

NEW SOUTH WALES TRAWL WHITING HARVEST STRATEGY WORKING GROUP

Adoption of the NSW Trawl Whiting Harvest Strategy

CHAIRS SUMMARY

At our last meeting in August 2021 the Working Group endorsed the draft NSW Trawl Whiting harvest strategy following agreement on a number of minor revisions.

The harvest strategy brings together key scientific monitoring, assessment and management measures needed to achieve the objectives identified in the strategy.

The draft was considered by the Commercial Fishing NSW Advisory Council (CommFish NSW) in September 2021, who did not propose any changes prior to its release for public consultation.

A four-week public consultation phase then followed, ending on 31 October. There were no issues raised in submissions that required revision of the harvest strategy, noting that some suggestions - including improving data - are recognised in the strategy as areas for potential further development.

Given the above, there was no need for a further formal meeting of the Working Group, which agreed to forward the harvest strategy to CommFish NSW for their recommendation and referral to the Minister for adoption.

The Minister has now formally adopted the NSW Trawl Whiting Harvest Strategy.

It will now become an important and integral part of the process for determining Total Allowable Catch for Trawl Whiting into the future.

I wish to thank all members and Departmental staff for their contributions to the Working Group. I believe this has been an excellent example of industry/Government co-management in developing a critical fisheries management tool for the long-term benefit of the fishery.

PETER NEVILLE,
CHAIR, TWHSWG.
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