopted.

The working group has been instrumental in progressing and developing the Spanner Crab Harvest Strategy. The group has supported the harvest strategy after some minor amendments and has recommended the draft harvest strategy be sent to CommFish for their endorsement to be released for public consultation.

Dr James Findlay, Chair, NSW Spanner Crab HSWG.