

**PERMIT UNDER SECTION 37
FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ACT 1994**

Modified codends - NSW Estuary Prawn Trawl Fishery

In accordance with the provisions of section 37(1)(e) and 37(2A) of the *Fisheries Management Act 1994* (the Act) Mr Donald Mark Johnson (782536) and any person of the class specified below are authorised to use the methods specified below to take and possess fish, subject to the conditions specified in this permit.

Class of persons

Any person who holds an Estuary Prawn Trawl endorsement as prescribed in the Fisheries Management (Estuary Prawn Trawl Fishery Management Plan) Regulation 2006.

Method 1: Square-shaped mesh codends constructed of conventional material

An otter trawl net (prawns) with a square-shaped mesh codend as prescribed in clause 17A of the Fisheries Management (Estuary Prawn Trawl Fishery Management Plan) Regulation 2006 that is constructed of:

- (a) Knotted (instead of knotless) material;
- (b) Polyethylene (instead of polyamide) material; and/or,
- (c) Material with a twine diameter not more than 3mm (instead of 2.5mm).

It is a condition of this permit that if knotted material is used to construct the square-shaped mesh codend, the mesh size of that material must not be less than 29 mm (instead of 27mm).

Method 2: Square-shaped mesh codends with a 'base plate'

An otter trawl net (prawns) with a square-shaped mesh codend as prescribed in clause 17A of the Fisheries Management (Estuary Prawn Trawl Fishery Management Plan) Regulation 2006 that is fitted with a panel of diamond-shaped mesh (or 'base plate') that:

- (a) Is attached to the last row of bars of the square-shaped mesh codend;
- (b) Has a mesh size not less than 40 mm nor more than 50 mm;
- (c) Does not consist of a greater number of meshes in circumference than the number of bars in the circumference of the square-shaped-mesh codend; and,
- (d) Has a draw or closing string inserted directly into the panel, or by means of a secondary string.

It is a condition of this permit that if a 'base plate' is used:

- (a) Only one draw or closing string may be fitted to the net and it (or the secondary string if used) must be positioned in the panel of diamond-shaped mesh within nine (9) meshes of the point where the panel of diamond-shaped mesh is attached to the square-shaped mesh codend,
- (b) Only one frill may be used and it must be attached to the panel of diamond-shaped mesh not more than three (3) meshes forward of the draw or closing string (or the secondary string if used).

Additional conditions

1. This permit is only valid while the permit holder or any other person authorised by this permit has a current commercial fishing licence and estuary prawn trawl endorsement.
2. The permit holder and any other person authorised by this permit must abide by any instruction, relating to the operation of this permit, given by an Officer of the NSW Department of Primary Industries.

Notes

- A copy of this permit will be made available on the NSW DPI website: www.dpi.nsw.gov.au
- Other than where expressly stated, this permit does not authorise fishing activities in contravention of the Act or any Regulation under this Act.
- Failure to comply with any of the conditions of this permit may result in the modification or cancellation of this permit and prosecution under the Act.
- This permit may be varied, suspended or cancelled at any time by a duly delegated officer of NSW DPI.
- The issue of this permit in no way implies or guarantees future rights in any fishery or continued use of modified square-mesh codends beyond the date of expiry of this permit.

Unless sooner suspended or cancelled this permit is valid until **1 July 2020**.



Andrew Goulstone
Group Director, Commercial Fisheries and Aquaculture
Date: 19 January 2016