

**FISH RESOURCES MANAGEMENT  
ACT 1994**

**(No. 53 of 1994)**

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WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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# **FISH RESOURCES MANAGEMENT ACT 1994**

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**No. 53 of 1994**

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**AN ACT relating to the management of fish resources, to  
repeal and amend certain Acts, and for related  
purposes.**

*[Assented to 2 November 1994.]*

The Parliament of Western Australia enacts as follows:

## **PART 1 — PRELIMINARY**

### **Short title**

1. This Act may be cited as the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*.

### **Commencement**

2. This Act comes into operation on such day as is fixed by proclamation.

### **Objects**

3. (1) The objects of this Act are to conserve, develop and share the fish resources of the State for the benefit of present and future generations.

(2) In particular, this Act has the following objects —

- (a) to conserve fish and to protect their environment;
- (b) to ensure that the exploitation of fish resources is carried out in a sustainable manner;
- (c) to enable the management of fishing, aquaculture and associated industries and aquatic eco-tourism;
- (d) to foster the development of commercial and recreational fishing and aquaculture;
- (e) to achieve the optimum economic, social and other benefits from the use of fish resources;
- (f) to enable the allocation of fish resources between users of those resources;



- (g) to provide for the control of foreign interests in fishing, aquaculture and associated industries;
- (h) to enable the management of fish habitat protection areas and the Abrolhos Islands reserve.

## **Interpretation**

4. (1) In this Act, unless the contrary intention appears —

**“Aboriginal person”** has the same meaning as in the *Land (Titles and Traditional Usage) Act 1993*;

**“Abrolhos Islands reserve”** means Reserve No. 20253 classified as of Class “A”;

**“AFMA”** means the Australian Fisheries Management Authority established under the *Fisheries Administration Act 1991* of the Commonwealth;

**“aquaculture”** means the keeping, breeding, hatching or culturing of fish;

**“Aquaculture Development Council”** means the advisory committee established under section 37;

**“aquaculture lease”** means a lease granted under section 97;

**“aquaculture licence”** means an aquaculture licence granted under section 92;

**“aquatic eco-tourism”** means tourism relating to fish in their natural environment and includes the viewing or feeding of fish but does not include the taking of fish;

**“Australian fishing zone”** has the same meaning as in the Commonwealth Act;

**“authorization”** means a licence or permit;

**“bed”**, in relation to any waters, means the land permanently or intermittently covered by the waters or the land over which the waters permanently or intermittently flow;

**“boat”** means a vessel, craft or floating platform of any description that is capable of use in or on water, whether floating or submersible;

**“category 1 fish”** means any fish of a species prescribed under section 259 to be category 1 fish;

**“category 2 fish”** means any fish of a species prescribed under section 259 to be category 2 fish;

**“category 3 fish”** means any fish of a species prescribed under section 259 to be category 3 fish;

**“category 4 fish”** means any fish of a species prescribed under section 259 to be category 4 fish;

**“coastal waters”**, in relation to the State, has the same meaning as in the Commonwealth Act;

**“commercial fishing”** means fishing for a commercial purpose;

**“commercial fishing licence”** means a licence granted under the regulations authorizing a person to engage in commercial fishing;

**“commercial purpose”** means the purpose of sale or any other purpose that is directed to gain or reward;

**“commercially protected fish”** means any fish of a class prescribed under section 45 to be commercially protected fish;

**“Commonwealth Act”** means the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* of the Commonwealth;

**“Department”** means the department of the Public Service principally assisting the Minister in the administration of this Act;

**“designated fishing zone”** means an area prescribed under section 109 to be a designated fishing zone;

**“document”** includes any tape, disc or other device or medium on which information is recorded or stored mechanically, photographically, electronically or otherwise;

**“entitlement”** means an entitlement that a person has from time to time under a managed fishery licence or an interim managed fishery permit;

**“exclusive licence”** means an exclusive licence granted under section 251;

**“Executive Director”** means the Executive Director referred to in section 10;

**“exemption”** means an exemption granted under section 7;

**“fish”** means an aquatic organism of any species (whether alive or dead) and includes —

- (a) the eggs, spat, spawn, seeds, spores, fry, larva or other source of reproduction or offspring of an aquatic organism; and
- (b) a part only of an aquatic organism (including the shell or tail),

but does not include aquatic mammals, aquatic reptiles, aquatic birds, amphibians or (except in relation to Part 3 and Division 1 of Part 11) pearl oysters;

**“fisheries officer”** means a fisheries officer referred to in section 11;

**“Fisheries Research and Development Corporation”** means the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation established under the *Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act 1989* of the Commonwealth;

**“fishery”** means —

- (a) one or more stocks or parts of stocks of fish that can be treated as a unit for the purposes of conservation or management; and
- (b) a class of fishing activities in respect of those stocks or parts of stocks of fish;

**“fish habitat protection area”** means an area set aside under section 115 as a fish habitat protection area;

**“fishing”** or **“fishing activity”** means —

- (a) searching for fish;
- (b) attempting to take fish;
- (c) taking fish; or
- (d) engaging in any other activity that can reasonably be expected to result in the taking of fish;

**“fishing boat”** means a boat that is used for commercial fishing;

**“fishing boat licence”** means a licence granted under the regulations authorizing a person to use a boat for commercial fishing;

**“fishing gear”** means any equipment, implement, device, apparatus or other thing used or designed for use for, or in connection with, fishing;

**“fish processor’s licence”** means a fish processor’s licence granted under section 83;

**“foreign boat”** has the same meaning as in the Commonwealth Act;

**“forfeited entitlement”** means the amount by which an entitlement is reduced under section 76;

**“honorary fisheries officer”** means an honorary fisheries officer appointed under section 179;

**“interim managed fishery”** means a fishery declared by a management plan to be an interim managed fishery;

**“interim managed fishery permit”**, in relation to an interim managed fishery, means a permit granted under section 66 in respect of that fishery;

**“levy”** means a levy imposed under the *Fishing Industry Promotion Training and Management Levy Act 1994*;

**“licence”** means —

- (a) an aquaculture licence;
- (b) a commercial fishing licence;
- (c) a fishing boat licence;
- (d) a fish processor’s licence;
- (e) a managed fishery licence;
- (f) a recreational fishing licence; or
- (g) any other licence provided for in the regulations;

**“managed fishery”** means a fishery declared by a management plan to be a managed fishery;

**“managed fishery licence”**, in relation to a managed fishery, means a licence granted under section 66 in respect of that fishery;

**“management plan”**, in relation to a fishery, means a management plan determined for that fishery under section 54;

**“marine nature reserve”** has the same meaning as in the *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984*;

**“marine park”** has the same meaning as in the *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984*;

**“master”**, in relation to a boat, means the person for the time being having the command, charge or management of the boat;

**“noxious fish”** means any fish of a species prescribed under section 103 to be noxious fish;

**“noxious substance”** means any substance that may be harmful to fish;

**“peak industry body”** means such body (whether incorporated or not) as is prescribed for the purposes of this definition;

**“pearl oyster”** has the same meaning as in section 3 (1) of the *Pearling Act 1990*;

**“permit”** means —

- (a) an interim managed fishery permit; or
- (b) a permit granted under section 80;

**“place”** means any land, building, structure (whether permanent or temporary), tent, boat, aircraft or vehicle or any part of any land, building, structure, tent, boat, aircraft or vehicle;

**“possession”** includes having under control in any place, whether for the use or benefit of the person in relation to whom the term is used or another person, and whether or not another person has the actual possession or custody of the thing in question;

**“premises”** includes part of any premises but does not include —

- (a) an unauthorized structure; or
- (b) a caravan that is not in an area registered as a caravan park by a municipality or regional council;

**“private land”** means any land that —

- (a) is alienated from the Crown for any estate of freehold; or
- (b) is the subject of a conditional purchase agreement, or of any lease or concession with or without a right of acquiring the fee simple in that land;

**“process”** means cut up, break up, shell, skin, shuck, fillet, cook, void, purge, pack, chill, freeze, can, preserve, or otherwise treat any fish and, in relation to fish of a prescribed class, includes hold or consign the fish live for export;

**“protected fish”** means —

- (a) commercially protected fish; or
- (b) totally protected fish;

**“purchase”** includes —

- (a) take in exchange;
- (b) agree or offer to take in exchange; or
- (c) receive, accept or take delivery, under an agreement to take in exchange;

**“recreational fishing”** means fishing for a purpose other than a commercial purpose;

**“Recreational Fishing Advisory Committee”** means the advisory committee established under section 33;

**“recreational fishing licence”** means a licence granted under the regulations authorizing a person to engage in a specified activity by way of recreational fishing;

**“register”** means the register kept under section 125;

**“Registrar”** means the Registrar referred to in section 124;

**“repealed Act”** means the *Fisheries Act 1905*;

**“rights of traditional usage”** has the same meaning as in the *Land (Titles and Traditional Usage) Act 1993*;

**“Rock Lobster Industry Advisory Committee”** means the advisory committee continued in existence under section 29;

**“security holder”**, in relation to an authorization, means a person noted on the register as having a security interest in the authorization;

**“security interest”**, in relation to an authorization, means an interest in the authorization (however arising) which secures payment of a debt or other pecuniary obligation or the performance of any other obligation;



**“sell”** includes —

- (a) auction;
- (b) put out to tender;
- (c) barter or exchange;
- (d) supply for profit;
- (e) offer for sale;
- (f) receive for sale;
- (g) expose for sale; or
- (h) consign or deliver for sale;

**“species”** includes subspecies, hybrid or variant;

**“specified”**, in relation to a regulation, management plan, order, notice or other instrument, means specified in the regulation, management plan, order, notice or other instrument (as the case may be);

**“take”**, in relation to fish, includes catch, capture, entrap, enclose, gather, remove, poison, stun, kill or destroy fish by any means;

**“this Act”** includes regulations, orders and management plans made or determined under this Act;

**“totally protected fish”** means any fish of a class prescribed under section 45 to be totally protected fish;

**“tribunal”** means a tribunal established under section 152;

**“unauthorized structure”** means any hut, shack or other structure on land other than private land the erection of which has not been authorized under a written law;

**“unit”**, in relation to an entitlement, means a unit as defined from time to time in the relevant management plan;

**“vary”**, in relation to an authorization, means to vary anything in the authorization and includes to substitute any boat, place or other thing in respect of which the authorization is granted;

**“vehicle”** has the same meaning as in the *Road Traffic Act 1974*;

**“waters”** includes —

- (a) the bed or subsoil, if any, under any waters; and
- (b) the airspace above any waters;

**“WA waters”** has the meaning given by section 5.

(2) A class of fishing activities or a fishery may be defined in an order, management plan, regulation, arrangement, notice, authorization or other instrument by reference to all or any of the following —

- (a) a species or type of fish;
- (b) a description of fish by reference to sex, weight, size, reproductive cycle or any other characteristic;
- (c) an area of land or waters;
- (d) a method of fishing;
- (e) a type of fishing gear;

- (f) a class of boats, vehicles or aircraft;
- (g) a class of persons;
- (h) a purpose of activities.

### Meaning of "WA waters"

**5.** In this Act, a reference to WA waters —

- (a) is a reference to all waters within the limits of the State;
- (b) except for purposes relating to a fishery that is to be managed in accordance with the law of the Commonwealth under an arrangement under Part 3 and except for purposes specified in paragraph (d), is a reference to any waters not within the limits of the State that are on the landward side of waters adjacent to the State that are within the Australian fishing zone;
- (c) for purposes relating to a fishery that is to be managed in accordance with the law of the State under an arrangement under Part 3, is a reference to any waters to which the legislative powers of the State extend, with respect to that fishery, whether under section 5 of the *Coastal Waters (State Powers) Act 1980* of the Commonwealth or otherwise; and
- (d) for purposes relating to recreational fishing, within the meaning of the Commonwealth Act, other than recreational fishing —
  - (i) carried on by the use of a foreign boat; or
  - (ii) prohibited or regulated by a plan of management determined under section 17 of the Commonwealth Act,

is a reference to any waters to which the legislative powers of the State extend with respect to such fishing.

**Application of Act to Aboriginal persons**

**6.** An Aboriginal person is not required to hold a recreational fishing licence to the extent that the person takes fish from any waters in accordance with continuing Aboriginal tradition if the fish are taken for the purposes of the person or his or her family and not for a commercial purpose.

**Exemptions**

**7.** (1) The Minister, or the Executive Director, may by instrument in writing exempt a specified person or any specified class of persons from specified provisions of this Act.

(2) The Minister may grant an exemption for any purpose.

(3) The Executive Director may only grant an exemption for the following purposes —

- (a) scientific research;
- (b) the collection, keeping, breeding, hatching or culturing of rare or endangered fish;
- (c) the exploration or development of fisheries or the development of fishing technology;
- (d) the promotion of fishing or fish products;
- (e) the promotion of tourism or recreational activities;
- (f) fish stock depletion or enhancement; or
- (g) educational and community awareness programmes.

(4) An application for an exemption —

- (a) may be made to the Minister or the Executive Director;
- (b) must be in a form approved for that purpose by the Executive Director; and
- (c) must be accompanied by the prescribed fee (if any).

(5) An exemption may be granted subject to such conditions as the Minister or the Executive Director (as the case may be) thinks fit and specifies in the instrument.

(6) The Minister or the Executive Director (as the case may be) may, if he or she thinks fit, by further instrument in writing —

- (a) vary or revoke an exemption; or
- (b) delete, vary or add to any conditions imposed in relation to that exemption.

(7) A person must not contravene a condition of an exemption.

Penalty: In the case of an individual, \$10 000 or, in the case of a body corporate, \$20 000.

### **Crown bound**

8. (1) This Act binds the Crown in right of the State and, subject to the limits of the legislative power of the State, the Crown in all its other capacities.

(2) Nothing in this Act makes the Crown in any of its capacities liable to be prosecuted for an offence.

## **PART 2 — ADMINISTRATION**

### **Minister continued in existence as body corporate**

**9.** (1) The body corporate constituted by the Minister and referred to in section 4A of the repealed Act under the name “Minister for Fisheries” is preserved and continued in existence.

(2) The corporate identity and the rights, obligations and assets of the body corporate are not affected by the repeal of the repealed Act.

(3) The body corporate —

- (a) has perpetual succession and a common seal;
- (b) may sue and be sued in its corporate name; and
- (c) is capable of doing and suffering all that bodies corporate may do and suffer.

(4) If a document is produced bearing a seal purporting to be the common seal of the Minister for Fisheries, it is to be presumed that the common seal is the common seal of the Minister for Fisheries, unless the contrary is proved.

### **Executive Director**

**10.** The person appointed under Part 3 of the *Public Sector Management Act 1994* to be the chief executive officer of the Department is to be known as the Executive Director.

### **Fisheries officers and other staff**

**11.** There are to be appointed under Part 3 of the *Public Sector Management Act 1994* such fisheries officers and other staff as are required for the purposes of the administration of this Act.

### **Delegation by Minister**

**12.** (1) The Minister may, by instrument in writing, delegate to a person, either generally or as otherwise provided in the instrument, any power or duty under this Act, other than —

- (a) this power of delegation; and
- (b) the powers conferred under sections 7, 43, 54, 97, 115, 119, 122, 246, 247, 251 and 255.

(2) Anything done by a delegate under a delegation under this section has the same force and effect as if it had been done by the Minister.

### **Delegation by Executive Director**

**13.** (1) The Executive Director may, by instrument in writing, delegate to a person, either generally or as otherwise provided in the instrument, any power or duty under this Act, other than this power of delegation.

(2) Anything done by a delegate under a delegation under this section has the same force and effect as if it had been done by the Executive Director.

### **Minister may carry out research**

**14.** The Minister may cause to be carried out any research, exploration, experiments, works or operations of any kind for the purposes of this Act.

## **PART 3 — COMMONWEALTH-STATE MANAGEMENT OF FISHERIES**

### ***Division 1 — Preliminary***

#### **Interpretation**

**15.** In this Part, unless the contrary intention appears —

**“arrangement”** means an arrangement made by the State with the Commonwealth under this Part, whether or not it is also made with another State or other States;

**“Commonwealth Minister”** means the Minister for the time being administering the Commonwealth Act and any other Minister exercising powers and performing functions under section 60 of the Commonwealth Act;

**“fishery”** means a fishery identified in an arrangement as a fishery to which the arrangement applies;

**“Joint Authority”** means —

- (a) the Western Australian Fisheries Joint Authority continued in existence under the *Fisheries Legislation (Consequential Provisions) Act 1991* of the Commonwealth; and
- (b) any other Joint Authority established under the Commonwealth Act of which the Minister is a member;

**“Joint Authority fishery”** means a fishery in respect of which there is in force an arrangement under which the fishery is to be under the management of a Joint Authority.



***Division 2 — Joint Authorities***

**Powers and functions of Minister**

16. (1) The Minister may exercise any power and perform any function conferred on the Minister by the Commonwealth Act, including any power or function conferred on the Minister as a member of a Joint Authority.

(2) If, in the exercise of the power conferred on the Minister by the Commonwealth Act, the Minister appoints a deputy, the deputy may exercise the powers and perform the functions conferred by that Act on the deputy of a member of a Joint Authority other than the Commonwealth Minister.

**Judicial notice**

17. All courts and persons acting judicially must take judicial notice of the signature of a person who is or has been a member of a Joint Authority or a deputy of a member of a Joint Authority and of the fact that the person is, or was at a particular time, such a member or deputy.

**Functions of Joint Authority**

18. A Joint Authority has such functions in relation to a fishery in respect of which an arrangement is in force as are conferred on it by the law in accordance with which, under the arrangement, the fishery is to be managed.

**Delegation**

19. (1) A Joint Authority may, by instrument in writing, delegate to a person, either generally or as otherwise provided in the instrument, any of its powers under this Act other than this power of delegation.

(2) If a power delegated under subsection (1) is exercised by the delegate, the power must, for the purposes of this Act, be taken to have been exercised by the Joint Authority.

(3) A delegation under this section may be expressed as a delegation to the person from time to time holding or performing the duties of a specified office, including an office —

- (a) in the service of;
- (b) in the service of an authority of; or
- (c) under the law of,

the Commonwealth, another State or a Territory.

(4) A delegate of a Joint Authority is, in the exercise of delegated powers, subject to the directions of the Joint Authority.

(5) A delegation of a power under this section —

- (a) may be revoked, by instrument in writing, by the Joint Authority (whether or not constituted by the persons constituting the Joint Authority at the time the power was delegated);
- (b) does not prevent the exercise of the power by the Joint Authority; and
- (c) continues in force despite any change in the membership of the Joint Authority.

(6) A certificate signed by a member of a Joint Authority stating any matter with respect to a delegation under this section by the Joint Authority is evidence of that matter.

(7) A document purporting to be a certificate referred to in subsection (6) must, unless the contrary is established, be taken to be such a certificate and to have been duly given.

(8) Nothing in this section —

- (a) limits the operation of sections 58 and 59 of the *Interpretation Act 1984*; or
- (b) is intended to prevent the delegation by a Joint Authority, in accordance with the law of the Commonwealth, of powers conferred on the Joint Authority by that law.

### **Procedure of Joint Authorities**

20. (1) Sections 66 to 68 (inclusive) of the Commonwealth Act apply to and in relation to the performance by a Joint Authority of its functions under a written law of the State.

(2) A written record of a decision of a Joint Authority, if signed by the Commonwealth Minister, or a deputy of that Minister, who took part in or made the decision, is evidence that the decision, as recorded, was duly made.

(3) In any legal proceedings, an instrument or other document signed, on behalf of a Joint Authority, by a member of that Joint Authority —

- (a) must be taken to have been duly executed by the Joint Authority; and
- (b) unless the contrary is proved, must be taken to be in accordance with a decision of the Joint Authority.

### **Report of Joint Authority**

21. The Minister must cause a copy of a report of a Joint Authority prepared under section 70 of the Commonwealth Act to be laid before each House of Parliament as soon as practicable after the preparation of the report.

***Division 3 — Arrangements for management  
of particular fisheries***

**Arrangement for management of particular fishery**

**22.** (1) The State may, in accordance with section 74 of the Commonwealth Act, make an arrangement referred to in section 71 or 72 of that Act for the management of a particular fishery.

(2) An arrangement may be terminated as provided by the Commonwealth Act.

(3) After an arrangement has been made but before the arrangement takes effect authorizations, regulations, orders and instruments may be granted, renewed, made or determined for the purposes of the operation of this Act as affected by the arrangement as if the arrangement had taken effect.

(4) An authorization, regulation, order or instrument referred to in subsection (3) does not have effect before the arrangement takes effect.

(5) On the termination of an arrangement, authorizations, regulations, orders and instruments granted, renewed, made or determined, for the purposes of the operation of this Act as affected by the arrangement cease to have effect.

(6) After action for the purpose of the termination of an arrangement has been taken, but before the termination takes effect authorizations, regulations, orders and instruments may be granted, renewed, made or determined for the purposes of the operation of this Act as affected by the termination of the arrangement, as if the arrangement had been terminated.

(7) An authorization, regulation, order or instrument referred to in subsection (6) does not have effect before the termination of the arrangement takes effect.

**Application of this Act to fisheries in accordance with arrangements**

**23.** (1) Subject to subsection (2), if an arrangement is in force that provides that a particular fishery is to be managed in accordance with the law of the State, the provisions of this Act apply to and in relation to the fishery.

(2) The provisions of this Act do not apply to or in relation to the fishery in respect of —

- (a) foreign boats, operations on or from foreign boats or persons on foreign boats, in the Australian fishing zone; or
- (b) matters that occurred in the Australian fishing zone before the arrangement took effect.

**Functions of Joint Authority**

**24.** (1) If, in respect of a fishery, an arrangement is in force under which a Joint Authority has the management of the fishery and the fishery is to be managed in accordance with the law of the State, the Joint Authority has the functions of —

- (a) keeping constantly under consideration the condition of the fishery;
- (b) formulating policies and plans for the good management of the fishery; and
- (c) for the purposes of the management of the fishery —
  - (i) exercising the powers conferred on it by this Act; and
  - (ii) co-operating and consulting with other authorities (including other Joint Authorities within the meaning of the Commonwealth Act) in matters of common concern.

(2) A Joint Authority is to pursue the following objectives in the performance of its functions under subsection (1) —

- (a) ensuring, through proper conservation, preservation and fisheries management measures, that fish resources are not endangered by over-exploitation; and
- (b) achieving the optimum utilization of those resources.

**Joint Authority to exercise certain powers instead of Minister etc.**

25. (1) Except as provided in this section, an authorization granted or renewed under this Act otherwise than by virtue of this section does not authorize the doing of any act or thing in or in relation to a Joint Authority fishery.

(2) If a Joint Authority fishery is to be managed in accordance with the law of the State —

- (a) the powers (including powers with respect to authorizations) conferred on the Minister or another person under this Act (this Part excepted) are exercisable by the Joint Authority instead of the Minister or other person; and
- (b) references in the relevant provisions to the Minister and to another person authorized to exercise a power, are taken to be references to the Joint Authority.

(3) An authorization granted by a Joint Authority must be limited (whether by conditions or otherwise) to apply only in relation to a Joint Authority fishery, or Joint Authority fisheries, managed by the Joint Authority.

(4) A Joint Authority may endorse an authorization (including an authorization granted by the Joint Authority or another Joint Authority) to extend the operation of the authorization to matters to which the licensing powers of the Joint Authority under this Act are applicable.

(5) If an endorsement referred to in subsection (4) is made —

- (a) the endorsement ceases to have effect if the authorization ceases to have effect; and
- (b) the Joint Authority may suspend or cancel the endorsement as if it were an authorization granted by the Joint Authority.

(6) Subject to section 28, if at a time a fishery becomes a Joint Authority fishery, a regulation, order or instrument made or determined under this Act would, but for this subsection, apply to the fishery, the regulation, order or instrument, as the case may be, ceases so to apply.

(7) This section does not empower a Joint Authority to grant, or to take other action in respect of, an authorization in respect of a foreign boat or to endorse such an authorization.

### **Application of provisions relating to offences**

**26.** Provisions of this Act that relate to offences, enforcement and legal proceedings —

- (a) apply in respect of anything done to, or in relation to, fish to which a Joint Authority fishery relates or otherwise in relation to a Joint Authority fishery; and
- (b) for the purpose of paragraph (a) are to be read —
  - (i) as if any reference in the provisions to an authorization were a reference to an authorization or an endorsement of an authorization, as the case may be, granted, renewed or made by the relevant Joint Authority, in relation to the person alleged to have committed the offence or the boat alleged to have been used in the commission of the offence; and

- (ii) as if any reference in the provisions to fish were a reference to fish to which the Joint Authority fishery relates.

### **Presumption relating to certain statements**

**27.** A statement in an arrangement must be conclusively presumed to be correct if it is to the effect that specified waters —

- (a) in the case of an arrangement to which the Commonwealth and the State are the only parties, are waters adjacent to the State; and
- (b) in the case of any other arrangement, are waters adjacent to the States that are parties to the arrangement or are waters adjacent to a specified State or States.

### **Regulations, orders etc.**

**28.** (1) If a Joint Authority is to manage a fishery in accordance with the law of the State, the Governor may, for the purpose of giving effect to a decision of the Joint Authority —

- (a) make regulations for the management of the fishery;
- (b) make a regulation applying to the fishery a regulation made otherwise than under this section; or
- (c) amend a regulation made otherwise than under this section so that it is expressed to apply to the fishery, whether or not it also applies to another fishery.

(2) If a Joint Authority is to manage a fishery in accordance with the law of the State, the Minister may, for the purpose of giving effect to a decision of the Joint Authority —

- (a) make an order that applies to the fishery;



- (b) by order published in the *Gazette* apply to the fishery an order under this Act made otherwise than under this section; or
- (c) by order published in the *Gazette* amend an order under this Act made otherwise than under this section so that it is expressed to apply to the fishery, whether or not it also applies to another fishery.

(3) If a Joint Authority is to manage a fishery in accordance with the law of the State, the Minister may, for the purpose of giving effect to a decision of the Joint Authority —

- (a) by instrument in writing published in the *Gazette*, determine a management plan for the fishery;
- (b) by instrument in writing published in the *Gazette* apply to the fishery a management plan under this Act made otherwise than under this section; or
- (c) by instrument in writing published in the *Gazette* amend a management plan under this Act made otherwise than under this section so that it is expressed to apply to the fishery, whether or not it also applies to another fishery.

(4) The power conferred —

- (a) on the Governor to make regulations otherwise than under subsection (1) does not extend to the making of a regulation of a kind referred to in subsection (1) (a) or (b) or the amendment of a regulation in the manner referred to in subsection (1) (c);
- (b) on the Minister to make orders otherwise than under subsection (2) does not extend to the making of an order of a kind referred to in subsection (2) (a) or (b) or the amendment of an order in the manner referred to in subsection (2) (c);

- (c) on the Minister to make or determine instruments otherwise than under subsection (3) does not extend to the making or determination of an instrument of a kind referred to in subsection (3) (a) or (b) or the amendment of a management plan in the manner referred to in subsection (3) (c).

(5) If a regulation, order or instrument affecting a fishery that is to be managed by a Joint Authority is expressed to be made under this section, it must be conclusively presumed that it was made for the purpose of giving effect to a decision of the Joint Authority.

## **PART 4 — ADVISORY COMMITTEES**

### ***Division 1 — Rock Lobster Industry Advisory Committee***

#### **Rock Lobster Industry Advisory Committee**

**29.** (1) The Rock Lobster Industry Advisory Committee (in this Division referred to as the “**Advisory Committee**”) previously constituted under the repealed Act is preserved and continued in existence subject to the provisions of this Act.

(2) The Advisory Committee is to consist of 14 members of whom —

- (a) one is to be the Executive Director *ex officio* and one is to be another officer of the Department appointed by the Minister;
- (b) 2 are to be persons appointed by the Minister on the nomination of the body known as the Rock Lobster and Prawning Association of Australia Inc.;
- (c) 8 are to be persons appointed by the Minister in accordance with the prescribed procedure who engage in the commercial fishing of rock lobster;
- (d) one is to be a person appointed by the Minister who engages in the recreational fishing of rock lobster; and
- (e) one is to be a person appointed by the Minister who in the Minister’s opinion —
  - (i) is independent of the Department and of the rock lobster industry; and
  - (ii) has relevant expertise in business management, economics, marketing, fisheries management or fisheries research.

(3) If within 30 days of being requested in writing by the Minister to do so, the body referred to in paragraph (b) of subsection (2) has not made any nomination for appointment required to be made by the body under that paragraph, the Minister may make the appointment at his or her discretion.

(4) A person appointed under subsection (3) is to be taken to have been nominated under the paragraph referred to in that subsection.

### **Functions of Advisory Committee**

**30.** (1) The functions of the Advisory Committee are —

- (a) to identify issues that affect rock lobster fishing;
- (b) to advise the Minister on matters relating to the management, protection and development of rock lobster fisheries; and
- (c) to advise the Minister on matters relating to rock lobster fisheries on which the advice of the Advisory Committee is sought by the Minister.

(2) The Advisory Committee may do all things necessary or convenient to be done for or in connection with the performance of its functions.

### **Chairperson**

**31.** The person appointed under section 29 (2) (e) is to be the chairperson of the Advisory Committee.

### **Constitution and proceedings**

**32.** Schedule 1 has effect with respect to the constitution and proceedings of the Advisory Committee.

***Division 2 — Recreational Fishing Advisory Committee***

**Recreational Fishing Advisory Committee**

**33.** (1) An Advisory Committee to be known as the Recreational Fishing Advisory Committee (in this Division referred to as the “**Advisory Committee**”) is to be established.

(2) The Advisory Committee is to consist of 14 persons of whom —

- (a) one is to be the Executive Director *ex officio* or an officer of the Department nominated by the Executive Director to act in his or her place;
- (b) 6 are to be persons appointed by the Minister in accordance with the prescribed procedure who represent regional recreational fishing interests;
- (c) one is to be a person appointed by the Minister who in the Minister’s opinion represents the recreational fishing media;
- (d) one is to be a person appointed by the Minister who in the Minister’s opinion represents the fishing tackle industry;
- (e) one is to be a person appointed by the Minister on the nomination of the body known as the Western Australian Recreational and Sportfishing Council;
- (f) one is to be a person appointed by the Minister on the nomination of the peak industry body;
- (g) one is to be a person appointed by the Minister who in the Minister’s opinion represents the interests of the community;

- (h) one is to be a person appointed by the Minister who has an interest in recreational fishing issues but who in the Minister's opinion is independent of the Department and has no commercial interest in recreational fishing; and
  - (i) one is to be a person of Aboriginal descent, appointed by the Minister who in the Minister's opinion represents the interests of Aboriginal people.
- (3) If within 30 days of being requested in writing by the Minister to do so, a body referred to in paragraph (e) or (f) of subsection (2) has not made any nomination for appointment required to be made by the body under that paragraph, the Minister may make the appointment at his or her discretion.
- (4) A person appointed under subsection (3) is to be taken to have been nominated under the relevant paragraph referred to in that subsection.

### **Functions of Advisory Committee**

34. (1) The functions of the Advisory Committee are —
- (a) to identify issues that affect recreational fishing;
  - (b) to advise the Minister on issues relating to recreational fishing and the management of recreational fishing;
  - (c) to advise the Minister on recreational fishing funding priorities; and
  - (d) to advise the Minister on any matter related to recreational fishing on which the advice of the Advisory Committee is sought by the Minister.
- (2) The Advisory Committee may do all things necessary or convenient to be done for or in connection with the performance of its functions.

### **Chairperson**

**35.** The person appointed under section 33 (2) (h) is to be the chairperson of the Advisory Committee.

### **Constitution and proceedings**

**36.** Schedule 1 has effect with respect to the constitution and proceedings of the Advisory Committee.

## ***Division 3 — Aquaculture Development Council***

### **Aquaculture Development Council**

**37.** (1) An Advisory Committee to be known as the Aquaculture Development Council (in this Division referred to as the “**Council**”) is to be established.

(2) The Council is to consist of not less than 7 persons and not more than 8 persons of whom —

- (a) one is to be the Executive Director *ex officio* or an officer of the Department nominated by the Executive Director to act in his or her place;
- (b) not less than 3 persons and not more than 4 persons are to be persons appointed by the Minister in accordance with the prescribed procedure who have an interest in the aquaculture industry including at least —
  - (i) one person representing freshwater aquaculture interests; and
  - (ii) one person representing marine aquaculture interests;

- (c) one is to be a person appointed by the Minister who is an officer of the Public Service (other than an officer of the Department);
- (d) one is to be a person appointed by the Minister who has relevant expertise in business or marketing; and
- (e) one is to be a person appointed by the Minister who in the Minister's opinion is independent of the Department and of the aquaculture industry.

### **Functions of Council**

**38.** (1) The functions of the Council are —

- (a) to identify issues that affect aquaculture;
- (b) to advise the Minister on issues relating to aquaculture and the management of aquaculture; and
- (c) to advise the Minister on any matter related to aquaculture on which the advice of the Council is sought by the Minister.

(2) The Council may do all things necessary or convenient to be done for or in connection with the performance of its functions.

### **Chairperson**

**39.** The Minister is to appoint a member of the Council to be the chairperson of the Council.

### **Constitution and proceedings**

**40.** Schedule 1 has effect with respect to the constitution and proceedings of the Council.



***Division 4 — Fishery Management Advisory Committees***

**Fishery Management Advisory Committees**

41. (1) The Minister may, by instrument in writing, establish an advisory committee for a fishery consisting of such persons as the Minister thinks fit.

(2) The function of an advisory committee is to provide information and advice to the Minister on matters related to the protection and management of the fishery.

(3) The instrument establishing an advisory committee —

- (a) must identify the fishery for which the committee is established and the members of the committee;
- (b) may provide for any other matter that, in the Minister's opinion, is necessary for the operation of the committee.

(4) The Minister may, by further instrument in writing, amend or revoke an instrument made under this section.

(5) An advisory committee may be established under this section for a fishery whether or not a management plan is in force in respect of that fishery.

***Division 5 — Other Committees***

**Other Committees**

42. (1) The Minister may, by instrument in writing, establish other advisory committees, consisting of such persons as the Minister thinks fit, to provide information and advice to the Minister on matters related to the administration of this Act.

- (2) The instrument establishing an advisory committee —
  - (a) must specify the functions, and identify the members, of the committee;
  - (b) may provide for any other matter that, in the Minister's opinion, is necessary for the operation of the committee.
- (3) The Minister may, by further instrument in writing, amend or revoke an instrument made under this section.

## **PART 5 — GENERAL REGULATION OF FISHING**

### ***Division 1 — Prohibited Fishing***

#### **Order may prohibit fishing**

**43.** (1) The Minister may, by order published in the *Gazette*, prohibit persons or any specified class of persons from engaging in any fishing activity of a specified class.

(2) An order may prohibit a fishing activity at all times or during any specified period.

(3) A person must not —

- (a) contravene a provision of an order;
- (b) have in the person's possession any fish taken in contravention of an order; or
- (c) have in the person's possession any fishing gear intended to be used to engage in an activity that the person is prohibited from engaging in by an order.

**Penalty:** As provided in sections 52 and 222.

(4) It is a defence in proceedings for an offence against subsection (3) (b) for the person charged to prove that the person did not know, and could not reasonably be expected to have known, that the fish had been taken in contravention of an order.

(5) The Minister may, by further order published in the *Gazette*, amend or revoke an order made under this section.

**Orders subject to tabling, disallowance etc.**

**44.** (1) An order made under this Division is “subsidiary legislation” for the purposes of the *Interpretation Act 1984*.

(2) Section 42 of the *Interpretation Act 1984* applies to and in relation to an order made under this Division as if the order were a regulation.

***Division 2 — Protected Fish*****Class of fish may be prescribed to be protected fish**

**45.** (1) A class of fish may be prescribed to be —

- (a) totally protected fish; or
- (b) commercially protected fish,

for the purposes of this Act.

(2) A class of fish may be defined for the purposes of subsection (1) by reference to all or any of the following —

- (a) a species or type of fish;
- (b) a description of fish by reference to sex, size, weight, reproductive cycle or any other characteristic;
- (c) an area of land or waters from which the fish are taken;
- (d) a period of time during which the fish is taken;
- (e) any other factor.

**Totally protected fish**

**46.** A person must not —

- (a) take;
- (b) have in the person's possession;
- (c) sell or purchase;
- (d) consign; or
- (e) bring into the State or into WA waters,

any totally protected fish.

Penalty: As provided in sections 52 and 222.

**Commercially protected fish**

**47.** A person must not —

- (a) take for the purpose of sale;
- (b) have in the person's possession for the purpose of sale;
- (c) process for the purpose of sale;
- (d) consign; or
- (e) sell or purchase,

any commercially protected fish.

Penalty: As provided in sections 52 and 222.

**Defences**

**48.** It is a defence in proceedings for an offence against section 46 or 47 for the person charged to prove —

- (a) in the case of an offence relating to the taking of protected fish, that on becoming aware of the taking of the fish, the person took immediate steps to return the fish to its natural environment with the least possible injury;
- (b) that the fish were of a prescribed class and were being, or had been, kept, bred, cultured or hatched in accordance with an aquaculture licence; or
- (c) that the person has any other defence prescribed in the regulations.

**Mutilation of fish to prevent determination prohibited**

**49.** A person must not alter, mutilate or disfigure any fish with the intention of preventing the determination of whether or not that fish is a protected fish.

Penalty: In the case of an individual, \$10 000 and imprisonment for 6 months or, in the case of a body corporate, \$20 000.

***Division 3 — Bag and Possession Limits*****Bag limits — taking of fish**

**50.** (1) In this section, “**one day**” means a period of 24 hours commencing at midnight or, in relation to a bag limit for which a different period is provided by the regulations under subsection (6), such period as is provided.

(2) The regulations may specify the maximum quantity of fish of a specified class that a person may take, or bring onto land or into WA waters, in one day (the **“bag limit”**).

(3) A person must not take, or bring onto land or into WA waters, on any one day more fish than the bag limit of those fish.

Penalty: As provided in sections 52 and 222.

(4) It is a defence in proceedings for an offence against subsection (3) for the person charged to prove that —

- (a) the fish were taken for a commercial purpose by a person in accordance with an authorization;
- (b) the fish were kept, bred, hatched or cultured by the person in accordance with an aquaculture licence; or
- (c) the person has any other defence prescribed in the regulations.

(5) The regulations may specify different bag limits for different areas of the State or different classes of persons.

(6) The regulations may provide that a bag limit applies to a period of 24 hours commencing at a time other than midnight.

(7) This section does not authorize the taking of fish or the bringing of fish onto land or into WA waters in contravention of any other provision of this Act.

### **Possession limits — possession of fish**

51. (1) The regulations may specify the maximum quantity of fish of a specified class that a person may have in possession in specified circumstances (the **“possession limit”**).

(2) A person must not have in the person's possession in any such circumstances more than the possession limit of those fish.

Penalty: As provided in sections 52 and 222.

(3) Subsection (2) applies irrespective of the period over which the fish were taken.

(4) It is a defence in proceedings for an offence against subsection (2) for the person charged to prove that —

- (a) the fish were taken for a commercial purpose by a person in accordance with an authorization;
- (b) the fish were kept, bred, hatched or cultured by the person in accordance with an aquaculture licence; or
- (c) the person has any other defence prescribed in the regulations.

(5) The regulations may specify different possession limits for different areas of the State or different classes of persons.

(6) This section does not authorize the possession of fish in contravention of any other provision of this Act.

#### ***Division 4 — General Penalty***

##### **General penalty**

**52.** (1) The general penalty for contravention of section 43 (3), 46, 47, 50 (3) or 51 (2) is —

- (a) for a first offence against that section —
  - (i) if the offence relates to category 1 fish, in the case of an individual, to a fine not exceeding \$5 000 or, in the case of a body corporate, to a fine not exceeding \$10 000;
  - (ii) if the offence relates to category 2 fish, in the case of an individual, to a fine not exceeding \$3 000 or, in the case of a body corporate, to a fine not exceeding \$6 000;



- (iii) if the offence relates to category 3 fish, in the case of an individual, to a fine not exceeding \$2 000 or, in the case of a body corporate, to a fine not exceeding \$4 000; or
- (iv) in any other case, in the case of an individual, to a fine not exceeding \$1 000 or, in the case of a body corporate, to a fine not exceeding \$2 000;

and

- (b) for a second or subsequent offence against that section —

- (i) if the offence relates to category 1 fish, in the case of an individual, to a fine not exceeding \$10 000 or, in the case of a body corporate, to a fine not exceeding \$20 000;
- (ii) if the offence relates to category 2 fish, in the case of an individual, to a fine not exceeding \$6 000 or, in the case of a body corporate, to a fine not exceeding \$12 000;
- (iii) if the offence relates to category 3 fish, in the case of an individual, to a fine not exceeding \$4 000 or, in the case of a body corporate, to a fine not exceeding \$8 000; or
- (iv) in any other case, in the case of an individual, to a fine not exceeding \$2 000 or, in the case of a body corporate, to a fine not exceeding \$4 000.

- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1) —

- (a) if an offence relates to more than one category of fish, then the relevant subparagraph that applies under subsection (1) (a) or (1) (b) is the subparagraph with the higher penalty;
- (b) if it is not possible to determine the fish to which an offence relates, then subsection (1) (a) (iv) or (1) (b) (iv) (as the case requires) applies.

**PART 6 — MANAGEMENT OF FISHERIES*****Division 1 — Interpretation*****Meaning of “authorization” in this Part**

**53.** In this Part, “authorization” means —

- (a) in relation to a managed fishery, a managed fishery licence; or
- (b) in relation to an interim managed fishery, an interim managed fishery permit.

***Division 2 — Management Plans*****Determination of management plan**

**54.** (1) The Minister may, by instrument in writing published in the *Gazette*, determine a management plan for a fishery.

(2) The Minister may, by further instrument in writing published in the *Gazette*, amend or revoke a management plan.

**Instruments subject to tabling, disallowance etc.**

**55.** (1) An instrument under section 54 that determines, amends or revokes a management plan is “subsidiary legislation” for the purposes of the *Interpretation Act 1984*.

(2) Section 42 of the *Interpretation Act 1984* applies to and in relation to an instrument referred to in subsection (1) as if the instrument were a regulation.

**General contents**

**56.** (1) A management plan must —

- (a) identify the fishery to which it relates; and
- (b) declare the fishery to be either —
  - (i) a managed fishery; or
  - (ii) an interim managed fishery.

(2) A management plan declaring a fishery to be an interim managed fishery may further classify the fishery as a developmental fishery.

(3) A management plan may include any provision that, in the Minister's opinion, is necessary for the protection or management of the fishery or any part of the fishery.

**Expiry date**

**57.** (1) A management plan for an interim managed fishery may provide that the plan only has effect for a specified period.

(2) Subsection (1) does not limit the Minister's power to revoke a management plan.

**Management plan — authorizations**

**58.** (1) Without limiting section 56 (3), a management plan may prohibit a person from engaging in fishing or any fishing activity of a specified class in the fishery or any part of the fishery otherwise than in accordance with an authorization.

(2) The management plan may —

- (a) provide for different classes of authorizations;

- (b) restrict the number of authorizations that can be granted or provide that no further authorizations can be granted;
- (c) specify criteria to be satisfied before the Executive Director can grant an authorization;
- (d) specify a procedure for determining which persons are to be granted authorizations if the number of eligible persons seeking an authorization exceeds the number of authorizations that can be granted;
- (e) provide for the submission and consideration of objections to the grant of authorizations;
- (f) provide for specified things to be endorsed on authorizations;
- (g) specify conditions to which authorizations are subject;
- (h) specify grounds on which the Executive Director may cancel, suspend or refuse to renew an authorization (in addition to those already specified in section 143 (1) (a) to (g));
- (i) specify a period for which an authorization remains in force after it has been granted or renewed;
- (j) specify criteria to be satisfied before the Executive Director can vary an authorization on the application of the holder of the authorization;
- (k) specify grounds on which the Executive Director may refuse to transfer an authorization or any part of an entitlement under an authorization;
- (l) prescribe fees payable in respect of applications for —
  - (i) the grant, renewal and variation of authorizations; or

- (ii) the transfer of authorizations or entitlements under authorizations;
- (m) prescribe fees payable for the issue of authorizations.

**Management plan — capacity of fishery**

**59.** (1) Without limiting section 56 (3), a management plan may specify the capacity of the fishery or any part of the fishery.

(2) The capacity may be specified by reference to —

- (a) a quantity of fish that may be taken;
- (b) a quantity of fishing gear that may be used;
- (c) a number of boats that may be used;
- (d) a number of persons who may engage in fishing; or
- (e) any other thing.

(3) The capacity is to be determined in accordance with the method specified in the management plan or prescribed in the regulations.

**Management plan — entitlements**

**60.** (1) Without limiting section 56 (3), a management plan may provide for a scheme relating to the extent of the entitlements conferred by authorizations in respect of the fishery or any part of the fishery.

(2) The management plan may —

- (a) specify the way in which entitlements are to be fixed and allocated;

- (b) provide for all or any of the entitlement to be specified in an authorization;
- (c) provide for entitlements to be expressed in terms of units (however described) and from time to time specify the extent of the entitlement arising from such units;
- (d) suspend entitlements during a specified period;
- (e) provide for entitlements to be increased or reduced;
- (f) provide for the conversion of one kind of entitlement into another kind of entitlement;
- (g) prohibit a person from doing any thing in excess of an entitlement;
- (h) authorize the temporary transfer of entitlements (either generally or only in specified circumstances);
- (i) specify —
  - (i) the criteria that a person must satisfy before the person can buy any forfeited entitlement under section 76 (4); and
  - (ii) the way in which any forfeited entitlement may be sold under that section.

### **Management plan — prohibited fishing in fishery**

**61.** (1) Without limiting section 56 (3), a management plan may —

- (a) prohibit all fishing activities in the fishery or in any part of the fishery during any specified period;

- (b) prohibit any fishing activity of a specified class in the fishery or in any part of the fishery (either at all times or during any specified period);
- (c) authorize the Executive Director by a specified method and in specified circumstances —
  - (i) to prohibit all fishing activities or any fishing activity of a specified class in the fishery or in any part of the fishery; or
  - (ii) to permit in the fishery or in any part of the fishery, until the Executive Director directs otherwise, fishing or any fishing activity of a specified class that is otherwise prohibited.

(2) Nothing in this section derogates from the power to prohibit any fishing activity of a specified class under section 43.

### **Management plan — miscellaneous**

**62.** Without limiting section 56 (3), a management plan may —

- (a) regulate fishing in the fishery, or the possession of fish taken in the fishery;
- (b) prohibit or regulate the use of any boat, vehicle or aircraft in the fishery or require the registration, marking or identification of boats, vehicles or aircraft, used in the fishery;
- (c) prohibit or regulate the carrying or use of specified fishing gear in the fishery;
- (d) provide for the registration or identification of fishing gear used in the fishery;
- (e) require specified gear or equipment to be installed in or carried or used on boats used in the fishery;

- (f) require persons engaged in fishing in the fishery to participate in research programmes and to carry scientific equipment;
- (g) require persons engaged in fishing in the fishery to carry observers or research personnel for the purposes of research, monitoring or compliance programmes;
- (h) provide for and regulate the identification of fish (whether taken in the fishery or otherwise) by tagging, marking or other specified means;
- (i) regulate the checking, measuring, grading, counting or weighing of fish taken in the fishery;
- (j) prohibit the purchase or sale of fish taken or dealt with in contravention of the management plan;
- (k) specify requirements relating to any bycatch of fish in the fishery;
- (l) require the holder of an authorization to nominate —
  - (i) an area (being one of the areas specified in the management plan for the purposes of this paragraph); or
  - (ii) a period (being one of the periods specified in the management plan for the purposes of this paragraph),  
  
within or during which fish will be taken, or any boat will be used, under the authorization;
- (m) require the holder of an authorization to nominate a port, place or area (being a port, place or area specified in the management plan) within or at which fish taken under the authorization will be unloaded;



- (n) prohibit fish taken under an authorization from being unloaded outside the port, place or area nominated by the holder of the authorization;
- (o) prohibit more than a specified number of persons from operating under an authorization and specifying the respective functions that may be performed by each person;
- (p) impose other obligations on the holders of authorizations, persons acting on behalf of such holders or masters of boats;
- (q) require specified records to be kept, and specified returns to be submitted at specified times, by —
  - (i) persons acting under the authority of authorizations; or
  - (ii) other persons who handle, unload, land, store, pack, consign, transport, process, sell or purchase fish (whether taken in the fishery or otherwise);
- (r) prohibit a person from making an entry or statement that is false or misleading in a material particular in a record or return required to be kept or submitted under a management plan;
- (s) require persons to report to the Executive Director or to a fisheries officer (whether by radio or otherwise) the position of any boat, the landing of any fish or any other matter;
- (t) require each fishing operation in the fishery to be under the control of a natural person, who is the holder of the authorization or a person nominated by the holder;
- (u) prohibit or regulate the handling, transfer, landing, unloading, storage, packaging, labelling, transport, delivery, consigning, processing, sale or purchase of fish (whether taken in the fishery or otherwise).

**How an interim managed fishery becomes a managed fishery**

**63.** An interim managed fishery can only become a managed fishery by a new management plan being determined for the fishery and the fishery being declared by that plan to be a managed fishery.

***Division 3 — Procedure before determining or amending Management Plans*****Procedure before determining management plan**

**64.** (1) Before determining a management plan for a managed fishery under section 54 (1) the Minister must —

(a) consult with —

(i) any advisory committee established in respect of the fishery; and

(ii) such other advisory committees or persons, if any, as the Minister thinks appropriate;

and

(b) consider any representations made under subsection (3).

(2) The Minister must, not less than 2 months before determining a management plan for a managed fishery under section 54 (1), prepare a draft of the plan and by notice in the *Gazette* —

(a) state that the Minister intends to determine a management plan for the fishery;

(b) invite interested persons who wish to comment on the draft plan to make representations to the Minister by a date specified in the notice; and

- (c) specify an address from which copies of the draft plan may be obtained and an address to which representations may be forwarded.

(3) A person may, not later than the date specified in the notice, make representations to the Minister in connection with the draft plan.

### **Procedure before amending management plan**

**65.** (1) A management plan must specify an advisory committee or advisory committees or a person or persons who are to be consulted before the plan is amended or revoked.

(2) Before amending or revoking a management plan the Minister must consult with the advisory committee or advisory committees or the person or persons specified for that purpose in the plan.

(3) Despite subsection (2), the Minister may amend a management plan without consulting in accordance with that subsection if, in the Minister's opinion, the amendment is —

- (a) required urgently; or
  - (b) of a minor nature.
- (4) If —
- (a) the Minister amends a management plan; and
  - (b) the amendment is made without consultation because it is, in the Minister's opinion, required urgently,

the Minister must consult with the advisory committee or advisory committees or the person or persons specified for that purpose in the plan as soon as practicable after the plan has been amended.

***Division 4 — Managed fishery licences and interim managed fishery permits***

**Grant of managed fishery licences and interim managed fishery permits**

**66.** (1) If a person applies to the Executive Director for the grant of an authorization and —

- (a) the Executive Director is satisfied that the criteria specified in the relevant management plan for the grant of the authorization have been satisfied; and
- (b) if a procedure is specified in the plan for determining which persons are to be granted authorizations, the person is selected in accordance with that procedure,

the Executive Director may grant to the person an authorization.

(2) An authorization may authorize a person, or persons acting on that person's behalf, to engage in fishing or any fishing activity of a specified class in a managed fishery or an interim managed fishery (as the case requires).

(3) The entitlement a person has under an authorization may be limited by reference to all or any of the following —

- (a) a quantity of fish that may be taken;
- (b) a quantity of fishing gear that may be used or carried;
- (c) a boat, vehicle or aircraft, or a number of boats, vehicles or aircraft, or a class or length of boat, vehicle or aircraft, that may be used;
- (d) a number of persons that may operate;
- (e) an area of land or waters;

- (f) a period of time;
- (g) any other factor.

(4) For the purposes of subsection (3), the extent of an entitlement under an authorization may be expressed in terms of units of entitlement defined in the management plan.

### **Duration of licences and permits**

**67.** Except as otherwise provided in this Act or in the authorization, an authorization remains in force for 12 months, or such other period as is specified in the relevant management plan, from the day on which it is granted or renewed.

### **Renewal of licences and permits**

**68.** If a person applies to the Executive Director for the renewal of an authorization, the Executive Director is, subject to section 143, to renew the authorization.

### **Conditions**

**69.** (1) An authorization is subject to —

- (a) any conditions specified in the relevant management plan; and
- (b) any conditions imposed by the Executive Director under this section.

(2) An authorization may be granted, renewed or transferred subject to such conditions as the Executive Director thinks fit and specifies in the authorization.

(3) The Executive Director may, at any time, by notice in writing given to the holder of an authorization, delete or vary conditions of the authorization or add new conditions to the authorization.

(4) Subsection (3) does not apply to conditions specified in the management plan.

**Authorization ceases to have effect if management plan ceases to have effect****70. If —**

- (a) a management plan for a managed fishery is revoked;  
or
- (b) a management plan for an interim managed fishery is revoked or expires,

any authorization in force in respect of the fishery ceases to have effect.

**Prior fishing confers no right to authorization**

**71. (1)** The fact that a person engaged in fishing, or used any boat for fishing, in a fishery before a management plan was determined for the fishery is not to be taken as conferring upon that person any right to the grant of an authorization if a management plan is determined for that fishery.

(2) Despite subsection (1), the Executive Director is to take into account a person's past history of fishing in a fishery when determining whether or not to grant the person an authorization.

**Grant of authorization confers no right to subsequent authorization**

**72. (1)** The grant of an authorization to any person is not to be taken as conferring on that person any right to the grant of another authorization if a subsequent management plan is determined for the fishery.

(2) Despite subsection (1), the Executive Director is to take into account the fact that a person held an authorization when determining whether or not to grant the person another authorization.

**Other licences do not authorize fishing in fishery**

**73.** A commercial fishing licence, fishing boat licence or any other licence granted under the regulations does not authorize a person to use a boat for fishing or engage in a fishing activity in a managed fishery or an interim managed fishery.

***Division 5 — Offences***

**Contravention of management plan**

**74.** A person must not contravene a provision of a management plan, being a provision the contravention of which is specified in the plan to be an offence.

Penalty: As provided in sections 75 and 222.

**General penalty**

**75. (1)** The general penalty for a contravention of section 74 is —

- (a) if the provision of the management plan that is contravened is designated in the plan as a major provision —
  - (i) for a first offence against that section, in the case of an individual, to a fine not exceeding \$25 000 and imprisonment for 1 year or, in the case of a body corporate, to a fine not exceeding \$50 000; or
  - (ii) for a second or subsequent offence against that section, in the case of an individual, to a fine not exceeding \$50 000 and imprisonment for 2 years or, in the case of a body corporate, to a fine not exceeding \$100 000;

(b) in any other case —

- (i) for a first offence against that section, in the case of an individual, to a fine not exceeding \$10 000 or, in the case of a body corporate, to a fine not exceeding \$20 000; or
- (ii) for a second or subsequent offence against that section, in the case of an individual, to a fine not exceeding \$20 000 or, in the case of a body corporate, to a fine not exceeding \$40 000.

(2) A provision may be designated in a management plan as a major provision for the purposes of this section by reference to the circumstances in which the provision is contravened.

**Court to order reduction of entitlement in certain circumstances**

**76.** (1) This section applies to an entitlement limited by reference to —

- (a) a quantity of fish that may be taken;
- (b) a quantity of fishing gear that may be used or carried;  
or
- (c) a period of time that a person may engage in fishing.

(2) If a court convicts a person of an offence against section 74 and the court is satisfied that —

- (a) the person —
  - (i) has exceeded an entitlement; or
  - (ii) has done anything in order to exceed an entitlement or in order to conceal the fact that an entitlement had been exceeded;

and



- (b) the amount by which the entitlement was exceeded or was to be exceeded can be ascertained by the court,

the court must order that the entitlement be reduced by that amount.

- (3) For the purposes of subsection (2), if —

- (a) the entitlement was defined by reference to a number of units; and
- (b) the amount by which the entitlement was exceeded or was to be exceeded is not an exact unit,

the court is to round the amount up or down (as the case may be) to the nearest unit.

- (4) If the court orders the reduction of an entitlement under subsection (2) —

- (a) the Executive Director must reduce the entitlement accordingly; and
- (b) the Executive Director may sell the forfeited entitlement —
  - (i) to any person who satisfies the criteria specified in the relevant management plan; and
  - (ii) in the way specified in the management plan.

### **Contravention of condition of licence or permit**

**77.** A person must not contravene a condition of —

- (a) a managed fishery licence; or
- (b) an interim managed fishery permit.

**Penalty:** As provided in sections 78 and 222.

**General penalty**

**78.** The general penalty for contravention of section 77 is —

- (a) for a first offence against that section, in the case of an individual, to a fine not exceeding \$10 000 or, in the case of a body corporate, to a fine not exceeding \$20 000; or
- (b) for a second or subsequent offence against that section, in the case of an individual, to a fine not exceeding \$20 000 or, in the case of a body corporate, to a fine not exceeding \$40 000.

**PART 7 — FISH PROCESSING**

**Fish processing establishment not to be established without permit**

**79.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), a person must not —

- (a) construct any place for the purpose of using the place to process fish for a commercial purpose; or
- (b) establish any plant or facilities in or on any place for the purpose of enabling the use of the place to process fish for a commercial purpose,

unless the person is authorized to do so by a permit granted by the Executive Director under section 80.

**Penalty:** In the case of an individual, \$20 000 and a daily penalty of \$750 or, in the case of a body corporate, \$40 000 and a daily penalty of \$1 500.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply to a place that is to be used —

- (a) to process fish that are to be sold by retail to the public, or served as meals to the public, in, on or from the place; or
- (b) to process fish that have been kept, bred, hatched or cultured in or on the place in accordance with an aquaculture licence.

(3) The regulations may limit the circumstances in which subsection (2) applies.

**Grant of permit**

**80.** (1) If a person applies to the Executive Director for a permit and the Executive Director is satisfied that —

- (a) the person is a fit and proper person to hold such a permit;
- (b) the person intends to process fish for a commercial purpose in or on the place;
- (c) the person appears likely to satisfy the criteria for the grant of a fish processor's licence;
- (d) it is in the better interests of the fishing industry to grant the permit having regard to —
  - (i) the number of establishments in respect of which permits or fish processor's licences have already been granted or sought;
  - (ii) the size and nature of those establishments; and
  - (iii) such other matters as the Executive Director thinks fit;

and

- (e) the construction or modification (as the case may be) and the use of the place has been approved by other relevant authorities,

the Executive Director may grant to the person a permit.

(2) The permit may authorize the person, or persons acting on that person's behalf, to construct the place or to modify the place for the purpose of enabling the use of the place to process fish for a commercial purpose.

**Conditions**

81. (1) A permit under section 80 is subject to —
- (a) any prescribed conditions; and
  - (b) any conditions imposed by the Executive Director under this section.
- (2) A permit may be granted or transferred subject to such conditions as the Executive Director thinks fit and specifies in the permit.
- (3) The Executive Director may, at any time, by notice in writing given to a permit holder, delete or vary conditions of the permit or add new conditions to the permit.
- (4) Subsection (3) does not apply to prescribed conditions.

**Fish processor to be licensed**

82. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), a person must not process fish for a commercial purpose unless the person is authorized to do so by a fish processor's licence.

Penalty: In the case of an individual, \$20 000, a daily penalty of \$750 and the penalty provided in section 222 or, in the case of a body corporate, \$40 000, a daily penalty of \$1 500 and the penalty provided in section 222.

- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply to the processing of fish, other than fish of a prescribed class —
- (a) on any boat if the fish have been taken by the use of that boat;
  - (b) at any place for the purpose of the fish being sold by retail to the public, or served as meals to the public, in, on or from the place; or
  - (c) in or on any land or premises if the fish have been kept, bred, hatched or cultured in or on the land or premises in accordance with an aquaculture licence.

**Grant of fish processor's licence**

**83.** (1) If a person applies to the Executive Director for the grant of a fish processor's licence and the Executive Director is satisfied that —

- (a) the person is a fit and proper person to hold such a licence;
- (b) the person has been granted a permit under section 80 and has complied with the conditions of the permit; and
- (c) it is in the better interests of the fishing industry to grant the licence,

the Executive Director may grant to the person a fish processor's licence authorizing that person, or persons acting on that person's behalf, to process fish for a commercial purpose.

(2) The Executive Director must specify in the licence the place at which fish may be processed under the licence.

(3) If —

- (a) fish of a prescribed class are to be stored by or on behalf of the licence holder before processing; and
- (b) the fish are to be stored at a place other than the place referred to in subsection (2),

the Executive Director may specify in the licence the place or places at which such fish may be stored before processing.

**Duration of licence**

**84.** Except as otherwise provided in this Act or in the licence, a fish processor's licence remains in force for a period of 12 months from the day on which it is granted or renewed.

### **Renewal of licence**

**85.** If a person applies to the Executive Director for the renewal of a fish processor's licence, the Executive Director is, subject to section 143, to renew the licence.

### **Fish must not be processed or stored except at place specified in licence**

**86.** The holder of a fish processor's licence must not —

- (a) process fish for a commercial purpose at a place other than the place specified for that purpose in the licence; or
- (b) store fish of a prescribed class that are to be processed under the licence at a place other than —
  - (i) the place at which the fish are to be processed under the licence; or
  - (ii) any place specified for that purpose in the licence under section 83 (3).

**Penalty:** In the case of an individual, \$20 000 and the penalty provided in section 222 or, in the case of a body corporate, \$40 000 and the penalty provided in section 222.

### **Conditions**

**87.** (1) It is a condition of a fish processor's licence that the place specified in the licence under section 83 (2) must not be modified or altered without the prior written approval of the Executive Director.

(2) In addition to the condition referred to in subsection (1), a licence is subject to —

- (a) any prescribed conditions; and
- (b) any conditions imposed by the Executive Director under this section.

(3) A licence may be granted, renewed or transferred subject to such conditions as the Executive Director thinks fit and specifies in the licence.

(4) The Executive Director may, at any time, by notice in writing given to a licence holder, delete or vary conditions of the licence or add new conditions to the licence.

(5) Subsection (4) does not apply to the condition referred to in subsection (1) or prescribed conditions.

### **Contravention of condition of permit or licence**

**88.** A person must not contravene a condition of —

- (a) a permit under section 80; or
- (b) a fish processor's licence.

**Penalty:** In the case of an individual, \$20 000 and the penalty provided in section 222 or, in the case of a body corporate, \$40 000 and the penalty provided in section 222 .

### **Regulations relating to fish processing**

**89.** (1) The regulations may —

- (a) regulate the processing of fish;
- (b) regulate the storage of fish for the purposes of processing;
- (c) require persons who process fish or store fish for the purposes of processing to —
  - (i) keep specified records; and
  - (ii) submit specified returns at specified times.

(2) Subsection (1) applies to the processing of fish whether the processing is for a commercial purpose or otherwise.



## **PART 8 — AQUACULTURE**

### **Persons engaging in aquaculture and related activities to be licensed**

**90.** Except as provided in section 91, a person must not —

- (a) engage in aquaculture;
- (b) if the person is the owner or occupier of private land, sell fish in, or taken from, waters on that land;
- (c) receive or purchase, for the purpose of sale or resale, from the owner or occupier of private land, fish in, or taken from, waters on that land; or
- (d) if the person is not the owner or occupier of private land, take fish from waters on that land for the purpose of sale,

unless the person is authorized to do so by an aquaculture licence.

Penalty: In the case of an individual, for a first offence \$5 000 and for any subsequent offence \$10 000 or, in the case of a body corporate, for a first offence \$10 000 and for any subsequent offence \$20 000.

### **Exceptions**

**91.** Section 90 does not apply to or in relation to any person by reason only of the person —

- (a) keeping, breeding, hatching, culturing or selling any fish of a prescribed class, for a prescribed purpose or in a prescribed area;

- (b) keeping any fish at a place specified in a fish processor's licence under section 83 (2) for the purpose of processing the fish in accordance with the licence;
- (c) keeping any fish in or on any premises for the purpose of serving the fish as meals to the public, or otherwise for the purpose of consumption, in or on those premises; or
- (d) selling any fish of a prescribed class in, or taken from, a dam or lake on private land in a prescribed area if —
  - (i) the person is the owner or occupier of the land; and
  - (ii) the fish are sold to a person who is authorized by an aquaculture licence to purchase the fish.

### **Grant of aquaculture licence**

**92.** (1) If a person applies to the Executive Director for the grant of an aquaculture licence and the Executive Director is satisfied that —

- (a) the person is a fit and proper person to hold such a licence;
- (b) it is in the better interests of the aquaculture industry to grant the licence;
- (c) the activities to be conducted under the licence are unlikely to adversely affect other fish or the aquatic environment; and
- (d) the activities to be conducted under the licence have been approved by other relevant authorities,

the Executive Director may grant to the person an aquaculture licence.

(2) The licence may authorize the person, or persons acting on that person's behalf, to engage in an activity referred to in section 90.

(3) The Executive Director may seek the advice of such authority or authorities as the Executive Director thinks fit in order to determine whether or not subsection (1) (c) is satisfied.

(4) A licence must not be granted authorizing a person to engage in aquaculture in an area in a marine nature reserve.

### **Duration of licence**

**93.** Except as otherwise provided in this Act or in the licence, an aquaculture licence remains in force for a period of 12 months from the day on which it is granted or renewed.

### **Renewal of licence**

**94.** If a person applies to the Executive Director for the renewal of an aquaculture licence, the Executive Director is, subject to section 143, to renew the licence.

### **Conditions**

**95.** (1) An aquaculture licence is subject to —

- (a) any prescribed conditions; and
- (b) any conditions imposed by the Executive Director under this section.

(2) A licence may be granted, renewed or transferred subject to such conditions as the Executive Director thinks fit and specifies in the licence.

(3) The Executive Director may, at any time, by notice in writing given to a licence holder, delete or vary any conditions of the licence or add new conditions to the licence.

(4) Subsection (3) does not apply to prescribed conditions.

### **Contravention of condition of licence**

**96.** A person must not contravene a condition of an aquaculture licence.

Penalty: In the case of an individual, for a first offence \$5 000 and for any subsequent offence \$10 000 or, in the case of a body corporate, for a first offence \$10 000 and for any subsequent offence \$20 000.

### **Grant of aquaculture leases**

**97.** (1) The Minister may grant to any person a lease authorizing that person, or persons acting on that person's behalf, to occupy or use an area of land or waters for the purposes of aquaculture.

(2) A lease must specify the species of fish authorized to be kept, bred, hatched or cultured under the lease.

(3) Subject to the provisions of this Act and the lease, a lease vests in the lessee —

(a) the exclusive right during the currency of the lease —

(i) to keep, breed, hatch and culture the species of fish within the leased area; and

(ii) to take the species of fish from the leased area; and

(b) the ownership of all fish specified in the lease that are within the leased area.

(4) A lease may be —

- (a) granted for an initial term not exceeding 21 years; and
- (b) renewed by the Minister from time to time for any further period or periods not exceeding 21 years in each case.

(5) A lease may be granted or renewed subject to such terms, covenants and conditions as the Minister thinks fit.

(6) Without limiting subsection (5), a lease may be subject to a condition requiring the payment of —

- (a) any rent or other fee to the Minister; or
- (b) any security for the observance of any terms, covenants, restrictions or conditions of the lease.

(7) A lease may be varied in the manner provided in the lease.

(8) The Minister may only grant a lease under this section in respect of an area of land and waters vested in the Minister for that purpose or an area of coastal waters.

(9) If the Minister grants a lease under this section, the Minister is to cause notice of the grant to be published in the *Gazette*.

### **Lease not to be granted in marine nature reserve**

**98.** An aquaculture lease must not be granted in respect of an area in a marine nature reserve.

**Aquaculture licence required in connection with lease**

**99.** (1) An aquaculture lease does not authorize the use of the lease without an aquaculture licence.

(2) If an aquaculture licence authorizing the activity being carried out in the leased area is cancelled or not renewed the lease is, by virtue of this subsection, terminated.

(3) If an aquaculture lease is terminated or expires an aquaculture licence authorizing the activity being carried out in the leased area is, by virtue of this subsection, cancelled.

**Termination of lease**

**100.** (1) The Minister may, by notice in writing given to the lessee, terminate the lease if, in the Minister's opinion, the leased area —

- (a) is no longer being used for the purposes for which the lease was granted; or
- (b) is being used for purposes other than the purposes for which the lease was granted.

(2) A lease may be terminated on any other grounds provided in the lease and in the manner provided in the lease.

(3) If —

- (a) a lease is terminated or expires; and
- (b) any structure, equipment or fish has not been removed from the leased area within 3 months from the day on which the lease was terminated or expired,

the structure, equipment or fish is, by virtue of this section, forfeited to the Crown.

**Prerequisite to grant of lease**

**101.** (1) The Minister must not grant an aquaculture lease unless —

- (a) no notice of objection has been lodged under section 166; or
- (b) the responsible Minister, as defined in section 163, has given his or her advice or recommendation under section 168 to the Minister.

(2) In considering an application for an aquaculture lease the Minister must give due weight to, but is not bound to accept, any recommendation or advice of the responsible Minister under section 168.

**Regulations relating to aquaculture**

**102.** The regulations may —

- (a) regulate aquaculture;
- (b) regulate any activity involving fish that have been produced by means of aquaculture or species of fish that are used for aquaculture;
- (c) provide for matters relating to aquaculture leases;
- (d) require persons who engage in aquaculture or the purchase or sale of fish that have been produced by means of aquaculture or species of fish that are used for aquaculture to —
  - (i) keep specified records; and
  - (ii) submit specified returns at specified times.

## **PART 9 — NOXIOUS FISH**

### **Species of fish may be prescribed to be noxious fish**

**103.** (1) A species of fish may be prescribed to be noxious fish for the purposes of this Act.

(2) A species of fish may be prescribed to be noxious fish under subsection (1) either generally or only in any specified area or areas.

### **Noxious fish not be kept etc.**

**104.** A person must not, in an area where the fish is prescribed to be a noxious fish —

- (a) keep, breed, hatch or culture any noxious fish;
- (b) have in the person's possession any noxious fish;
- (c) consign or convey any noxious fish;
- (d) release any noxious fish into any waters; or
- (e) put any noxious fish into a container or receptacle in which it might remain alive.

**Penalty:** In the case of an individual, for a first offence \$10 000 and for any subsequent offence \$20 000 or, in the case of a body corporate, for a first offence \$20 000 and for any subsequent offence \$40 000.

### **Noxious fish not to be brought into the State etc.**

**105.** A person must not bring any fish —

- (a) into the State if the fish is prescribed to be a noxious fish in the State or in any area of the State; or



- (b) into an area of the State from another area of the State if the fish is prescribed to be a noxious fish in the first-mentioned area.

Penalty: In the case of an individual, for a first offence \$10 000 and for any subsequent offence \$20 000 or, in the case of a body corporate, for a first offence \$20 000 and for any subsequent offence \$40 000.

### **Requirements relating to noxious fish**

**106.** (1) A fisheries officer may, by notice in writing served on a person, require the person —

- (a) to deliver all or any specified noxious fish (whether alive or dead) in the person's possession to the fisheries officer at a specified time and place;
- (b) to destroy all or any specified noxious fish in the person's possession within a specified period and by specified means; or
- (c) to produce evidence that a requirement under paragraph (b) has been complied with.

(2) A person must not, without reasonable excuse, refuse or fail to comply with a requirement made under subsection (1).

Penalty: In the case of an individual, \$10 000 or, in the case of a body corporate, \$20 000.

### **Recovery of cost of destruction of noxious fish**

**107.** (1) If —

- (a) a person refuses or fails to comply with a requirement made under section 106 (1); and

- (b) as a result of that refusal or failure it is necessary for a fisheries officer to seize and destroy or otherwise dispose of any noxious fish that are the subject of the requirement,

any costs or expenses reasonably incurred by the fisheries officer in seizing and destroying or otherwise disposing of the fish may be recovered from that person as a debt due to the Executive Director in any court of competent jurisdiction.

(2) Subsection (1) applies whether or not the person liable to pay the costs or expenses has been proceeded against and convicted of an offence under section 106 (2).

### **No compensation payable for incidental damage**

**108.** If a fisheries officer destroys any noxious fish no compensation is payable to any person in respect of any loss or damage to other fish or other property arising from the destruction of the noxious fish.

## **PART 10 — DESIGNATED FISHING ZONES**

### **Area may be prescribed to be designated fishing zone**

**109.** (1) An area of waters or an area of the seashore up to high water mark and any waters adjacent to that area may be prescribed to be a designated fishing zone for the purposes of this Act if in the opinion of the Governor —

- (a) the area contains a fishery of particular social or economic importance; and
- (b) the fishery is particularly susceptible to disturbance by human activity.

(2) An area may be prescribed to be a designated fishing zone under subsection (1) at all times or only during any specified period or periods.

### **Designated fishing zone not to be created in marine nature reserve or marine park**

**110.** (1) An area in a marine nature reserve or a marine park must not be prescribed to be a designated fishing zone.

(2) If a marine nature reserve or a marine park is established in respect of an area that is, or is part of, a designated fishing zone, the area, by virtue of this subsection, ceases to be a designated fishing zone.

### **Signs to be erected**

**111.** The Executive Director must cause signs to be erected in, or adjacent to, the landward boundary, if any, of a designated fishing zone indicating that the area is a designated fishing zone.

**Directions relating to designated fishing zones**

**112.** (1) A fisheries officer may direct a person to —

- (a) immediately leave a designated fishing zone;
- (b) cease any activity in a designated fishing zone; or
- (c) remove anything from a designated fishing zone;

if in the fisheries officer's opinion —

- (d) the person, activity or thing is hindering, obstructing or interfering with fishing or any other activity, or is disturbing fish, in the zone; or
- (e) the activity or thing is likely to hinder, obstruct or interfere with fishing in the zone.

(2) A person must not, without reasonable excuse, refuse or fail to comply with a direction given under subsection (1).

**Penalty:** In the case of an individual, \$10 000 or, in the case of a body corporate, \$20 000.

**Regulations relating to designated fishing zones**

**113.** The regulations may prohibit or regulate —

- (a) entry to a designated fishing zone;
- (b) the taking of fish in a designated fishing zone; or
- (c) any other activity in a designated fishing zone.

**PART 11 — FISH HABITAT PROTECTION AREAS AND  
ABROLHOS ISLANDS RESERVE**

***Division 1 — Fish Habitat Protection Areas***

**Application of Division to other Acts**

**114.** Nothing in this Division affects, or is to be taken to derogate from, the operation of the *Mining Act 1978*, the *Petroleum Act 1967*, the *Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Act 1982*, any other Act relating to minerals or petroleum, or any government agreement as defined in the *Government Agreements Act 1979*.

**Area may be set aside as fish habitat protection area**

**115.** (1) The Minister may, by order published in the *Gazette*, set aside an area of WA waters as a fish habitat protection area.

(2) An area may be set aside as a fish habitat protection area for the following purposes —

- (a) the conservation and protection of fish, fish breeding areas, fish fossils or the aquatic eco-system;
- (b) the culture and propagation of fish and experimental purposes related to that culture and propagation; or
- (c) the management of fish and activities relating to the appreciation or observation of fish.

(3) An order must —

- (a) identify the area of waters that constitutes the fish habitat protection area; and
- (b) specify the purpose or purposes for which the area is set aside.

(4) The Minister may, by further order published in the *Gazette*, amend or revoke an order made under this section.

**Fish habitat protection area not to be created in marine nature reserve or marine park**

**116.** (1) An area in a marine nature reserve or a marine park must not be set aside under section 115 as a fish habitat protection area.

(2) If —

- (a) a marine nature reserve or a marine park is established in respect of an area that is a fish habitat protection area or part of a fish habitat protection area; and
- (b) a management plan for the reserve or park (as the case may be) comes into operation,

the area, by virtue of this subsection, ceases to be a fish habitat protection area or part of a fish habitat protection area.

**Minister to determine draft plan for fish habitat protection area**

**117.** Before setting aside an area as a fish habitat protection area under section 115 the Minister is to approve a draft plan for the management of the area.

**Notice of proposal to establish fish habitat protection area**

**118.** (1) Not less than 2 months before making an order under section 115 the Minister must cause a notice to be prepared and published in —

- (a) a newspaper circulating generally in the State; and
- (b) a newspaper circulating, as far as practicable, near the area of the proposed fish habitat protection area.

(2) The notice referred to in subsection (1) must —

- (a) state that it is proposed that an area be set aside under section 115 as a fish habitat protection area;
- (b) identify the area;
- (c) specify the purpose or purposes for which the area is to be set aside;
- (d) advise that a draft plan for the area has been approved and specify the places at which a copy of the plan may be obtained; and
- (e) invite persons who wish to comment on the proposal to make representations in writing to the Minister.

(3) A person may within 30 days after notice is published under subsection (1) make representations in writing to the Minister concerning the proposal.

(4) The Minister is to consider any representations made under subsection (3).

### **Vesting of management of fish habitat protection areas**

**119.** (1) The Minister may, by notice published in the *Gazette*, vest the control and management of a fish habitat protection area in a body corporate which is to control and manage the area subject to this Act.

(2) When vesting the control and management of a fish habitat protection area in a body corporate under subsection (1), the Minister may impose conditions relating to the control and management of the area.

(3) A notice referred to in subsection (1) must specify —

- (a) the fish habitat protection area to which the notice relates;

- (b) the body corporate in whom the control and management of the fish habitat protection area is vested;
  - (c) the date on which the vesting takes effect and the period (if any) for which the control and management of the fish habitat protection area is vested;
  - (d) the purpose for which the control and management of the fish habitat protection area is vested; and
  - (e) any conditions imposed in relation to the vesting.
- (4) The Minister may, by further notice published in the *Gazette*, amend or revoke a notice made under this section.
- (5) The Minister may by notice in writing given to a body corporate in whom the control and management of a fish habitat protection area is vested, require that body —
- (a) to do, or cause to be done, anything that the Minister considers essential; or
  - (b) to cease to do, or to cause the cessation of, anything that the Minister considers to be prejudicial,
- to the purpose or purposes for which the fish habitat protection area was set aside.
- (6) A body corporate must comply with a notice given under subsection (5).

### **Regulations relating to fish habitat protection areas**

**120.** (1) The regulations may provide for any matter necessary for the protection or management of a fish habitat protection area.



(2) Without limiting subsection (1), the regulations may prohibit or regulate —

- (a) entry to a fish habitat protection area by persons, boats, aircraft or other things;
- (b) fishing or aquatic eco-tourism in a fish habitat protection area or any other activity that may affect the fish habitat protection area;
- (c) moorings, jetties, rafts and other constructions in a fish habitat protection area.

***Division 2 — Abrolhos Islands reserve***

**Regulations relating to Abrolhos Islands reserve**

**121.** (1) The regulations may provide for any matter necessary for the protection or management of the Abrolhos Islands reserve.

(2) Without limiting subsection (1), the regulations may —

- (a) provide for the use and the manner of use of land and facilities in the reserve;
- (b) provide for the protection and conservation of fauna and flora (whether aquatic or otherwise) in the reserve;
- (c) prohibit or regulate entry to the reserve by persons, vehicles, aircraft and boats and the bringing into the reserve of animals, plants or other things;
- (d) regulate the conduct of persons in or on the reserve;
- (e) regulate the use of vehicles on the reserve, including provisions relating to speed, manner of driving, routes, entrances and exits, one-way traffic, noise, parking or standing;

- (f) regulate the use of boats in waters adjacent to, or in, the reserve and the use of the foreshore in the reserve, including provisions as to moorings and safety procedures;
- (g) regulate activities in waters adjacent to, or in, the reserve;
- (h) regulate camping and the use of caravans in the reserve;
- (i) regulate the use of aircraft in the reserve;
- (j) prohibit or regulate the use of firearms and devices or means used for the taking of fauna or flora;
- (k) provide for the use, safety and preservation of buildings, structures, fixtures, fittings and chattels;
- (l) prohibit or regulate the deposit or incineration of rubbish and litter;
- (m) prohibit or regulate the lighting of fires in the reserve;
- (n) prohibit or regulate the erection of buildings on the land;
- (o) provide for the collection and use of potable water and the disposal of waste water;
- (p) provide for the collection, removal, disposal or incineration of any rubbish, sewage, litter, building or structure in the reserve and for the recovery of the cost of that collection, removal, disposal or incineration;
- (q) provide for the removal from the reserve of any person who has contravened any regulation or of any vehicle or animal;

- (r) prescribe fees or charges for admission to the reserve or any part of the reserve and for the use of any land or facilities on the reserve, and provide for the payment and method of collection of the fees or charges.

### **Vesting of management of reserve**

**122.** (1) The Minister may, by notice published in the *Gazette*, vest the control and management of the Abrolhos Islands reserve in a body corporate which is to control and manage the reserve subject to this Act.

(2) When vesting the control and management of the reserve in a body corporate under subsection (1), the Minister may impose conditions relating to the control and management of the reserve.

(3) A notice referred to in subsection (1) must specify —

- (a) the body corporate in whom the control and management of the reserve is vested;
- (b) the date on which the vesting takes effect and the period (if any) for which the control and management of the reserve is vested;
- (c) the purpose for which the control and management of the reserve is vested; and
- (d) any conditions imposed in relation to the vesting.

(4) The Minister may, by further notice published in the *Gazette*, amend or revoke a notice made under this section.

(5) The Minister may by notice in writing given to a body corporate in whom the control and management of the reserve is vested, require that body —

- (a) to do, or cause to be done, anything that the Minister considers essential; or

- (b) to cease to do, or to cause the cessation of, anything that the Minister considers to be prejudicial,

to the purpose or purposes for which the reserve was constituted.

(6) A body corporate must comply with a notice given under subsection (5).

**Application of certain sections of the *Parks and Reserves Act 1895***

**123.** For the purposes of this Act, sections 7A (2) and (3), 7C, 12A and 12B of the *Parks and Reserves Act 1895* apply to and in relation to the Abrolhos Islands reserve as if a reference in those sections to —

- (a) an authorized person were a reference to a fisheries officer;
- (b) a by-law were a reference to a regulation referred to in section 121;
- (c) a Board were a reference to the Governor, the Minister, the Executive Director or a fisheries officer (as the context requires); and
- (d) a park or reserve were a reference to the Abrolhos Islands reserve.

## **PART 12 — REGISTER**

### **Registrar**

**124.** A person is to be appointed under Part 3 of the *Public Sector Management Act 1994* to be the Registrar.

### **Register**

**125.** (1) The Registrar is to keep a register of authorizations and exemptions.

(2) The register may be kept in such form as the Registrar thinks fit.

(3) The register must be available for public inspection, subject to payment of the prescribed fee, if any, during prescribed hours and at a prescribed place.

(4) A person may, upon application to the Registrar and payment of the prescribed fee, if any, obtain a copy of an entry in, or an extract from, the register.

(5) The Registrar may, subject to payment of the prescribed fee, if any, allow a person access to the register in electronic form.

(6) Despite subsections (3), (4) and (5), details of recreational fishing licences must not be made available to the public.

### **Information to be included in register**

**126.** The register must set out the following details in respect of each authorization or exemption —

- (a) the nature of the authorization or exemption;

- (b) the name and business address of the person who holds the authorization or exemption;
- (c) details relating to any security interest in the authorization that the Registrar is required to note on the register under section 128;
- (d) details of any conviction required to be recorded on the register in respect of the authorization under section 224; and
- (e) such other details, if any, as are prescribed.

### **Application for notation of security interest**

**127.** The holder of an authorization may apply to the Registrar in a form approved by the Registrar to have noted on the register that a specified person has a security interest in the authorization.

### **Notation of security interest**

**128.** (1) The Registrar must, on application being made under section 127 and payment of the prescribed fee, if any, make a notation on the register that the person specified in the application has a security interest in the relevant authorization.

(2) The notation must set out the following details in respect of the security interest —

- (a) a general description of the nature of the security interest;
- (b) the name and business address of the person who has the security interest;
- (c) such other details, if any, as are prescribed.

**Registrar not to be concerned with certain matters**

**129.** (1) The Registrar is not to be concerned with —

- (a) the nature of any security interest that is the subject of an application under section 127; or
- (b) whether or not the person specified in the application as having the security interest actually has that interest.

(2) A notation on the register that a person has a security interest in an authorization does not give the interest any force that it would not have had if this Part had not been enacted.

**Effect of notation — security holder to be notified of certain events affecting security interest**

**130.** If the register contains a notation made under section 128 that a person has a security interest in an authorization and —

- (a) the holder of the authorization, or a person acting for or on behalf of the holder, is convicted of a prescribed offence against this Act;
- (b) application is made to the Executive Director to vary the authorization or to transfer the authorization or any part of an entitlement under the authorization;
- (c) a fisheries adjustment scheme, as defined in the *Fisheries Adjustment Schemes Act 1987*, is established in respect of authorizations of the class to which the authorization belongs;
- (d) the Executive Director proposes to cancel or suspend, or not to renew, the authorization; or

- (e) the holder of the authorization gives notice of the holder's intention to surrender the authorization,

the Registrar must as soon as practicable give or cause to be given to the person specified in the notation written details of that fact.

### **Removal or variation of notation**

**131.** (1) If the register contains a notation that a person has a security interest in an authorization, the holder of the authorization may apply to the Registrar in a form approved by the Registrar to —

- (a) remove the notation from the register; or
- (b) vary any details relating to the security interest.

(2) If application is made under subsection (1), the Registrar is to give notice of the application to the security holder.

(3) The Registrar must not remove the notation of the security interest from the register or vary the details in the register (as the case requires) before the expiration of 21 days from the day on which notice is given under subsection (2).

(4) The Registrar may remove the notation of the security interest from the register or vary the details in the register before the period referred to in subsection (3) if the Registrar has the written consent of the holder of the authorization and the security holder to do so.

(5) The Registrar is not to be concerned with the reasons for the application.



**Register may be amended**

**132.** The Registrar may amend, add to and correct the register in such manner as is necessary to make the register an accurate record of the details it contains.

**No compensation payable**

**133.** No compensation is payable in respect of anything done or omitted to be done in good faith by the Registrar or an officer of the Department in the performance or purported performance of any duty, or the exercise or purported exercise of any power, under this Part.

**Regulations relating to register**

**134.** The regulations may —

- (a) prescribe fees and charges payable in respect of anything done under this Part;
- (b) provide for any other matter relating to the register.

## **PART 13 — GENERAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO AUTHORIZATIONS**

### **Applications**

**135.** (1) An application for the grant, renewal or variation of an authorization or for the transfer of an authorization or part of an entitlement under an authorization (an **“application”**) must be —

- (a) made to the Executive Director in a form approved for that purpose by the Executive Director;
- (b) accompanied by the fee (if any) prescribed, or specified in the relevant management plan, for such an application; and
- (c) accompanied by any information that the Executive Director reasonably requires for a proper consideration of the application.

(2) An applicant must provide the Executive Director with any further information that the Executive Director by notice in writing requires the applicant to provide in respect of an application.

(3) An applicant must, if required to do so by the Executive Director, verify by statutory declaration any information contained in, or given in connection with, an application.

(4) The Executive Director may refuse to consider an application if the application does not conform to a provision of this section or if the applicant has failed to comply with a provision of this section.

### **Grant of authorizations not as of right**

**136.** A person is not entitled to the grant of an authorization as of right.

### **Effect of authorizations**

**137.** (1) An authorization is granted and has effect subject to the provisions of this Act and does not authorize the doing of anything in contravention of any provision of this Act.

(2) The authority conferred by an authorization is of no effect at any time when any of its conditions are being contravened or it is suspended.

### **Form of authorizations**

**138.** (1) An authorization is to be in a form approved by the Executive Director.

(2) Without limiting subsection (1), an authorization may be issued as a discrete instrument or may be endorsed on another authorization held by the person to whom the authorization is granted.

### **Renewal after expiry**

**139.** (1) If a person applies to the Executive Director for the renewal of an authorization within 60 days after the day on which it has expired, the authorization may be renewed despite the fact that it has expired.

(2) If an authorization is renewed as provided under subsection (1), the authorization must be taken —

- (a) to have been renewed from the day on which the renewal was effected;

- (b) to have been of no effect during the period from the day on which it expired until the day on which it was renewed; and
- (c) to be renewed for a period ending on the day on which the authorization would otherwise have expired if it had been renewed from the previous day of expiry.

(3) The regulations may prescribe, or a management plan may specify, an additional fee payable by way of penalty if an authorization is renewed as provided under subsection (1).

### **Transfer**

**140.** (1) If the holder of an authorization applies to the Executive Director for the transfer of —

- (a) the authorization to another person; or
- (b) part of an entitlement under the authorization to another authorization,

the Executive Director is, subject to subsection (2), to transfer the authorization or the part of the entitlement.

(2) The Executive Director may refuse to transfer an authorization or a part of an entitlement —

- (a) if in the Executive Director's opinion the proposed transferee —
  - (i) is not a fit and proper person to hold the authorization; or
  - (ii) does not satisfy guidelines under section 247 relating to foreign persons holding, controlling or having an interest in authorizations; or
- (b) on any other ground specified in a relevant management plan or prescribed in the regulations.

(3) If the Executive Director receives an application referred to in subsection (1), the Executive Director must, as soon as practicable after receiving the application, notify the Registrar of the application.

(4) If the Registrar gives written details of the application under section 130 to a security holder —

- (a) the Registrar must notify the Executive Director of that fact; and
- (b) the Executive Director must not transfer the authorization or the part of the entitlement before the expiration of 21 days from the day on which the details were given.

(5) Despite subsection (4), the Executive Director may transfer the authorization or the part of the entitlement before the expiration of the period specified in that subsection if the Executive Director has the written consent of the holder of the authorization and the security holder to do so.

### **Temporary transfer of entitlements**

**141.** (1) If —

- (a) the holder of an authorization applies to the Executive Director for the transfer of part of an entitlement under the authorization for a limited period; and
- (b) the relevant management plan or the regulations authorize the transfer,

the Executive Director may transfer the part of the entitlement to another authorization for a specified period.

(2) Sections 140 (3), (4) and (5) apply with appropriate changes to the transfer of part of an entitlement referred to in subsection (1).

**Variation**

**142.** (1) The Executive Director may vary an authorization if —

- (a) the holder of the authorization applies to the Executive Director for the variation;
- (b) it is necessary to correct any error in the authorization; or
- (c) it is necessary to give effect to the provisions of this Act.

(2) Subject to subsection (3), if a person applies to the Executive Director for the variation of an authorization the person is not entitled to the variation as of right.

(3) If —

- (a) a management plan specifies criteria for the variation of an authorization;
- (b) a person applies to the Executive Director for the variation of such an authorization; and
- (c) the Executive Director is satisfied that the criteria have been satisfied,

the Executive Director is to vary the authorization.

(4) If the Executive Director receives an application to vary an authorization, the Executive Director must, as soon as practicable after receiving the application, notify the Registrar of the application.

(5) If the Registrar gives written details under section 130 to a security holder of an application to vary an authorization —

- (a) the Registrar must notify the Executive Director of that fact; and
- (b) the Executive Director must not vary the authorization before the expiration of 21 days from the day on which the details were given.

(6) Despite subsection (5), the Executive Director may vary the authorization before the expiration of the period specified in that subsection if the Executive Director has the written consent of the holder of the authorization and the security holder to do so.

### **Cancellation, suspension and non-renewal**

**143.** (1) The Executive Director may, by notice in writing given to the holder of an authorization, cancel, suspend for any period, or refuse to renew the authorization —

- (a) if the holder has been convicted of an offence against —
  - (i) this Act;
  - (ii) a written law other than this Act if the offence relates to the fishing industry; or
  - (iii) a law of the Commonwealth, or of another State or Territory, relating to the management or regulation of fish resources;
- (b) if a condition of the authorization has been contravened;
- (c) if the authorization was obtained by fraud or misrepresentation;

- (d) if the holder has not used the authorization in the previous 2 years;
- (e) if the holder has —
  - (i) failed to keep any record, or submit any return, that is required to be kept or submitted under this Act; or
  - (ii) made an entry or statement in such a record or return that is false or misleading in a material particular;
- (f) if the holder does not satisfy guidelines under section 247 relating to foreign persons holding, controlling or having an interest in an authorization;
- (g) if any fee, charge or levy payable in respect of the authorization has not been paid when it becomes due; or
- (h) on any other ground specified in a relevant management plan.

(2) The fact that an authorization has not been cancelled or suspended under section 223 or 224 is not to be taken as preventing the Executive Director from cancelling, suspending or refusing to renew the authorization under this section.

### **Voluntary surrender**

**144.** (1) The holder of an authorization may at any time by notice in writing given to the Executive Director give notice of the holder's intention to surrender the authorization.

(2) The authorization ceases to have effect 28 days after the day on which notice is given to the Executive Director under subsection (1).



(3) Subsection (2) does not apply if, within the period referred to in that subsection, the holder by further notice in writing given to the Executive Director withdraws the notice referred to in subsection (1).

### **Return of authorizations**

**145.** (1) The Executive Director may, by notice in writing given to the holder of an authorization, require the person to return the authorization to the Executive Director within a specified period if —

- (a) the authorization has been cancelled or suspended or has not been renewed;
- (b) the person has surrendered the authorization; or
- (c) it is necessary to record or endorse anything on the authorization or to vary the authorization.

(2) A person must not, without reasonable excuse, refuse or fail to comply with a requirement made under subsection (1).

**Penalty:** In the case of an individual, \$5 000 or, in the case of a body corporate, \$10 000.

**PART 14 — OBJECTIONS*****Division 1 — Objections to decisions concerning  
authorizations*****Meaning of “affected person”**

**146.** In this Division —

**“affected person”** means —

- (a) in relation to a proposal referred to in section 147 (1) (a), the person who applied for the authorization;
- (b) in relation to a proposal referred to in section 147 (1) (e), the holder of the authorization and the proposed transferee;
- (c) in relation to a proposal referred to in section 147 (1) (b), (c) or (d), the holder of the authorization;
- (d) in relation to a proposal referred to in section 148 (1) (a) or (b), any person who —
  - (i) holds a fish processor's licence; and
  - (ii) is likely to be significantly affected by the proposal; and
- (e) in relation to a proposal referred to in section 148 (1) (c), any person who —
  - (i) holds an aquaculture licence; and
  - (ii) is likely to be significantly affected by the proposal.

**Executive Director to notify persons of certain proposals**

**147. (1) Before —**

- (a) refusing to grant an authorization;
- (b) giving a notice varying any conditions of, or adding new conditions to, an authorization;
- (c) cancelling, suspending or refusing to renew, an authorization under section 143;
- (d) refusing to vary an authorization after a person has applied for the variation; or
- (e) refusing to transfer an authorization, or part of an entitlement under an authorization, after a person has applied for the transfer,

the Executive Director must —

- (f) give to each affected person notice in writing, or in such other manner as is prescribed, of the proposal; and
  - (g) give the person the opportunity to object to the proposal under this Division.
- (2) A notice under subsection (1) (f) must —
- (a) give details of the proposal and the reasons for it; and
  - (b) state that within 21 days after the notice being given, the affected person may object to the proposal in accordance with section 149.

**Executive Director to publish notice of certain proposals**

**148. (1) Before granting, varying or transferring —**

- (a) a permit referred to in section 80;

- (b) a fish processor's licence; or
- (c) an aquaculture licence,

the Executive Director must —

- (d) cause notice of the proposal to be published in a newspaper, or in a fishing magazine, circulating generally in the State or in such other manner as is prescribed; and
  - (e) give affected persons the opportunity to object to the proposal under this Division.
- (2) A notice under subsection (1) (d) must —
- (a) give details of the proposal; and
  - (b) state that within 21 days after the notice being published, an affected person may object to the proposal in accordance with section 149.

### **Objection to proposal**

**149.** (1) An affected person may, within 21 days after being given notice of a proposal under section 147 (1), object to the proposal.

(2) An affected person may, within 21 days after notice of a proposal is published under section 148 (1), object to the proposal.

(3) An objection is made by giving to the Executive Director notice in writing in a form approved by the Executive Director setting out the grounds of objection.

(4) The Executive Director is to refer any objection to the Minister.

**Continuation of authorization pending decision on renewal**

**150.** If —

- (a) a person has applied for the renewal of an authorization;
- (b) the Executive Director proposes not to renew the authorization; and
- (c) the person has objected to the proposal in accordance with section 149,

the authorization is taken to continue in force until the decision is made to renew or not to renew (as the case may be) the authorization.

**Executive Director may give effect to proposal if no objection**

**151.** (1) If —

- (a) the Executive Director has not received any objection to a proposal under section 149; and
- (b) the time allowed for making such an objection has elapsed,

the Executive Director may give effect to the proposal.

(2) A decision of the Executive Director that is given effect to under subsection (1) is final.

(3) The Executive Director is to give notice that the proposal has been given effect to in writing, or in such other manner as is prescribed, to each person who was given notice under section 147 (1) of the proposal.

(4) If notice of the proposal was published under section 148 (1), the Executive Director must also cause notice of the decision, when it is given effect to, to be published in the same manner.

### **Referral of objections to tribunal**

**152.** (1) If an objection is referred to the Minister under section 149 (4) the Minister is to —

- (a) establish a tribunal consisting of not less than one person and not more than 3 persons appointed by the Minister who in the Minister's opinion have suitable expertise to hear and determine the matter; and
- (b) refer the proposal, every objection, and any other relevant materials to the tribunal for the hearing of the matter.

(2) The tribunal is to hear and determine the matter and is to make such decision as it thinks fit.

(3) A decision of the tribunal is final and must be given effect to by the Executive Director.

(4) The tribunal is to give notice of the decision and of the reasons for the decision in writing, or in such other manner as is prescribed, to each person who was given notice under section 147 (1) of the proposal.

(5) If notice of the proposal was published under section 148 (1), the tribunal must also cause notice of the decision and of the reasons for the decision, when it is made, to be published in the same manner.

### **Hearings**

**153.** (1) A tribunal may sit at such place and time as it considers appropriate or the Minister directs.

(2) The tribunal is to afford —

- (a) every person who has objected; and
- (b) any other person who, in the tribunal's opinion, should be given the opportunity to respond to any objections,

a reasonable opportunity to call or give evidence and to make submissions (whether written or oral) to the tribunal.

(3) A person may appear before the tribunal personally or be represented by counsel or, with the leave of the tribunal, by any other person.

(4) The Executive Director may appear before the tribunal and may appear personally or be represented by counsel or by an officer of the Department.

(5) A person who, not being a certificated practitioner within the meaning of the *Legal Practitioners Act 1893*, demands or receives any fee or reward for representing a person at a hearing commits an offence and is liable to a fine not exceeding \$2 000.

### **Proceedings at hearing**

**154.** (1) The tribunal is to act according to equity and good conscience and the substantial merits of the case without regard to technicalities and legal forms and with as much speed as possible.

(2) The tribunal is not bound by the rules of evidence but may inform itself on any matter in such manner as it thinks fit.

(3) To the extent that it is not prescribed by the regulations the tribunal is to determine its own procedure.

**Case stated**

**155.** (1) If a question of law arises in proceedings before the tribunal, the tribunal may, in accordance with the rules of court, state a case for the opinion of the Supreme Court upon the question.

(2) The Supreme Court has jurisdiction to consider and determine any case stated and to make such orders as it thinks fit with regard to the case and to the costs of and incidental to the consideration and determination of the case.

**Costs**

**156.** The tribunal may make such orders for costs as it thinks fit.

**Tribunal may dismiss frivolous or vexatious objections**

**157.** (1) The tribunal may dismiss any objection if in the tribunal's opinion the objection has been made frivolously, vexatiously or for an improper purpose.

(2) If an objection is dismissed under subsection (1) the objection is, for the purposes of section 151, to be treated as if it had never been made.

**Powers of tribunal**

**158.** The tribunal may —

(a) by summons require any person —

(i) to attend before the tribunal; or

(ii) to produce any document before the tribunal;



- (b) inspect any document produced before it, and retain it for such reasonable period as is required, and make copies of the document or any of its contents;
- (c) require any person to swear to answer truly any relevant question put to that person by the tribunal or any person appearing before the tribunal (and for that purpose may administer any oath or affirmation); or
- (d) require any person attending before the tribunal (whether that person has been summoned to appear or not) to answer any relevant question put to that person by the tribunal or any person appearing before the tribunal.

## **Offences**

### **159. (1) A person who —**

- (a) having been served with a summons to attend before a tribunal, fails without reasonable excuse to attend in obedience to the summons;
- (b) having been served with a summons to produce before a tribunal any document, fails without reasonable excuse to comply with the summons;
- (c) misbehaves before a tribunal, wilfully insults a tribunal or a member thereof, or interrupts the proceedings of a tribunal;
- (d) refuses or fails without reasonable excuse to swear, or to answer any question, when required to do so by a tribunal; or
- (e) makes, before a tribunal, a statement that —
  - (i) the person knows to be false or misleading in a material particular; or

- (ii) omits anything without which the statement is, to the person's knowledge, misleading in a material particular,

commits an offence and is liable to a fine not exceeding \$2 000.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1) (d), it is not a reasonable excuse for a person to refuse or fail to answer any question, on the ground that the answer to the question might incriminate the person or render the person liable to a penalty.

(3) Despite subsection (2), an answer given by a person pursuant to a requirement under section 158 is not admissible in evidence against the person in any civil or criminal proceedings other than proceedings for perjury or for an offence against this section.

### **Remuneration of tribunal members**

**160.** (1) A member of a tribunal is, subject to subsection (2), entitled to such remuneration and allowances in respect of the performance of his or her functions as the Minister from time to time determines on the recommendation of the Minister for Public Sector Management.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply to a person employed in the Public Service.

### **Staff of tribunals**

**161.** There are to be appointed under Part 3 of the *Public Sector Management Act 1994* such officers as are necessary to assist tribunals to perform their functions under this Act.

## **Regulations relating to tribunals**

**162.** (1) The regulations may provide for any matter necessary or convenient to give effect to this Division.

(2) Without limiting subsection (1), the regulations may —

- (a) prescribe matters relating to the practice and procedure of tribunals;
- (b) provide for the enforcement of orders of tribunals;
- (c) prescribe fees payable in respect of anything done under this Division.

## ***Division 2 — Objections based on rights of traditional usage***

### **Interpretation**

**163.** In this Division, unless the contrary intention appears —

**“Aboriginal group”** has the same meaning as in the *Land (Titles and Traditional Usage) Act 1993*;

**“Commissioner”** means the Commissioner for Aboriginal Planning referred to in section 10 of the *Aboriginal Affairs Planning Authority Act 1972*;

**“Minister for Fisheries”** means the Minister to whom the administration of this Act is for the time being committed by the Governor;

**“responsible Minister”** means the Minister to whom the administration of the *Land (Titles and Traditional Usage) Act 1993* is for the time being committed by the Governor.

**Notice to Commissioner of Aboriginal Planning in certain cases**

**164.** (1) The Minister must cause notice of every application for an aquaculture lease or an exclusive licence to be given to the Commissioner within 14 days of the application being made.

(2) Notice may be given by posting a copy of the application by certified mail to the Commissioner in Perth.

(3) The notice is to be accompanied by a map of the area in respect of which the aquaculture lease or exclusive licence is sought.

(4) The map is to contain such information as is prescribed.

**Commissioner to inform Aboriginal groups**

**165.** (1) If the Commissioner receives notice under section 164 the Commissioner must —

(a) consider whether any Aboriginal group may have rights of traditional usage in relation to the area; and

(b) if the Commissioner considers any Aboriginal group may have such rights, send a copy of the application in whatever way the Commissioner thinks appropriate to the group or such representatives of that group as the Commissioner thinks fit.

(2) The duty imposed by subsection (1) must be performed within 14 days after the day on which notice under section 164 (1) is received by the Commissioner.

**Notice of objection may be lodged**

**166.** (1) Any Aboriginal group that objects to the grant of an aquaculture lease or an exclusive licence (as the case may be), on

grounds relating to rights of traditional usage, may lodge a notice of objection in the prescribed manner at the office of the responsible Minister.

(2) Any such notice must be lodged within the prescribed period which may be different for different parts of the State, but must in no case end more than 42 days after the day on which a copy of the application was sent to the group under section 165.

(3) A group that lodges a notice of objection must forthwith give a copy of the notice to the applicant.

### **Contents of notice**

**167.** A notice of objection must include —

- (a) a description of the Aboriginal group with sufficient particularity to enable the members to be identified;
- (b) a map of the area in respect of which rights of traditional usage are claimed;
- (c) particulars of the rights of traditional usage claimed;
- (d) a statement of the manner in which the aquaculture lease or exclusive licence (as the case may be) applied for may interfere with the claimed rights of traditional usage;
- (e) the names of members of the group or other persons who are authorized to represent and act on behalf of the group; and
- (f) such other particulars as may be prescribed.

### **Action to be taken by responsible Minister**

**168.** (1) If an Aboriginal group —

- (a) has lodged a notice of objection; and

- (b) appears to the responsible Minister to have a *bona fide* claim to rights of traditional usage,

the responsible Minister must —

- (c) consult with that group in a way, and by the agency of persons, that the Minister thinks appropriate to the customs, traditions and other circumstances of the group; and
- (d) give such weight as the Minister thinks fit to the information so obtained.

(2) The responsible Minister, within 3 months after the end of the prescribed period under section 166 (2), must either —

- (a) advise the Minister for Fisheries that, so far as rights of traditional usage claimed in a notice of objection are concerned, there is no reason why an aquaculture lease or an exclusive licence (as the case may be) should not be granted either with or without conditions specified by the responsible Minister; or
- (b) recommend to the Minister for Fisheries that, on grounds relating to the rights of traditional usage claimed in a notice of objection, the aquaculture lease or exclusive licence should not be granted.

(3) Any advice or recommendation of the responsible Minister is not liable to be challenged, reviewed or called in question by a court on account of anything which the responsible Minister has done or failed to do for the purposes of this section.

(4) The Minister for Fisheries may by notice in writing to the responsible Minister declare that a period shorter than 3 months applies for the purposes of subsection (2) in the case of a specified application, and any such substituted period applies accordingly.

**Right of applicant to make submissions**

**169.** If the Minister for Fisheries proposes —

- (a) to refuse to grant an aquaculture lease or an exclusive licence; or
- (b) to attach any condition to an aquaculture lease or an exclusive licence,

on grounds relating to rights of traditional usage claimed in a notice of objection, the Minister must notify the applicant of, and give the applicant an opportunity to make submissions on, the proposal.

**PART 15 — MISCELLANEOUS OFFENCES****Use of explosives or noxious substances for fishing**

**170.** (1) A person must not, without lawful excuse, use or attempt to use, any explosive or noxious substance in WA waters if the use of the explosive or noxious substance can reasonably be expected to result in the taking of any fish.

**Penalty:** In the case of an individual, \$10 000 and imprisonment for 6 months or, in the case of a body corporate, \$20 000.

(2) If a court convicts a person of an offence against subsection (1), the court may, in addition to any penalty imposed under that subsection, order the person to pay compensation for any damage or loss caused by the offence to any person.

**Interference with lawful fishing activities**

**171.** (1) A person must not, without reasonable excuse —

- (a) prevent a person from lawfully fishing;
- (b) hinder a person who is lawfully fishing; or
- (c) place or leave anything in a recognized net fishing area that obstructs the use of fishing nets.

**Penalty:** In the case of an individual, \$5 000 and imprisonment for 6 months or, in the case of a body corporate, \$10 000.

(2) If a court convicts a person of an offence against subsection (1), the court may, in addition to any penalty imposed under that subsection, order the person to pay compensation for any damage or loss caused by the offence to any person.



(3) In this section, “**recognized net fishing area**” means an area of waters that is used regularly or intermittently for net fishing.

### **Unlawful interference with fishing gear**

**172.** A person must not —

- (a) remove fish from any net, trap or other gear that is being used for fishing; or
- (b) interfere with any net, trap or other gear that is being used for fishing,

unless the person is the owner of the net, trap or gear or is acting with the authority of the owner or has some other lawful excuse.

Penalty: In the case of an individual, \$5 000 and imprisonment for 6 months or, in the case of a body corporate, \$10 000.

### **Purchase or sale of fish taken in contravention of this Act**

**173.** (1) A person must not purchase or sell any fish taken in contravention of this Act.

Penalty: In the case of an individual, \$20 000 and imprisonment for 12 months and the penalty provided in section 222 or, in the case of a body corporate, \$40 000 and the penalty provided in section 222.

(2) It is a defence in proceedings for an offence against subsection (1) for the person charged to prove —

- (a) that at the time of the alleged offence the person did not know, and could not reasonably be expected to have known, that the fish had been taken in contravention of this Act; and

- (b) if the fish were purchased for a commercial purpose, that the fish were purchased —
  - (i) from a person whose usual business was the selling of such fish; and
  - (ii) in the ordinary course of that business.

### **Use of foreign boat for fishing**

**174.** (1) A person must not, in WA waters —

- (a) use a foreign boat for fishing; or
- (b) use a foreign boat for processing, storing or carrying fish that have been taken by the use of that boat or another boat.

**Penalty:** In the case of an individual, \$50 000 and imprisonment for 2 years or, in the case of a body corporate, \$100 000.

(2) It is a defence in proceedings for an offence against subsection (1) for the person charged to prove that, at the time of the alleged offence, there was in force an authorization authorizing the use of the boat for the relevant purpose in the area where the offence is alleged to have been committed.

### **Having foreign boat equipped with fishing gear**

**175.** (1) A person must not, in WA waters, have in the person's possession or in the person's charge a foreign boat equipped with fishing gear.

**Penalty:** In the case of an individual, \$50 000 and imprisonment for 2 years or, in the case of a body corporate, \$100 000.

(2) It is a defence in proceedings for an offence against subsection (1) for the person charged to prove that, at the time of the alleged offence —

- (a) there was in force an authorization authorizing the use of the boat for fishing in the area where the offence is alleged to have been committed; or
- (b) the boat's fishing gear was stored and secured and the boat was travelling by the shortest practicable route —
  - (i) to or from a port in the State; or
  - (ii) from a point outside WA waters to another point outside those waters.

### **False statements in applications**

**176.** A person must not make any statement or provide any information in, or in connection with, an application under this Act that —

- (a) the person knows is false or misleading in a material particular; or
- (b) omits anything without which the statement or information is, to the persons knowledge, misleading in a material particular.

**Penalty:** In the case of an individual, \$10 000 and imprisonment for 6 months or, in the case of a body corporate, \$20 000.

**PART 16 — FISHERIES OFFICERS****Certificate of appointment**

**177.** (1) The Executive Director is to issue a certificate of appointment to each fisheries officer.

(2) A certificate of appointment is to be in a form approved by the Executive Director and is to certify that the person has been appointed as a fisheries officer.

(3) A certificate purporting to have been issued under this section is, without proof of the Executive Director's signature, evidence in any court of the appointment to which the certificate purports to relate.

(4) A person who ceases to be a fisheries officer must, as soon as practicable, return his or her certificate of appointment to the Executive Director or to any other person authorized by the Executive Director to receive the certificate.

Penalty: \$1 000.

**Production of certificate**

**178.** A fisheries officer must produce his or her certificate of appointment if requested to do so by any person in respect of whom the fisheries officer has exercised, or is about to exercise, any power under this Act.

**Honorary fisheries officers**

**179.** (1) The Executive Director may, by instrument in writing, appoint any person to be an honorary fisheries officer for the whole or any specified area of the State.

(2) An honorary fisheries officer has, in respect of the State, or the area of the State for which he or she is appointed, such of the powers conferred by or under this Act on a fisheries officer as are specified in the instrument of appointment and to that extent is taken to be such an officer.

(3) The Executive Director must provide each honorary fisheries officer with a copy of his or her instrument of appointment.

(4) An honorary fisheries officer must produce a copy of his or her instrument of appointment if requested to do so by any person in respect of whom the honorary fisheries officer has exercised, or is about to exercise, any power under this Act.

(5) A copy of an instrument purporting to have been made under this section is, without proof of the Executive Director's signature, evidence in any court of the appointment to which the instrument purports to relate and of any other matter specified therein.

(6) A person ceases to be an honorary fisheries officer if —

- (a) the period, if any, of his or her appointment expires;
- (b) his or her appointment is revoked by the Executive Director; or
- (c) the person resigns his or her office by letter delivered to the Executive Director.

(7) A person who ceases to be an honorary fisheries officer must, as soon as practicable, return the copy of his or her instrument of appointment to the Executive Director or to any other person authorized by the Executive Director to receive the copy.

Penalty: \$1 000.

**Police officers to have powers of fisheries officers**

**180.** For the purposes of this Act, a police officer has the powers of a fisheries officer under this Act and is taken to be such an officer.

**Naval officers to have powers of fisheries officers in dealing with foreign boats**

**181.** (1) For the purposes of this Act, an officer in command of any boat of the naval force of the Commonwealth has the powers of a fisheries officer under this Act and is taken to be such an officer in respect of —

- (a) foreign boats;
- (b) operations on or from foreign boats; and
- (c) persons on foreign boats.

(2) An officer may delegate to a person under the officer's command any of the powers of a fisheries officer conferred on the officer under subsection (1) and that person has, and may exercise, those powers.

**Routine inspection**

**182.** A fisheries officer may, for the purposes of this Act, at any reasonable time —

- (a) enter and inspect any land or premises or any waters in respect of which there is an authorization in force under this Act to check whether this Act or the conditions of the authorization are being complied with;
- (b) enter and inspect any land or premises that are being used for the purpose of selling fish, or storing fish for a commercial purpose, to check whether this Act is being complied with;

- (c) enter any land or premises ordinarily used for the purpose of manufacturing, repairing or selling boats, fishing gear or gear and equipment used for aquaculture and inspect the boats, gear or equipment; or
- (d) enter any land or premises where records are required to be kept for the purposes of this Act and inspect those records.

**Entry onto land**

**183.** A fisheries officer may, for the purposes of this Act —

- (a) enter any land (other than land appurtenant to any premises) for the purpose of passing through the land; or
- (b) enter and search any land (other than land appurtenant to any premises) if the fisheries officer has reasonable grounds to suspect that —
  - (i) an offence against this Act has been, is being or is about to be committed on the land; or
  - (ii) there is on the land anything that may afford evidence of the commission of an offence against this Act.

**Entry and search of non-residential premises in connection with offence**

**184.** A fisheries officer may, for the purposes of this Act, enter and search any premises, other than premises used as a residence —

- (a) if the fisheries officer has reasonable grounds to suspect that an offence against this Act has been, is being or is about to be committed in or on the premises;

- (b) under a warrant issued under section 187; or
- (c) with the consent of the occupier of the premises.

### **Entry and search of residential premises in connection with offence**

**185.** A fisheries officer may, for the purposes of this Act, enter and search any premises used as a residence —

- (a) under a warrant issued under section 187;
- (b) with the consent of the occupier of the premises; or
- (c) if the fisheries officer —
  - (i) suspects on reasonable grounds that a person has committed an offence against this Act; and
  - (ii) has pursued the person without interruption from the place, or near the place, where the offence was suspected to have been committed to the premises.

### **Entry and search of tents, camps and unauthorized structures**

**186.** A fisheries officer may, for the purposes of this Act, enter and search any tent, camp or unauthorized structure if the fisheries officer has reasonable grounds to suspect that it contains any fish or fishing gear.

### **Warrants**

**187.** (1) If a justice is satisfied by complaint made on oath —

- (a) that there are reasonable grounds for suspecting that there is on or in any place anything that may afford evidence of the commission of an offence against this Act; or



(b) that the issue of the warrant is reasonably required for the purpose of ascertaining whether a person has contravened or is contravening a provision of this Act, the justice may issue a warrant in the prescribed form authorizing a fisheries officer to enter and search the place —

(c) with such assistance, and by such force, as is reasonably necessary; and

(d) during such hours as the warrant specifies, or, if the warrant so specifies, at any time.

(2) A warrant must specify —

(a) the place that may be entered and searched; and

(b) the time and date at which the warrant ceases to have effect.

### **Warrants may be granted by telephone etc.**

**188.** (1) A fisheries officer may apply for a warrant by telephone, fax, radio or another form of communication if the fisheries officer considers it necessary because of —

(a) urgent circumstances; or

(b) the officer's remote location.

(2) Before applying for the warrant, the fisheries officer must prepare a complaint that sets out the grounds on which the warrant is sought.

(3) The fisheries officer may apply for the warrant before the complaint is sworn.

(4) If the justice issues the warrant and it is reasonably practicable to fax a copy of it to the fisheries officer, the justice must immediately fax the copy to the fisheries officer.

(5) If the justice issues the warrant but it is not reasonably practicable to fax a copy of it to the fisheries officer —

(a) the justice must —

- (i) tell the fisheries officer what the terms of the warrant are;
- (ii) tell the fisheries officer the date and time the warrant was signed; and
- (iii) record the reasons for issuing the warrant on the warrant; and

(b) the fisheries officer must —

- (i) complete a form of warrant in the same terms as the warrant issued by the justice; and
- (ii) write on the warrant form the name of the justice and the date and time the justice signed the warrant.

(6) The facsimile warrant, or the warrant form properly completed by the fisheries officer, is authority for the entry and search and the exercise of any other powers authorized by the warrant issued by the justice.

(7) The fisheries officer must, as soon as practicable, send to the justice —

(a) the sworn complaint; and

(b) if a warrant form was completed by the fisheries officer — the completed warrant form.

(8) When the justice receives the complaint and any warrant form, the justice must attach them to the warrant issued by the justice.

### **Provision of information**

**189.** (1) A fisheries officer may, for the purposes of this Act —

- (a) require any person whom the fisheries officer suspects, on reasonable grounds, of having committed an offence against this Act —
  - (i) to state the person's name, principal place of residence and date of birth; and
  - (ii) to produce for inspection evidence that the details given are correct;
- (b) require any person engaged in fishing to state whether or not the person holds an authorization or exemption;
- (c) require the master of any boat to state whether or not an authorization is in force in respect of the boat;
- (d) require each person on board a fishing boat to state the person's name and principal place of residence;
- (e) require the master of any fishing boat to —
  - (i) state the name and principal place of residence of each member of the boat's crew and of any other person on board the boat;
  - (ii) state the respective functions of each person referred to in subparagraph (i);
  - (iii) give details of any fishing gear that is on the boat or that is being used from the boat; or
  - (iv) give details of any fish that are on the boat.

(2) A person must not, without reasonable excuse, refuse or fail to comply with a requirement made under subsection (1).

Penalty: \$10 000.

(3) For the purposes of subsection (2), it is a reasonable excuse for a person to refuse or fail to comply with a requirement made under subsection (1) (a) (ii) if the person does not have any evidence within reasonable proximity.

### **Production of authorizations etc.**

**190.** (1) A fisheries officer may, for the purposes of this Act —

- (a) require any person to produce for inspection any authorization or exemption which —
  - (i) the person states that he or she holds; or
  - (ii) in the fisheries officer's opinion, should be held by that person;
- (b) require the master of a boat that, in the fisheries officer's opinion, should be the subject of an authorization under this Act, to produce for inspection the authorization for the boat;
- (c) examine, remove and take photographs or make copies of, or take extracts from, an authorization or exemption.

(2) A person must not, without reasonable excuse, refuse or fail to comply with a requirement made under subsection (1) (a) or (b).

Penalty: In the case of an individual, \$10 000 or, in the case of a body corporate, \$20 000.

**Other powers of fisheries officers**

**191.** (1) A fisheries officer may, for the purposes of this Act —

- (a) signal or direct the person in control of a boat or vehicle —
  - (i) to stop the boat or vehicle; or
  - (ii) not to move the boat or vehicle;
- (b) board a boat and enter and search a boat or vehicle;
- (c) signal or direct the person in control of a train or an aircraft not to move the train or aircraft;
- (d) enter and search a train or an aircraft;
- (e) at any time enter into and pass along (whether by boat or otherwise) any waters or the banks or borders of any waters;
- (f) require any person to open or unlock any vehicle, boat, door, gate, hold, compartment, cupboard, drawer, chest, trunk, box, package or other receptacle or container;
- (g) break open and search any hold, compartment, cupboard, chest, trunk, box, package or other receptacle or container —
  - (i) in connection with the search or inspection of any place under this Part; or
  - (ii) in any other case, if the fisheries officer has reasonable grounds to suspect that it contains fish or anything that may afford evidence of the commission of an offence against this Act;

- (h) require a person to produce to the fisheries officer for inspection all things in the person's actual possession if the fisheries officer has reasonable grounds to suspect that any of the things may afford evidence of the commission of an offence against this Act;
- (i) require a person to produce to the fisheries officer for inspection —
  - (i) any record that is required to be kept by the person under this Act; or
  - (ii) any document held by the person that relates to the sale or purchase of fish;
- (j) examine any record or document, and remove the record or document for the purpose of taking extracts from, or making copies of, that record or document;
- (k) take extracts from, or make copies of, any record or document;
- (l) take photographs and measurements, and make sketches and recordings;
- (m) examine any fish and any container in which fish are kept;
- (n) count, measure, weigh or grade any fish;
- (o) take samples of any fish and any medium in which fish are kept;
- (p) require a person to haul, pull, draw, or reel in, or otherwise recover or bring onto land, any fishing gear or any gear or equipment used for aquaculture or aquatic eco-tourism;
- (q) direct any person who has any fish, or any fishing gear, in the person's possession to wait at a place indicated by the fisheries officer until the fisheries officer is able to inspect the fish or the fishing gear;

- (r) inspect any —
  - (i) fishing gear; or
  - (ii) gear or equipment used for or in connection with fish processing, aquaculture or aquatic eco-tourism;
- (s) by notice in writing served on the master of a boat or the owner or person in apparent control of a vehicle or aircraft or the owner or occupier of any land or premises, require the boat, vehicle, aircraft, land or premises to be secured against interference for a specified period;
- (t) require the master of any boat which the fisheries officer has reasonable grounds to suspect has been used, is being used, or is intended to be used in contravention of this Act —
  - (i) to bring the boat to a specified place; and
  - (ii) not to remove the boat from that place until further directed by a fisheries officer;
- (u) by notice in writing require the master of any boat or the person in control of any vehicle to deliver any fish or fishing gear or any gear or equipment used for aquaculture or aquatic eco-tourism to a specified place;
- (v) by notice in writing served on the master of any boat require a fisheries officer to be carried on the boat and direct that the boat not proceed to sea unless a fisheries officer is on board the boat;
- (w) conduct such examination and inquiry as the fisheries officer considers necessary to ascertain whether or not this Act or any condition imposed under this Act has been complied with.

(2) A fisheries officer may only exercise a power referred to in subsection (1) (c) or (d) in respect of a train or aircraft if the fisheries officer has reasonable grounds to suspect that —

- (a) an offence against this Act has been, is being or is about to be committed in or on the train or aircraft; or
- (b) there is in or on the train or aircraft anything that may afford evidence of the commission of an offence against this Act.

(3) A boat, vehicle, train or aircraft may only be detained under subsection (1) (a) (ii), (1) (c) or (1) (t) for such period as is reasonably necessary for the purposes of this Act.

(4) A person may only be detained under subsection (1) (q) for such period as is reasonably necessary for the purposes of this Act.

(5) A person must not, without reasonable excuse, refuse or fail to comply with a requirement made, or a signal or direction given, under subsection (1).

Penalty: In the case of an individual, \$10 000 or, in the case of a body corporate, \$20 000.

(6) For the purposes of subsection (5), it is a reasonable excuse for a person to refuse or fail to comply with a signal or direction given under subsection (1) (a) if —

- (a) the person reasonably believes that to obey the signal or direction immediately would endanger the person, another person or the boat or vehicle; and
- (b) the person complies with the signal or direction as soon as it is practicable to obey it.



**Arrest**

**192.** (1) A fisheries officer may arrest without warrant a person if —

- (a) the person does not state his or her name or principal place of residence to the fisheries officer when required to do so under section 189 (1) (a);
- (b) the fisheries officer suspects, on reasonable grounds, that the person has given a false name, principal place of residence or date of birth to the fisheries officer;
- (c) the person assaults a fisheries officer when the fisheries officer is performing any duty, or exercising any power, under this Act;
- (d) the fisheries officer suspects, on reasonable grounds, that the person has committed an offence against this Act and that the offence is likely to continue or recur if the person is not arrested; or
- (e) the fisheries officer suspects, on reasonable grounds, that the person has committed an offence against this Act and that any other procedure for dealing with that offence would not be effective.

(2) A person who has been arrested by a fisheries officer under subsection (1) must not escape, or attempt to escape, from the custody of the fisheries officer.

Penalty: \$5 000.

**Seizure**

**193.** A fisheries officer may seize —

- (a) any fish that the fisheries officer has reasonable grounds to suspect has been the subject of an offence against this Act;

- (b) any fishing gear that the fisheries officer has reasonable grounds to suspect has been used, or is intended to be used, in the commission of an offence against this Act;
- (c) any boat, vehicle, aircraft or other thing that the fisheries officer has reasonable grounds to suspect has been used in the commission of an offence against this Act;
- (d) any trailer used to transport a boat referred to in paragraph (c);
- (e) any money, cheque or other thing that the fisheries officer suspects, on reasonable grounds, is the proceeds of the sale of any fish in contravention of this Act;
- (f) any thing that the fisheries officer suspects, on reasonable grounds, may afford evidence of the commission of an offence against this Act;
- (g) any noxious fish, any receptacle or container containing noxious fish and any medium in which the noxious fish are being held; or
- (h) if more than 1/20th of the total number of fish contained in a boat, vehicle, aircraft, receptacle or container are totally protected fish —
  - (i) all fish contained in the boat, vehicle, aircraft, receptacle or container; and
  - (ii) any receptacle or container containing the fish.

**Fish may be returned to water etc.**

**194.** (1) If any fish is seized under this Act and, in the opinion of a fisheries officer, it is practicable to return the fish to its natural environment, the fisheries officer may return the fish to its natural environment.

(2) If any fish is seized under this Act and, in the opinion of a fisheries officer, the fish is likely to perish if no action is taken to protect it, the fisheries officer may sell, preserve or otherwise dispose of the fish in the prescribed way.

(3) Except as provided in subsection (4), proceeds of the sale of any fish under subsection (2) are to be paid to the credit of such fund or funds under this Act as are prescribed or, if no fund is prescribed, then into the Consolidated Fund.

(4) If —

- (a) any fish is seized by a fisheries officer in connection with a suspected offence;
- (b) the fish is sold in accordance with subsection (2); and
- (c) a decision is subsequently made not to commence proceedings in respect of the offence or after proceedings for the offence have been completed no person is convicted of the offence,

the proceeds of the sale of the fish (less any costs incurred by the fisheries officer in selling the fish) are to be paid to the person from whom the fish were seized.

(5) No compensation is payable to any person in respect of any action taken under this section in respect of any fish.

### **Seizure of abandoned etc. fishing gear**

**195.** If a fisheries officer finds —

- (a) any fishing gear unattended in, or adjacent to, any waters and —
  - (i) fishing in those waters, or the use of that type of fishing gear in those waters, is prohibited under this Act;

(ii) the fishing gear does not comply with the requirements of this Act; or

(iii) the fishing gear appears to have been lost or abandoned;

or

(b) any fish in, or adjacent to, any waters and the fish appears to have been abandoned,

the fisheries officer may seize the fishing gear or fish or, if in the fisheries officer's opinion it is not practicable to seize the fishing gear, may destroy or render inoperative the fishing gear.

### **Person not to interfere with seized property**

**196.** (1) A person must not remove, damage or interfere with any fish, boat, trailer, vehicle, fishing gear or other thing seized under this Act unless the person is authorized to do so by the Executive Director or a fisheries officer.

Penalty: In the case of an individual, \$5 000 and imprisonment for 6 months or, in the case of a body corporate, \$10 000.

(2) If a court convicts a person of an offence against subsection (1), the court may, in addition to any penalty imposed under that subsection, order the person to pay compensation for any damage or loss caused by the offence to the Executive Director or to any other person.

### **Giving of assistance**

**197.** (1) A fisheries officer may, if in the fisheries officer's opinion it is reasonably necessary in the circumstances to enable

the fisheries officer to perform any duty or exercise any power under this Act, require —

- (a) the master of a boat or the person in charge of any vehicle to make the boat or vehicle available for the use of the fisheries officer; or
- (b) any person to provide such assistance to the fisheries officer as the fisheries officer considers necessary.

(2) A person must not, without reasonable excuse, refuse or fail to comply with a requirement made under subsection (1).

Penalty: \$10 000.

(3) If a fisheries officer uses a boat or vehicle under subsection (1), the person who would otherwise have been entitled to the use of the boat or vehicle at that time may apply to the Executive Director for compensation for loss of use of the boat or vehicle.

(4) If a person applies to the Executive Director for compensation under subsection (3), the Executive Director is to pay to the person such amount of compensation as the Executive Director thinks fit.

(5) A person is not personally liable for anything done or omitted to be done in good faith by that person in the course of giving any assistance to a fisheries officer in accordance with a requirement under subsection (1) (b).

### **Fisheries officer to try to minimize damage**

**198.** In exercising any power under this Part, a fisheries officer must try, as far as is practicable, to minimize damage to any property.

**False or misleading information**

**199.** A person must not —

- (a) state anything to a fisheries officer that the person knows is false or misleading in a material particular;
- (b) omit from a statement made to a fisheries officer anything without which the statement is, to the person's knowledge, misleading in a material particular; or
- (c) give or produce any document to a fisheries officer that —
  - (i) the person knows is false or misleading in a material particular; or
  - (ii) omits anything without which the document is, to the person's knowledge, misleading in a material particular.

Penalty: In the case of an individual, \$10 000 and imprisonment for one year or, in the case of a body corporate, \$20 000.

**Obstruction of fisheries officers**

**200.** A person must not —

- (a) fail to facilitate by all reasonable means the boarding of a boat by a fisheries officer;
- (b) abuse, threaten or insult a fisheries officer when the fisheries officer is performing any duty, or exercising any power, under this Act;
- (c) assault, hinder or obstruct a fisheries officer when the fisheries officer is performing any duty, or exercising any power, under this Act;

- (d) incite or encourage another person to do anything referred to in paragraph (b) or (c);
- (e) impersonate a fisheries officer;
- (f) without reasonable excuse, refuse to allow a search to be made that is authorized under this Act.

**Penalty:** In the case of an individual, \$10 000 and imprisonment for one year or, in the case of a body corporate, \$20 000.

**PART 17 — LEGAL PROCEEDINGS*****Division 1 — Proceedings*****Proceedings**

**201.** (1) Proceedings for an offence against this Act may be instituted by the Executive Director, a police officer, a fisheries officer or any other person authorized in writing to do so by the Executive Director.

(2) Proceedings for an offence against this Act must be commenced —

- (a) if the offence is against a provision in Part 6, within 5 years after the offence was committed; or
- (b) in any other case, within 2 years after the offence was committed.

(3) In any proceedings for an offence against this Act, unless evidence is given to the contrary, proof is not required —

- (a) of the authority of a person to institute proceedings for an offence against this Act; or
- (b) that a signature on a complaint is the signature of a person authorized to institute proceedings for an offence against this Act.

(4) A fisheries officer authorized for the purpose by the Executive Director may appear on behalf of the Executive Director or any other officer of the Department in any proceedings under this Act in a court of petty sessions.



***Division 2 — Responsibility of certain persons***

**Liability of master**

**202.** (1) If a person (in this section referred to as “**the principal offender**”) commits an offence against this Act, the master of a boat on which, or by the use of which, the offence was committed is taken to have committed the same offence.

(2) It is a defence in proceedings against the master of a boat for an offence against this Act (by the application of subsection (1)) for the master to prove that —

- (a) the master issued proper instructions and took reasonable precautions to ensure compliance with this Act;
- (b) the offence was committed by the principal offender without the master’s knowledge; and
- (c) the master could not by the exercise of reasonable diligence have prevented the commission of the offence.

(3) A master may be proceeded against and convicted of an offence against this Act by virtue of subsection (1) whether or not the principal offender has been proceeded against and convicted of the offence.

**Liability of authorization holder**

**203.** (1) If a person (in this section referred to as “**the agent**”) acting for or on behalf of the holder of an authorization commits an offence against this Act, the holder is taken to have committed the same offence.

(2) It is a defence in proceedings against the holder of an authorization for an offence against this Act (by the application of subsection (1)) for the holder to prove that —

- (a) the holder issued proper written instructions and took reasonable precautions to ensure compliance with this Act;
- (b) the offence was committed by the agent without the holder's knowledge; and
- (c) the holder could not by the exercise of reasonable diligence have prevented the commission of the offence.

(3) The holder of an authorization may be proceeded against and convicted of an offence against this Act by virtue of subsection (1) whether or not the agent has been proceeded against and convicted of the offence.

### **Liability of officers for offence by body corporate**

**204.** (1) If a body corporate commits an offence against this Act and it is proved that —

- (a) the offence was committed with the consent or connivance of an officer of the body corporate; or
- (b) an officer of the body corporate failed to exercise such due diligence to prevent the commission of the offence as ought to have been exercised having regard to the nature of the officer's functions and to all the circumstances,

the officer commits the same offence.

(2) An officer may be proceeded against and convicted of an offence against this Act by virtue of subsection (1) whether or not the body corporate has been proceeded against and convicted of the offence.

(3) In this section, “**officer**” has the same meaning as in the Corporations Law but does not include an employee of the body corporate unless he or she was concerned in the management of the body corporate.

***Division 3 — Evidentiary provisions***

**Proof of exemptions**

**205.** In any proceedings for an offence against this Act, the onus of proving that —

- (a) at the time of the alleged offence a person was exempted under section 6 or 7 from a provision of the Act;
- (b) anything was done or omitted to be done with lawful excuse or reasonable excuse;
- (c) a person, boat or thing referred to in the complaint was not in WA waters;
- (d) a fish was taken from waters other than WA waters;  
or
- (e) an act occurred in waters other than WA waters,

lies upon the person making that assertion.

**Proof of place of offence**

**206.** In any proceedings for an offence against this Act an averment in the complaint that —

- (a) a person, boat, vehicle or other thing referred to in the complaint was in a particular area of land or waters;

(b) fish were taken from a particular area of land or waters; or

(c) an act occurred in a particular area of land or waters,

is proof that the person, boat, vehicle or thing was in, the fish were taken from, or the act occurred in (as the case may be), the particular area, unless the contrary is proved.

### **Proof that boat was a foreign boat**

**207.** In any proceedings for an offence against this Act, an averment in the complaint that a boat was, at the time of the alleged offence, a foreign boat must be taken to be proved, unless the contrary is proved.

### **Proof of contents etc. of package**

**208.** In any proceedings for an offence against this Act, proof that a package, receptacle or container had a mark or label (whether inside or outside the package, receptacle or container) indicating that the package, receptacle or container —

(a) contained fish or a particular class of fish is proof that the package, receptacle or container contained fish or the class of fish (as the case may be), unless the contrary is proved;

(b) contained a specified quantity of fish is proof that the package, receptacle or container contained that quantity of fish, unless the contrary is proved; or

(c) was packed or consigned by or for a particular person is proof that the package, receptacle or container was packed or consigned by or for (as the case may be) that person, unless the contrary is proved.

**Proof that fish were taken for sale**

**209.** (1) In any proceedings for an offence against this Act, proof that any fish taken by a person was subsequently sold by or on behalf of the person is conclusive evidence that the fish was taken by the person for the purpose of sale.

(2) In any proceedings for an offence against this Act, proof that any fish in a person's possession was subsequently sold by or on behalf of the person is conclusive evidence that the person had the fish in the person's possession for the purpose of sale.

**Fish on fishing boats and commercial premises etc. presumed to be for sale**

**210.** (1) In any proceedings for an offence against this Act, if it is proved that —

- (a) any fish were on a fishing boat; and
- (b) the fish were taken by, or in the possession of, any person on that boat,

it must be presumed that the fish were taken by, or in the possession of, the person for the purpose of sale unless the contrary is proved.

(2) In any proceedings for an offence against this Act, if it is proved that —

- (a) any fish were at a place in, on or from which fish were ordinarily sold (whether as meals or otherwise); and
- (b) the fish were in the possession of any person (other than a customer),

it must be presumed that the fish were in the person's possession for the purpose of sale unless the contrary is proved.

(3) In any proceedings for an offence against this Act, if it is proved that —

- (a) any fish were at a place specified in a fish processor's licence as the place at which fish may be processed under the licence; and
- (b) the fish were in the possession of any person,

it must be presumed that the fish were in the person's possession for the purpose of sale unless the contrary is proved.

### **Proof of purpose**

**211.** In any proceedings for an offence against this Act, an averment in the complaint that an act occurred for a particular purpose or that anything was done with a particular intent must, on proof of the act occurring or the thing being done, be taken to be proved, unless the contrary is proved.

### **Evidence of licensing matters**

**212.** (1) In any proceedings for an offence against this Act, production of a certificate purporting to be signed by the Registrar and stating that —

- (a) on any date or during any period a person was or was not authorized to do any thing under an authorization or was or was not exempted from this Act or specified provisions of this Act by an exemption;
- (b) on any date or during any period any boat, premises or other thing was or was not the subject of an authorization or exemption;
- (c) on any date or during any period an authorization was cancelled, suspended or for any other reason of no effect; or

- (d) on any date or during any period an authorization or exemption was subject to any specified condition or conditions,

is, without proof of the Registrar's signature, evidence of the facts stated in the certificate.

(2) Subsection (1) only applies if —

- (a) at least 28 days before the hearing, notice in writing has been given to the defendant of the complainant's intention to produce the certificate; and
- (b) the defendant has not within 14 days of receipt of the notice delivered to the complainant a notice requiring that the Registrar's evidence be given in person.

(3) The court before which proceedings are held may, in addition to making any other order as to costs, make such order as it thinks fit as to the expenses and remuneration to be paid for the services of the Registrar.

### **Evidence of scientific matters**

**213.** (1) In this section —

**“authorized person”** means a person declared under subsection (2) to be an authorized person.

(2) The Minister may by notice published in the *Gazette* declare a person to be an authorized person for the purposes of this section.

(3) In any proceedings for an offence against this Act, production of a certificate purporting to be signed by an authorized person and stating that —

- (a) a fish was of a particular species or type or had a particular characteristic;

- (b) a species or type of fish are or are not found in a particular area;
- (c) any fishing gear is of a particular type or is designed, used or capable of being used for a particular purpose or for taking a particular species of fish,

is, without proof of the authorized person's signature, evidence of the facts stated in the certificate.

(4) Subsection (3) only applies if —

- (a) at least 28 days before the hearing, notice in writing has been given to the defendant of the complainant's intention to produce the certificate; and
- (b) the defendant has not within 14 days of receipt of the notice delivered to the complainant a notice requiring that the authorized person's evidence be given in person.

(5) The court before which proceedings are held may, in addition to making any other order as to costs, make such order as it thinks fit as to the expenses and remuneration to be paid for the services of the authorized person.

### **Determination of characteristics of fish**

**214.** If, for the purposes of this Act, it is necessary to determine the size, weight or any other characteristic of fish, that determination is to be made using the method that is prescribed.

### **Accuracy of measuring equipment**

**215.** In any proceedings for an offence against this Act, proof is not required of the accuracy of any scales, callipers, rule, compass or other navigational equipment or measuring equipment used by a fisheries officer, unless evidence is given to the contrary.



**Position to be ascertained by reference to Australian Geodetic Datum**

216. (1) If, for the purposes of this Act, it is necessary to determine the position on the surface of the Earth of a point, line or area, that reference is to be determined by reference to the Australian Geodetic Datum.

(2) The Australian Geodetic Datum is to be defined as prescribed.

***Division 4 — Forfeiture***

**Return of things seized**

217. (1) The Executive Director may authorize the return of anything seized under this Act to the owner or person entitled to the possession of the thing or the person from whom the thing was seized.

(2) The Executive Director may authorize the return of the thing on such conditions as the Executive Director thinks fit, including a condition that the person give security to the Executive Director for payment of the value of the thing if it is forfeited.

(3) If the thing is forfeited to the Crown any security given to the Executive Director in lieu of the thing is taken to be forfeited to the Crown.

(4) A person must not contravene a condition imposed under subsection (2).

**Penalty:** In the case of an individual, \$5 000 or, in the case of a body corporate, \$10 000.

(5) If a court convicts a person of an offence against subsection (4), the court may, in addition to any penalty imposed under that subsection, order the person to pay compensation for any damage or loss caused by the offence to any person.

**Order for forfeiture**

**218.** (1) If a court convicts a person of an offence against this Act, the court may, in addition to any other penalty imposed under this Act, order the forfeiture to the Crown of any —

- (a) fish the subject of the offence;
- (b) fishing gear used, or intended to be used, in the commission of the offence;
- (c) boat, vehicle, aircraft or other thing used in the commission of the offence;
- (d) trailer used to transport a boat referred to in paragraph (c); and
- (e) money, cheque or other thing that is the proceeds of the sale of any fish in contravention of this Act.

(2) A court must not make an order for the forfeiture of anything under subsection (1) unless the complainant, or a person acting for or on behalf of the complainant, applies for the order.

**Forfeiture of abandoned fishing gear**

**219.** (1) If anything is seized under this Act and its owner cannot be found the Executive Director is to give notice in the prescribed way that the thing is being held by the Department and may be claimed by its owner.

(2) If after the expiration of 3 months from the day on which notice has been given under subsection (1) the thing has not been claimed by its owner the thing is forfeited to the Crown.

**Certain fish forfeited upon seizure**

**220.** If —

- (a) any protected fish is seized under this Act;
- (b) any fish other than a protected fish is seized under section 193 (h);
- (c) any noxious fish is seized under section 193 (g); or
- (d) any receptacle, container or medium containing fish referred to in paragraph (a), (b) or (c) is seized under this Act,

the fish, receptacle, container or medium is, on seizure, taken to have been forfeited to the Crown.

**Disposal of forfeited things**

**221.** (1) Any thing forfeited to the Crown under this Act may be sold, destroyed or otherwise disposed of in the prescribed way.

(2) Proceeds of the sale of any thing forfeited to the Crown under this Act are to be paid to the credit of such fund or funds under this Act as are prescribed or, if no fund is prescribed, then into the Consolidated Fund.

***Division 5 — Additional Penalties***

**Additional penalty based on value of fish**

**222.** (1) This section applies to an offence against section 43, 46, 47, 50, 51, 74, 77, 82, 86, 88 or 173 or any prescribed provision of the regulations.

(2) If a court convicts a person of an offence to which this section applies the court must, in addition to any general penalty imposed in respect of the offence, impose on the person an

additional penalty equal to 10 times the prescribed value of any fish the subject of the offence.

(3) A court may determine the prescribed value of any fish the subject of the offence by reference to either the weight of the fish or the number of fish.

(4) A court is to determine the prescribed value of any fish the subject of the offence —

- (a) if the court is determining the value of the fish by reference to the weight of the fish, by multiplying the weight by the value per unit of weight prescribed in respect of fish of that class; and
- (b) if the court is determining the value of the fish by reference to the number of fish, by multiplying the number by the value per fish prescribed in respect of fish of that class.

(5) The additional penalty referred to in subsection (2) is irreducible in mitigation despite the provisions of any other Act.

(6) A provision of the regulations may be prescribed for the purposes of subsection (1) by reference to the circumstances in which the offence is committed.

### **Court may cancel or suspend authorization**

**223.** (1) If a court convicts a person of an offence against this Act the court may, in addition to any other penalty imposed under this Act, cancel, or suspend for any period, any authorization held by the person.

(2) A court must not cancel or suspend an authorization under subsection (1) unless the complainant, or a person acting for or on behalf of the complainant, applies for the cancellation or suspension.

**Automatic cancellation of authorization if 3 offences are committed in any 10 year period****224. (1) If —**

- (a) the holder of an authorization, or a person acting for or on behalf of the holder, is convicted of a prescribed offence against this Act; and
- (b) in the Executive Director's opinion the offence relates to an activity being carried out, or purporting to be carried out, under the authorization,

the Executive Director must, as soon as practicable, notify the Registrar of that fact and the Registrar must record the conviction on the register in respect of the authorization.

(2) If the Registrar records 3 or more convictions in respect of an authorization in any 10 year period the Registrar must notify the Executive Director of that fact and the Executive Director must, by notice in writing given to the holder of the authorization, cancel the authorization.

**(3) For the purposes of this section —**

- (a) it is irrelevant that, at the time the authorization is cancelled under subsection (2), the authorization is held by a person other than the person who has been convicted of all or any of the offences;
- (b) if 2 or more offences arose out of one set of facts those offences are to be regarded as one offence;
- (c) a conviction may be recorded in respect of more than one authorization.

(4) Nothing in this section prevents another authorization from being granted to a person whose authorization has been cancelled under this section.

**Court may prohibit person from being on fishing boats or certain places etc.**

**225.** (1) If a court convicts a person of an offence against this Act the court may, in addition to any other penalty imposed under this Act, by order prohibit the person from —

- (a) being on board fishing boats, any specified fishing boat or any specified class of fishing boat;
- (b) being in or on any place used for aquaculture or processing fish; or
- (c) engaging in any fishing activity or any fishing activity of a specified class.

(2) A court must not make an order under subsection (1) unless —

- (a) the complainant, or a person acting for or on behalf of the complainant, applies for the order; and
- (b) the court is satisfied that —
  - (i) the relevant offence is of a serious nature; and
  - (ii) the person is likely to commit further offences against this Act if the order is not made.

(3) An order —

- (a) may apply generally or at specified times or in specified circumstances;
- (b) has effect for such period as is specified in the order or, if no period is specified, until the order is rescinded; and
- (c) may be rescinded or varied at any time.

(4) A person must not contravene an order made under this section.

Penalty: \$10 000 and imprisonment for 6 months.

(5) A person must not suffer or permit a person to be on a boat or on any place if the first-mentioned person knows that in doing so that other person is contravening an order made under this section.

Penalty: In the case of an individual, \$5 000 or, in the case of a body corporate, \$10 000.

### ***Division 6 — Infringement Notices***

#### **Interpretation**

**226.** In this Division, “**authorized person**” in sections 228, 229, 230 and 231 means a person appointed under section 227 to be an authorized person for the purposes of the section in which the term is used.

#### **Authorized persons**

**227.** (1) The Executive Director may, in writing, appoint persons or classes of persons to be authorized persons for the purposes of section 228, 229, 230 or 231 or for the purposes of 2 or more of those sections.

(2) A person who is authorized to serve infringement notices under section 228 is not eligible to be an authorized person for the purposes of any of the other sections.

#### **Giving of notice**

**228.** (1) An authorized person who has reason to believe that a person has committed a prescribed offence against this Act

may, within 21 days after the day on which the alleged offence is believed to have been committed, serve an infringement notice on the alleged offender.

(2) An infringement notice may be served personally or by certified post.

### **Form of notice**

**229.** (1) An infringement notice is to be in the prescribed form and must —

- (a) contain a description of the alleged offence;
- (b) advise that if the alleged offender does not wish to have a complaint of the alleged offence heard and determined by a court, the amount of money specified in the notice as being the modified penalty for the offence may be paid to an authorized person within a period of 28 days after the service of the notice; and
- (c) inform the alleged offender as to who are authorized persons for the purposes of receiving payment of modified penalties.

(2) In an infringement notice the amount specified as the modified penalty for the offence referred to in the notice is to be the amount that was the prescribed modified penalty at the time the alleged offence is believed to have been committed.

(3) The modified penalty prescribed in respect of an offence against this Act for the purposes of this section —

- (a) must not include any additional penalty; and
- (b) must not exceed 1/5th of the maximum penalty specified in this Act for that offence.



### **Extension of time**

**230.** An authorized person may, in a particular case, extend the period of 28 days within which the modified penalty may be paid and the extension may be allowed whether or not the period of 28 days has elapsed.

### **Withdrawal of notice**

**231.** (1) An authorized person may, whether or not the modified penalty has been paid, withdraw an infringement notice within 56 days after the day on which it was served by serving on the alleged offender a notice in the prescribed form stating that the infringement notice has been withdrawn.

(2) If an infringement notice is withdrawn after the modified penalty has been paid, the amount of the penalty is to be refunded.

(3) A notice under this section may be served personally or by certified post.

### **Payment of penalty**

**232.** (1) If the modified penalty specified in an infringement notice has been paid within 28 days or such further time as is allowed and the notice has not been withdrawn, the alleged offender is not liable to any further proceedings for the alleged offence.

(2) An amount paid as a modified penalty is, subject to section 231 (2), to be dealt with as if it were a penalty imposed summarily under the *Justices Act 1902*.

(3) Payment of a modified penalty is not to be regarded as an admission for the purposes of any proceedings, whether civil or criminal.

**PART 18 — FINANCIAL PROVISIONS**

***Division 1 — Collection of Levy imposed under Fishing  
Industry Promotion Training and Management Levy  
Act 1994***

**When levy is payable**

**233.** (1) A levy is due and payable at a time or times ascertained in accordance with the regulations.

(2) A levy is payable to the Minister.

**Payment by instalments**

**234.** (1) The regulations may provide for the payment of an amount of a levy to be made by instalments, and, subject to subsection (2), each instalment is due and payable at a time ascertained in accordance with the regulations.

(2) If —

- (a) the regulations provide for the payment of an amount of a levy to be made by instalments; and
- (b) an instalment is not paid at or before the time due for payment of the instalment,

the whole of the amount of the levy unpaid becomes due and payable at that time.

**Exemption from levy**

**235.** (1) If in a particular case the Minister is satisfied that to require a person to pay a levy would cause the person undue hardship, the Minister may, in writing, exempt the person wholly or in part from payment of the levy.

(2) The Minister may, in writing given to a person exempted under subsection (1), vary or revoke the exemption.

### **Penalty for non-payment**

**236.** (1) If an amount of a levy remains unpaid after the day on which it becomes due for payment, there is payable to the Minister by way of penalty, in addition to the amount of the levy, an amount calculated at the rate of 20% per annum upon the amount of the levy from time to time remaining unpaid.

(2) The amount by way of penalty referred to in subsection (1) is to be calculated from the time when the amount of the levy became payable.

### **Recovery of levy**

**237.** The following amounts may be recovered by the Minister in a court of competent jurisdiction as debts due to the Minister —

- (a) a levy that is due and payable; and
- (b) an amount payable under section 236.

## ***Division 2 — Funds***

### **Fisheries Research and Development Fund**

**238.** (1) The “Fisheries Research and Development Fund” (“the Fund”) previously established under the repealed Act is continued in existence.

(2) The Fund is to continue to be kept at the Treasury as part of the Trust Fund constituted under section 9 of the *Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985*.

(3) The Fund is to be administered by the Minister.

(4) The Fund is to be credited with —

- (a) fees and charges paid in respect of —
  - (i) authorizations (other than recreational fishing licences) and exemptions;
  - (ii) the register;
  - (iii) services relating to commercial fishing, aquaculture and the processing of fish;
  - (iv) the management of fish habitat protection areas or the Abrolhos Islands reserve;
  - (v) anything done under Part 14;
- (b) rent, fees and royalties paid in respect of aquaculture leases or exclusive licences;
- (c) costs recouped from prosecutions relating to commercial fishing;
- (d) costs paid to the Executive Director in accordance with an order of a tribunal under section 156;
- (e) proceeds of the sale of any —
  - (i) forfeited property prescribed as being payable to the credit of the Fund under section 221 (2);
  - (ii) capital assets purchased using moneys from the Fund;
  - (iii) publication, advertising rights or intellectual property by the Department;
  - (iv) entitlement by the Department;
  - (v) fish bred by the Department;

- (f) moneys provided for the purposes of the Fund —
  - (i) by any statutory authority or government (whether Commonwealth, State or otherwise); or
  - (ii) otherwise by way of donations or bequests;
- (g) moneys payable to the credit of the Fund under sections 27 (7) (b), 31 (2), 54 (2) and 55 (2) and (3) of the *Pearling Act 1990*;
- (h) income derived from the investment of moneys forming part of the Fund, as determined by the Treasurer; and
- (i) any other moneys lawfully payable to the credit of the Fund.

(5) The Fund may be applied by the Minister for all or any of the following purposes —

- (a) the purposes set out in sections 37 (3), 41 and 55 (4) and (5) of the *Pearling Act 1990*;
- (b) scientific, technological or economic research;
- (c) the exploration and development of commercial fisheries;
- (d) to defray the costs of the administration and management of commercial fisheries;
- (e) to purchase any authorization, entitlement, boat or fishing gear for the benefit of the fishing industry, the fish processing industry or the aquaculture industry;
- (f) the management of fish habitat protection areas or the Abrolhos Islands reserve for the benefit of the fishing industry or the aquaculture industry;

- (g) the development of aquaculture;
- (h) to conduct programmes and provide extension services relating to fisheries, fish processing or aquaculture, including publicity programmes;
- (i) to conduct enforcement, operations and compliance programmes;
- (j) to purchase capital assets required for the management or administration of fisheries, fish processing or aquaculture;
- (k) to the credit of the Fisheries Adjustment Schemes Trust Account under the *Fisheries Adjustment Schemes Act 1987* for the benefit of the fishing industry or the aquaculture industry;
- (l) to assist the fishing industry or any body (whether incorporated or not) whose objects include the provision of assistance to, or the promotion of, the fishing industry;
- (m) in payment of any administrative costs under Division 1 of Part 14;
- (n) in payment of the costs of administering the Fund;
- (o) any other purpose for which moneys may be lawfully paid from the Fund.

(6) In subsection (5), “**fisheries**” and “**fishing industry**” include, respectively, pearl oyster fisheries and the pearl oyster fishing industry.

### **Recreational Fishing Fund**

**239.** (1) An account called the “Recreational Fishing Fund” (“**the Fund**”) is to be established and kept at the Treasury as part of the Trust Fund constituted under section 9 of the *Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985*.

- (2) The Fund is to be administered by the Minister.
- (3) The Fund is to be credited with —
  - (a) fees and charges paid in respect of —
    - (i) recreational fishing licences;
    - (ii) services relating to recreational fishing;
    - (iii) the management of fish habitat protection areas or the Abrolhos Islands reserve relating to recreational fishing;
  - (b) costs recouped from prosecutions relating to recreational fishing;
  - (c) moneys provided for the purposes of the Fund —
    - (i) by any statutory authority or government (whether Commonwealth, State or otherwise); or
    - (ii) otherwise by way of donations or bequests;
  - (d) proceeds of the sale of any —
    - (i) forfeited property prescribed as being payable to the credit of the Fund under section 221 (2);
    - (ii) capital assets purchased using moneys from the Fund;
  - (e) income derived from programmes, extension services, publications, research or other services provided using moneys from the Fund;
  - (f) income derived from the investment of moneys forming part of the Fund, as determined by the Treasurer; and
  - (g) any other moneys lawfully payable to the credit of the Fund.

(4) The Fund may be applied by the Minister for all or any of the following purposes —

- (a) to defray the costs of recreational fishing administration and management;
- (b) to the credit of the Fisheries Adjustment Schemes Trust Account under the *Fisheries Adjustment Schemes Act 1987*;
- (c) the enhancement and development of recreational fishing, including research, publicity and educational programmes;
- (d) to conduct enforcement, operations and compliance programmes;
- (e) to purchase capital assets required in connection with the administration or management of recreational fishing;
- (f) to purchase any authorization, entitlement, boat or fishing gear for the benefit of recreational fishing;
- (g) to assist any body (whether incorporated or not) whose objects include the promotion of recreational fishing;
- (h) in payment of the costs of administering the Fund;
- (i) any other purpose for which moneys may be lawfully paid from the Fund.

#### **Fishing Industry Promotion Training and Management Levy Fund**

**240.** (1) An account called the "Fishing Industry Promotion Training and Management Levy Fund" ("**the Fund**") is to be established and kept at the Treasury as part of the Trust Fund constituted under section 9 of the *Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985*.

(2) The Fund is to be administered by the Minister.



- (3) The Fund is to be credited with —
- (a) any levy paid;
  - (b) any amount paid by way of penalty under section 236;
  - (c) moneys provided for the purposes of the Fund by way of donations or bequests;
  - (d) income derived from the investment of moneys forming part of the Fund, as determined by the Treasurer; and
  - (e) any other moneys lawfully payable to the credit of the Fund.
- (4) The Fund may be applied by the Minister —
- (a) to fund programmes promoted by industry bodies and approved by the Minister (after consultation with such persons as the Minister thinks fit), including programmes relating to —
    - (i) seafood promotion;
    - (ii) promotion of the fishing or aquaculture industry;
    - (iii) fishing or aquaculture industry training;
    - (iv) fishing or aquaculture industry management;
  - (b) in payment of the costs of administering the Fund (including the costs of collecting levies and penalties).
- (5) Moneys in the Fund may be paid by the Minister to an industry body to conduct a programme promoted by that body.
- (6) A body to whom moneys are paid under subsection (5) must ensure that —
- (a) the moneys are only expended for the purposes of the programme and in accordance with any terms imposed by the Minister;

- (b) at such time or times as are prescribed, a special purpose audit is carried out by a registered company auditor of allocation and expenditure of the moneys; and
- (c) a report on the audit is prepared by the auditor and a copy of the report is provided to the Minister as soon as practicable after it is prepared.

Penalty: \$5 000.

### **AFMA Fund**

**241.** (1) An account called the “AFMA Fund” (“**the Fund**”) is to be established and kept at the Treasury as part of the Trust Fund constituted under section 9 of the *Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985*.

(2) The Fund is to be administered by the Minister.

(3) The Fund is to be credited with —

- (a) moneys provided for the purposes of the Fund by AFMA;
- (b) moneys provided for the purposes of the Fund —
  - (i) by any other statutory authority or government (whether Commonwealth, State or otherwise); or
  - (ii) otherwise by way of donations or bequests;
- (c) proceeds of the sale of any capital assets purchased using moneys from the Fund;
- (d) income derived from the investment of moneys forming part of the Fund, as determined by the Treasurer; and
- (e) any other moneys lawfully payable to the credit of the Fund.

(4) The Fund may be applied by the Minister for all or any of the following purposes —

- (a) to meet the costs of any programmes undertaken by the State at the request of AFMA;
- (b) to purchase capital assets required in connection with any such programmes;
- (c) in payment of the costs of administering the Fund;
- (d) any other purpose for which moneys may be lawfully paid from the Fund.

### **Fisheries Research and Development Corporation Fund**

**242.** (1) An account called the “Fisheries Research and Development Corporation Fund” (“**the Fund**”) is to be established and kept at the Treasury as part of the Trust Fund constituted under section 9 of the *Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985*.

(2) The Fund is to be administered by the Minister.

(3) The Fund is to be credited with —

- (a) moneys provided for the purposes of the Fund by the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation;
- (b) moneys provided for the purposes of the Fund —
  - (i) by any other statutory authority or government (whether Commonwealth, State or otherwise); or
  - (ii) otherwise by way of donations or bequests;
- (c) proceeds of the sale of any capital assets purchased using moneys from the Fund;

- (d) income derived from the investment of moneys forming part of the Fund, as determined by the Treasurer; and
- (e) any other moneys lawfully payable to the credit of the Fund.

(4) The Fund may be applied by the Minister for all or any of the following purposes —

- (a) to meet the costs of any research programmes undertaken by the State at the request of the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation;
- (b) to purchase capital assets required in connection with any such programmes;
- (c) in payment of the costs of administering the Fund;
- (d) any other purpose for which moneys may be lawfully paid from the Fund.

### **Application of *Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985* to Funds**

**243.** (1) The provisions of the *Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985* regulating the financial administration, audit and reporting of departments apply to and in relation to each Fund referred to in this Division.

(2) The administration of each Fund referred to in this Division is for the purposes of section 52 of the *Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985* to be regarded as a service of the Department.

**PART 19 — MISCELLANEOUS**

**Protection from liability**

**244.** (1) This section applies to —

- (a) the Minister;
- (b) the Executive Director;
- (c) the Registrar;
- (d) a fisheries officer and an honorary fisheries officer;
- (e) an officer of the Department;
- (f) a police officer and a member of the naval force of the Commonwealth;
- (g) a member of a tribunal; and
- (h) a member of an advisory committee established or continued in existence under this Act.

(2) A person to whom this section applies is not personally liable for anything done or omitted to be done in good faith by that person in the performance or purported performance of any duty, or the exercise or purported exercise of any power, under this Act.

**Remuneration of committee members**

**245.** (1) A member of the —

- (a) Aquaculture Development Council;
- (b) Recreational Fishing Advisory Committee; or

(c) Rock Lobster Industry Advisory Committee,

is, subject to subsection (2), entitled to such remuneration and allowances as the Minister from time to time determines on the recommendation of the Minister for Public Sector Management.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply to a person employed in the Public Service.

### **Policy guidelines — general**

**246.** (1) The Minister may, for the assistance of the Executive Director and the information of the fishing industry and the community, issue guidelines setting out matters that the Minister considers to be of importance in respect of the performance by the Executive Director of any function under this Act.

(2) The Minister may at any time amend or revoke guidelines.

(3) Guidelines must be published in the prescribed way.

(4) In performing any function under this Act the Executive Director is to take into account any guidelines.

(5) Nothing in subsection (4) —

- (a) derogates from the Executive Director's duty to exercise his or her discretion in a particular case;
- (b) precludes the Executive Director from taking into account matters not set out in the guidelines; or
- (c) requires the Executive Director to take into account a guideline if the guideline is inconsistent with a provision of this Act.

**Policy guidelines — foreign interests**

**247.** (1) The Minister may issue guidelines relating to foreign persons holding, controlling or having an interest in authorizations.

(2) The Minister may at any time amend or revoke guidelines.

(3) Guidelines must be published in the prescribed way.

**Consultation relating to guidelines**

**248.** Before determining, amending or revoking a guideline referred to in section 246 or 247 the Minister is to consult with such industry body as the Minister thinks fit and may consult with any other persons the Minister thinks appropriate.

**Inquiry relating to authorization**

**249.** (1) In this section, “**appointed person**” means a person appointed by the Executive Director under subsection (2) to conduct an inquiry.

(2) The Executive Director may appoint a person or persons to conduct an inquiry to determine who holds, controls or has an interest in an authorization and to report to the Executive Director the findings of the inquiry.

(3) For the purposes of subsection (2), an appointed person may —

(a) by notice in writing require any person —

(i) to attend before the appointed person at a specified time and place;

(ii) to produce any document to the appointed person for inspection;

- (b) inspect any document produced to the appointed person, and retain it for such reasonable period as is required, and make copies of the document or any of its contents;
  - (c) require any person to swear to answer truly any relevant question put to that person by the appointed person (and for that purpose may administer any oath or affirmation);
  - (d) require any person attending before the appointed person to answer any relevant question put to that person by the appointed person.
- (4) A person who —
- (a) having been served with a notice to attend before an appointed person, fails without reasonable excuse to attend as required by the notice;
  - (b) having been served with a notice to produce to an appointed person any document, fails without reasonable excuse to comply with the notice;
  - (c) refuses or fails without reasonable excuse to swear, or to answer any question, when required to do so by an appointed person; or
  - (d) makes, when attending before an appointed person, a statement that —
    - (i) the person knows to be false or misleading in a material particular; or
    - (ii) omits anything without which the statement is, to the person's knowledge, misleading in a material particular,

commits an offence and is liable to a fine not exceeding \$5 000.



(5) For the purposes of subsection (4) (c), it is not a reasonable excuse for a person to refuse or fail to answer any question, on the ground that the answer to the question might incriminate the person or render the person liable to a penalty.

(6) Despite subsection (5), an answer given by a person pursuant to a requirement under subsection (3) is not admissible in evidence against the person in any criminal proceedings other than proceedings for perjury or for an offence against this section.

### **Confidentiality**

**250.** (1) In this section —

**“confidential information”** means information contained in any —

- (a) record that is required to be kept under this Act;
- (b) return that has been submitted as required under this Act; or
- (c) record that has been voluntarily provided to the Department for the purposes of research.

(2) Except as provided in subsection (3) or (4), a person who directly or indirectly divulges any confidential information obtained by reason of any duty or power that person has, or at any time had, in the administration of this Act commits an offence.

Penalty: \$10 000.

(3) Subsection (2) does not apply to the divulging of information —

- (a) in the course of the performance of any duty or the exercise of any power under this Act;

- (b) as required or allowed under this Act;
- (c) for the purposes of the investigation of any suspected offence against this Act or the conduct of proceedings against any person for an offence against this Act; or
- (d) with the consent of the person, or each of the persons, to whom the information relates.

(4) Subsection (2) does not apply to the divulging of statistical or other information that could not reasonably be expected to lead to the identification of any person to whom it relates.

(5) A person who has any confidential information obtained by reason of any duty or power that person has, or at any time had in the administration of this Act is, despite any law to the contrary, not to be required by subpoena or otherwise to produce or divulge that information to any court or tribunal.

(6) This section has effect despite any provision of the *Freedom of Information Act 1992*.

### **Exclusive licences**

**251.** (1) The Minister may grant an exclusive licence to any person to take fish from a specified area of coastal waters and the foreshore above high water-mark.

(2) An exclusive licence may be —

- (a) granted for an initial term not exceeding 14 years; and
- (b) renewed by the Minister from time to time for any further period or periods not exceeding 7 years in each case.

(3) An exclusive licence may be granted or renewed subject to such terms and conditions as the Minister thinks fit.

(4) Without limiting subsection (3), an exclusive licence may be granted subject to terms and conditions —

- (a) relating to the period or periods during which fish may be taken under the licence;
- (b) relating to the type and quantity of fish that may be taken under the licence;
- (c) relating to the method, or type of fishing gear, that may be used to take fish under the licence;
- (d) requiring the licence holder to protect the aquatic environment in the area of the licence;
- (e) requiring the licence holder to pay fees or royalties to the Minister (whether the amount of the fee or royalty is specified in the licence or fixed from time to time);
- (f) requiring the licence holder to provide security for the payment of fees and royalties and the observance of terms and conditions of the licence.

(5) The Minister may vary or revoke an exclusive licence in the manner provided in the licence.

(6) If the Minister grants or renews an exclusive licence under this section the Minister is to cause notice of the grant or renewal to be published in the *Gazette*.

(7) The regulations may —

- (a) prohibit persons, other than persons authorized to do so by an exclusive licence, from engaging in fishing or any fishing activity of a specified class in an area that is the subject of an exclusive licence; and
- (b) provide for any other matter relating to exclusive licences.

**Exclusive licence not to be granted in marine nature reserve or marine park**

**252.** An exclusive licence must not be granted in respect of an area in a marine nature reserve or a marine park.

**Prerequisite to grant of exclusive licence**

**253.** (1) The Minister must not grant an exclusive licence unless —

- (a) no objection has been lodged under section 166; or
- (b) the responsible Minister, as defined in section 163, has given his or her advice or recommendation under section 168 to the Minister.

(2) In considering an application for an exclusive licence the Minister must give due weight to, but is not bound to accept, any recommendation or advice of the responsible Minister under section 168.

**Minister to be notified of certain works on a waterway**

**254.** (1) In this section —

**“fish way”** means a structure or device that enables fish to pass through, by or over a dam, weir or reservoir;

**“waterway”** means a river, creek or other naturally flowing stream of water.

(2) If a public authority proposes to construct, alter or modify a dam, weir or reservoir on a waterway, the public authority must —

- (a) notify the Minister of the proposal; and

- (b) if the Minister so requests, include as part of the works for the dam, weir or reservoir, or for its alteration or modification, a suitable fish way or fish by-pass.

**Minister may prohibit activities that pollute waters**

**255.** (1) The Minister may, by notice in writing served on any person, prohibit the person from engaging in any activity if in the Minister's opinion the activity is polluting, or is likely to pollute, the aquatic environment.

(2) A notice under this section —

- (a) may apply generally or at specified times or in specified circumstances;
- (b) remains in force for such period as is specified or, if no period is specified, until revoked; and
- (c) may be varied or revoked at any time by the Minister by notice in writing served on the person.

(3) A person must not contravene a notice served on the person under this section.

**Penalty:** In the case of an individual, \$25 000 or, in the case of a body corporate, \$50 000.

(4) If a court convicts a person of an offence against subsection (3), the court may, in addition to any penalty imposed under that subsection, order the person to pay compensation for any damage or loss caused by the offence to any person.

(5) A person aggrieved by a notice given to the person under this section may appeal against the giving of that notice in the prescribed way to the Minister for the Environment.

(6) If a person appeals to the Minister for the Environment under subsection (5), the Minister for the Environment may make a recommendation to the Minister relating to the giving of the notice.

(7) The Minister is to give effect to any recommendation of the Minister for the Environment under subsection (6).

(8) In this section, "**Minister for the Environment**" means the Minister to whom the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* is for the time being committed by the Governor.

### **Regulations — general power**

**256.** (1) The Governor may make regulations prescribing all matters that are required or permitted by this Act to be prescribed, or are necessary or convenient to be prescribed for giving effect to the purposes of this Act.

(2) The regulations may create offences and may provide for a penalty not exceeding \$10 000 and a daily penalty not exceeding \$100.

### **Regulations — other licences**

**257.** (1) The regulations may provide for the licensing of —

- (a) persons engaged in commercial fishing;
- (b) persons engaged in specified activities by way of recreational fishing;
- (c) fishing boats;
- (d) boats used for transporting or trans-shipping fish for a commercial purpose;
- (e) boats used in connection with aquaculture;

- (f) charter boats used for recreational fishing;
- (g) persons engaged in aquatic eco-tourism for a commercial purpose; and
- (h) persons engaged in selling specified classes of fish that have been produced by means of aquaculture.

(2) For the purpose of giving effect to subsection (1), the regulations may —

- (a) prohibit a person from operating or using a boat, or engaging in an activity, referred to in subsection (1) unless the person is authorized to do so by a specified licence;
- (b) authorize the Executive Director to grant licences authorizing persons to operate or use boats, or to engage in activities, referred to in subsection (1);
- (c) specify the criteria to be applied by the Executive Director in determining whether or not to grant such licences;
- (d) provide, subject to section 143, for the renewal of such licences;
- (e) authorize conditions to be specified on licences by the Executive Director or prescribed by the regulations and provide for conditions specified on a licence to be deleted, varied or added to;
- (f) prohibit a person from contravening a condition of a licence; and
- (g) specify the duration of licences and any other matter relating to the licences.

**Regulations — miscellaneous**

**258.** The regulations may —

- (a) regulate the unloading, transport, consignment, handling, labelling, delivery, receipt, storage, packaging, purchase or sale of fish;
- (b) regulate recreational fishing;
- (c) prohibit or regulate recreational fishing on or from fishing boats, boats used for aquaculture or charter boats used for aquatic eco-tourism;
- (d) determine the priority between persons engaged in fishing in the same area;
- (e) prohibit or regulate the possession or consignment of —
  - (i) flesh or parts only of any fish of a specified class; or
  - (ii) any fish of a specified class if the fish has been mutilated or disfigured;
- (f) provide for and regulate the identification of fish by tagging, marking or other specified means;
- (g) prescribe measures to prevent the unnecessary destruction and wastage of fish;
- (h) provide for the control of any species of fish not endemic to the State, or a particular area of the State, and in particular may —
  - (i) prohibit or regulate the breeding, keeping or release of such fish;
  - (ii) prohibit or regulate the bringing of such fish into the State or into a particular area of the State;



- (i) prescribe measures for the control, recapture and eradication of noxious fish;
- (j) prohibit or regulate the bringing into the State, or the export from the State, of any fish (whether processed or unprocessed);
- (k) provide for the control of disease in fish, and for that purpose may —
  - (i) prescribe measures for the prevention or control of disease in fish;
  - (ii) require persons in specified circumstances to notify the Executive Director of the occurrence of any disease, or symptoms of disease, in fish;
  - (iii) prohibit or regulate the possession of fish that may be affected by disease;
  - (iv) require the destruction of fish affected by disease and any receptacle or container containing such fish;
  - (v) provide for the recovery of the cost of any measure for the prevention or control of disease in fish;
- (l) regulate the use of any type of fishing gear or the use of any method of fishing;
- (m) provide for the registration or identification of fishing gear;
- (n) require specified gear or equipment to be installed in or carried on boats used for fishing, aquaculture or aquatic eco-tourism and require the gear or equipment to be used in a specified way;
- (o) prohibit or regulate the possession or carriage on any boat of any specified type of gear or equipment used in connection with fishing, aquaculture or aquatic eco-tourism;

- (p) prohibit or regulate the possession by any person in or on any waters or land adjacent to any waters of any specified type of gear or equipment used in connection with fishing, aquaculture or aquatic eco-tourism;
- (q) prohibit or regulate the carrying of any firearm, explosive or noxious substance on any boat;
- (r) prohibit or regulate the use of fish aggregating devices;
- (s) require or regulate the marking and labelling of packages, receptacles or containers containing or used for holding fish (whether for storage, transport or otherwise) and regulate the dimensions of such packages, receptacles or containers;
- (t) prohibit or regulate activities that interfere with, or obstruct, fishing;
- (u) prohibit the deposit of any refuse or waste in any waters or any other activity that might pollute any waters;
- (v) prohibit the use of any type of packaging, container or receptacle on a boat or regulate the disposal of any rubbish or material from a boat;
- (w) regulate aquatic eco-tourism and other activities that might disturb fish;
- (x) regulate the taking of fish for scientific purposes;
- (y) prohibit the taking of fish for genetic or chemical extraction or analysis unless a permit is obtained from the Executive Director;
- (z) provide for the naming of fish and prohibit the sale of fish except under specified names;

- (za) require persons who engage in fishing or the storage, transport, sale or purchase of fish to —
  - (i) keep specified records; and
  - (ii) submit specified returns at specified times;
- (zb) prohibit a person from making an entry or statement that is false or misleading in a material particular in a record or return required to be kept or submitted under the regulations;
- (zc) prescribe fees and charges for the purposes of this Act, including fees and charges payable in respect of —
  - (i) applications;
  - (ii) the issue of authorizations; and
  - (iii) the provision of any service or information;and
- (zd) allow the payment of any fee or charge to be made by instalments, and provide for the payment of a surcharge if the payment of any fee or charge is made by instalments.

### **Categories of fish**

**259.** (1) For the purposes of this Act, species of fish are to be prescribed as being either category 1 fish, category 2 fish, category 3 fish or category 4 fish.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1), category 4 fish may be prescribed to be any species of fish not prescribed to be category 1 fish, category 2 fish or category 3 fish.

**Service of summons etc.**

**260.** Any summons in respect of an offence against this Act, or warrant or other process under this Act, may be granted, issued, served or executed on a Sunday as on any other day.

**Service of notices**

**261.** (1) If any notice or other instrument is required under this Act to be given to, or served on, the holder of an authorization, the notice or other instrument may be given or served by posting it duly stamped and addressed to the address of the holder specified in the register.

(2) Nothing in subsection (1) limits the operation of section 76 of the *Interpretation Act 1984*.

**Executive Director to keep and make available copies of subsidiary legislation**

**262.** The Executive Director is to cause a copy of every order, regulation and management plan in force under this Act —

- (a) to be kept at the head office of the Department; and
- (b) to be available for inspection free of charge by members of the public at that office during normal office hours.

**Annual Report**

**263.** The annual report of the Department prepared for the purposes of the *Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985* is to include —

- (a) a report on the state of fisheries managed under this Act; and
- (b) details of exemptions granted during the financial year to which the report relates.

**Consequential amendments to other Acts**

**264.** The Acts referred to in Schedule 2 are amended as set out in that Schedule.

**Repeal**

**265.** The following Acts are repealed —

- (a) the *Fisheries Act 1905*;
- (b) the *Oyster Fisheries Act 1881*; and
- (c) the *Whaling Act 1937*.

**Savings and transitional provisions**

**266.** The savings and transitional provisions in Schedule 3 have effect.

**SCHEDULE 1**

[Sections 32, 36 and 40]

**CONSTITUTION AND PROCEEDINGS OF  
ADVISORY COMMITTEES****Meaning of "Advisory Committee"**

1. In this Schedule —

**"Advisory Committee"** means —

- (a) the Aquaculture Development Council;
- (b) the Recreational Fishing Advisory Committee; and
- (c) the Rock Lobster Industry Advisory Committee.

**Term of office of members**

2. Except as provided in clause 3, a member of an Advisory Committee, other than the Executive Director, is to hold office for such term, not being more than 3 years, as is specified in the member's instrument of appointment, and may from time to time be reappointed.

**Vacation of office by member**

3. (1) A member of an Advisory Committee, other than the Executive Director, may resign from office by notice in writing delivered to the Minister.

(2) A member of an Advisory Committee, other than the Executive Director, may be removed from office by the Minister —

- (a) for mental or physical disability, incompetence, neglect of duty or misconduct that impairs the performance of the member's duties;
- (b) if the member is an insolvent under administration, as that expression is defined in the Corporations Law;
- (c) if the member is absent without leave from 3 consecutive meetings of the Committee of which the member has had notice;
- (d) if the member ceases to hold any position or qualification by virtue of which he or she was appointed or, in the case of a member appointed on the nomination of a body, the body withdraws that nomination; or
- (e) for any other act or omission that in the Minister's opinion may cause prejudice or injury to the Committee.

### **Proceedings of Committee**

4. (1) The procedure for convening meetings of an Advisory Committee and the conduct of business at those meetings is, subject to this Schedule, to be as determined by the Committee.

(2) A quorum for a meeting of —

- (a) the Rock Lobster Industry Advisory Committee is 10 members;
- (b) the Recreational Fishing Advisory Committee is 10 members; and
- (c) the Aquaculture Development Council is 5 members.

(3) The first meeting of an Advisory Committee is to be convened by the chairperson.

### **Chairperson**

5. At a meeting of an Advisory Committee the chairperson is to preside or, in the absence of the chairperson, a member elected by the members present at the meeting is to preside.

### **Voting**

6. (1) A decision of the majority of members at a meeting of an Advisory Committee at which a quorum is present is the decision of the Committee.

(2) If the votes of members present at a meeting are equally divided, the presiding member is to have a casting vote in addition to a deliberative vote.

### **Person may attend at meeting**

7. An Advisory Committee may invite a person to attend a meeting for the purpose of advising or informing it on any matter.

### **Disclosure of interests**

8. If —

- (a) a member of an Advisory Committee has a direct or indirect interest in a matter being considered, or about to be considered, by the Advisory Committee; and

- (b) the interest could conflict with the proper performance of the member's duties in relation to the consideration of the matter,

the member must, as soon as practicable after the relevant facts have come to the knowledge of the member, disclose the nature of the interest at a meeting of the Advisory Committee.

### **Minutes**

**9.** An Advisory Committee is to cause a record of its proceedings to be made and preserved.



**SCHEDULE 2**

[Section 264]

**CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS TO OTHER ACTS**

Short title of Act	Amendment
1. <i>Conservation and Land Management Act 1984</i>	<p>In section 13 (3) delete "<i>Fisheries Act 1905</i>" and substitute the following —</p> <p>" <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> ".</p> <p>In section 14 (6) delete "<i>Fisheries Act 1905</i>" and substitute the following —</p> <p>" <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> ".</p> <p>In section 49 delete paragraphs (c) and (d) and substitute the following paragraphs —</p> <p>" (c) the Executive Director referred to in the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i>; and</p> <p>(d) a fisheries officer referred to in the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i>. "</p> <p>In section 53 in the definition of "Minister for Fisheries" delete "<i>Fisheries Act 1905</i>" and substitute the following —</p> <p>" <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> ".</p> <p>In section 60 (2a) delete "<i>Fisheries Act 1905</i>" and substitute the following —</p> <p>" <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> ".</p> <p>In section 101B (2) delete "<i>Fisheries Act 1905</i>" and substitute the following —</p> <p>" <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> ".</p> <p>In section 101B (3) delete "<i>Fisheries Act 1905</i>" and substitute the following —</p> <p>" <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> ".</p>
2. <i>Constitution Acts Amendment Act 1899</i>	<p>In Schedule V in Part 3 delete "The Rock Lobster Industry Advisory Committee constituted under the <i>Fisheries Act 1905</i>."</p>

In Schedule V in Part 3 delete "The General Fisheries Advisory committee constituted under the *Fisheries Act 1905*."

In Schedule V in Part 3 insert in the appropriate alphabetical position the following —

" Any advisory committee established or continued in existence under Part 4 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*. "

3. *Control of Vehicles (Off-road areas) Act 1978*

In section 38 (2) (g) delete "an inspector, under the *Fisheries Act 1905*" and substitute the following —

" a fisheries officer referred to in the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* ".

4. *Litter Act 1979*

In section 26 (2) (c) (vii) delete "an inspector, under the *Fisheries Act 1905*" and substitute the following —

" a fisheries officer referred to in the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* ".

In the Third Schedule in Column 1 delete "Inspectors under the *Fisheries Act 1905*" and substitute the following —

" Fisheries officers referred to in the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* ".

In the Third Schedule in Column 2 delete "The Director of Fisheries" in the second place where that phrase occurs and substitute the following —

" The Executive Director referred to in the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* ".

5. *Marine Navigational Aids Act 1973*

In section 3A (3) delete "*Fisheries Act, 1905, the Pearling Act, 1912, or the Whaling Act, 1937*" and substitute the following —

" *Fish Resources Management Act 1994 or the Pearling Act 1990* ".

6. *Port Kennedy  
Development  
Agreement  
Act 1992*

In section 12 (3) (c) delete "*Fisheries Act 1905*" and substitute the following —

" *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* ".

7. *Spear-guns  
Control Act 1955*

In section 3 in the definition of "Inspector" delete "inspector of fisheries appointed under the *Fisheries Act, 1905*" and substitute the following —

" fisheries officer referred to in the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* ".

8. *Stock Diseases  
(Regulations)  
Act 1968*

In section 6 insert in the appropriate alphabetical positions the following definitions —

" "**fish**" has the same meaning as in the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*; "

" "**fisheries officer**" has the same meaning as in the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*; "

In section 6 delete the definition of "inspector" and substitute the following definition —

" "**inspector**" means —

(a) in relation to any stock, the Chief Inspector of Stock and any other inspector of stock and includes a person authorized to act temporarily as an inspector of stock; and

(b) in relation to any fish declared by proclamation under section 7 to be stock for the purposes of this Act, a fisheries officer; "

9. *Waterways  
Conservation  
Act 1976*

In section 61 (5) (a) delete subparagraph (ii) and substitute the following subparagraph —

“ (ii) a fisheries officer referred to in the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*; ”.

10. *Wildlife  
Conservation  
Act 1950*

In section 6 in the definition of “to process” delete “or whales”.

In section 17 (2) (e) delete “*Fisheries Act 1905*, or the *Whaling Act 1937*” and substitute the following —

“ *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* ”.

In section 17 (2) (g) delete “*Fisheries Act 1905* or the *Whaling Act 1937*,” and substitute the following —

“ *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* ”.

In section 17A (d) delete “*Fisheries Act 1905*, or the *Whaling Act 1937*,” and substitute the following —

“ *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* ”.

**SCHEDULE 3**

[Section 266]

**SAVINGS AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS**

***Interpretation Act 1984 not affected***

1. Nothing in this Schedule limits the operation of the *Interpretation Act 1984*.

**Director of Fisheries**

2. The person holding office as Director of Fisheries immediately before the commencement of this Act is, on the commencement of this Act, to be taken to have been appointed as the Executive Director on the same terms and conditions as those on which he or she was appointed before the commencement.

**Inspectors**

3. A person who immediately before the commencement of this Act was an inspector of fisheries is, on the commencement of this Act, to be taken to have been appointed as a fisheries officer on the same terms and conditions as those on which he or she was appointed before the commencement.

**Honorary inspectors**

4. A person who immediately before the commencement of this Act was an honorary inspector of fisheries appointed under the repealed Act ceases, on the commencement of this Act, to hold that office, but is eligible for appointment as an honorary fisheries officer under this Act.

**Fisheries Research and Development Fund**

5. Any moneys credited to the Fisheries Research and Development Fund immediately before the commencement of this Act continue, on the commencement of this Act, to be credited to that Fund.

**Rock Lobster Industry Advisory Committee**

6. (1) A person who immediately before the commencement of this Act was a member of the Rock Lobster Industry Advisory Committee continues, on the commencement of this Act, to be a member of the committee on the same terms and conditions as those on which he or she was appointed before the commencement.

(2) The person who immediately before the commencement of this Act was appointed under section 5B (1) (a) of the repealed Act as Chairman of the committee ceases, on the commencement of this Act, to be the Chairman of the committee.

### **Arrangements**

7. An arrangement made under Part IIA of the repealed Act and in force immediately before the commencement of this Act continues in force, on the commencement of this Act, as if the arrangement had been made under Part 3 of this Act.

### **Limited entry fishery taken to be a managed fishery**

8. A fishery that was, immediately before the commencement of this Act, a limited entry fishery under section 32 of the repealed Act is, on the commencement of this Act, taken to be a managed fishery.

### **Limited entry fishery notice taken to be management plan**

9. (1) A notice under section 32 of the repealed Act in force immediately before the commencement of this Act continues to have effect, on the commencement of this Act, and may be amended or repealed, as if the notice were a management plan determined under section 54 and as if a reference in the notice —

- (a) to a limited entry fishery were a reference to a managed fishery;
- (b) to a licence, or an endorsement on a licence, in respect of the limited entry fishery were a reference to a managed fishery licence;
- (c) to the repealed Act or a provision of the repealed Act were a reference to this Act or to the corresponding provision of this Act;
- (d) to the Director were a reference to the Executive Director.

(2) Until an advisory committee or a person is specified in the management plan as required under section 65 the Minister is to consult with such advisory committee or person as the Minister thinks fit before amending the plan and the procedure in that section is to be taken to have been satisfied by the consultation.

(3) The consultation referred to in clause (2) may take place before the commencement of this Act.

**Limited entry fishery licence continued in force**

10. (1) A licence or endorsement in force under the repealed Act immediately before the commencement of this Act authorizing a person to engage in any fishing activity, or to operate or use any boat, in a limited entry fishery continues in force on the commencement of this Act as if it were a managed fishery licence granted under section 66 and as if a reference in the licence or endorsement —

- (a) to the repealed Act or a provision of that Act were a reference to this Act or the corresponding provision of this Act; and
- (b) to a limited entry fishery were a reference to a managed fishery.

(2) An entitlement under any licence or endorsement referred to in subclause (1) continues in force on the commencement of this Act as if it were an entitlement under a managed fishery licence.

**Permit to establish processing establishment continued in force**

11. A permit granted under section 35C of the repealed Act and in force immediately before the commencement of this Act continues in force on the commencement of this Act as if it were a permit granted under section 80 and as if a reference in that permit to the repealed Act or a provision of that Act were a reference to this Act or the corresponding provision of this Act.

**Processor's licence continued in force**

12. A processor's licence granted under section 35CA of the repealed Act and in force immediately before the commencement of this Act continues in force on the commencement of this Act as if it were a fish processor's licence granted under section 83 and as if a reference in that licence to the repealed Act or a provision of that Act were a reference to this Act or the corresponding provision of this Act.

**Fish farm licence continued in force**

13. A licence granted under section 39C of the repealed Act and in force immediately before the commencement of this Act continues in force on the commencement of this Act as if it were an aquaculture licence granted under section 92 and as if a reference in that licence —

- (a) to the repealed Act or a provision of that Act were a reference to this Act or the corresponding provision of this Act;
- (b) to the Director were a reference to the Executive Director.

**Proclaimed fishing zones continued in force**

14. (1) A portion of the State that was immediately before the commencement of this Act declared to be a proclaimed fishing zone under section 12A of the repealed Act is, on the commencement of this Act, taken to be a designated fishing zone as if it had been prescribed to be a designated fishing zone under the regulations.

(2) If the portion of the State referred to in subclause (1) was declared to be a proclaimed fishing zone only during a specified period it must taken, on the commencement of this Act, to have been prescribed to be a designated fishing zone during the same period.

(3) Subclauses (1) and (2) do not apply to a portion of the State if the portion of the State is, on the commencement of this Act, already prescribed under the regulations to be a designated fishing zone.

**Fishing boat licence continued in force**

15. A fishing boat licence in force under the repealed Act immediately before the commencement of this Act authorizing a person to use a boat for or in connection with the taking of fish for sale or otherwise for gain or reward, continues in force on the commencement of this Act as if it were a fishing boat licence granted under the regulations.

**Carrier boat licence continued in force**

16. A carrier boat licence in force under the repealed Act immediately before the commencement of this Act authorizing a person to use a carrier boat, continues in force on the commencement of this Act as if it were the corresponding licence granted under the regulations.

**Professional fisherman's licence continued in force**

17. A professional fisherman's licence in force under the repealed Act immediately before the commencement of this Act, continues in force on the commencement of this Act as if it were a commercial fishing licence granted under the regulations.

**Recreational fishing licence continued in force**

18. A recreational fishing licence in force under the repealed Act immediately before the commencement of this Act, continues in force on the commencement of this Act as if it were a recreational fishing licence granted under the regulations.



**Transitional regulations**

**19.** The regulations may provide for any matter if —

- (a) this Schedule does not make provision or sufficient provision in respect of the matter; and
- (b) it is necessary or convenient to do so to facilitate the transition from the provisions of the repealed Act to the provisions of this Act.

