



**WCPFC
MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES WORKSHOP**

Manila, Republic of the Philippines
28-29 November 2012

**MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES IN AUSTRALIA'S EASTERN TUNA
AND BILLFISH FISHERY**

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Australian Government

Australian Fisheries Management Authority

Management Objectives in Australia's Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery

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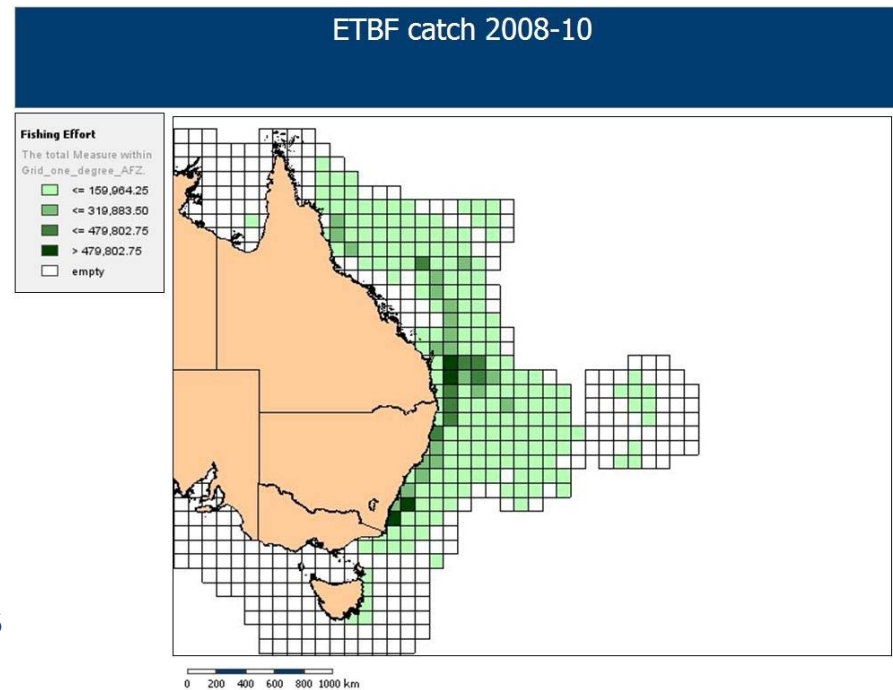
Protecting **our** fishing future

Australia's Fisheries Management Objectives

- **Contained in the Fisheries Management Act**
 1. **Ensuring fisheries are managed in an ecologically sustainable manner, including the exercise of the precautionary principle**
 2. **Maximising net economic returns to the Australian community**
 3. **Efficient and cost effective management**

Australia's Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery

- **Mixed fishery with quota management on 5 species**
 - Yellowfin Tuna
 - Bigeye Tuna
 - Albacore Tuna
 - Broadbill Swordfish
 - Striped Marlin
- **Boats are**
 - longliners
 - fresh boats
 - typically 20-25m
- **Trips are typically 4-10 days**



Harvest Strategy – Broadbill Swordfish

- **Target based on standardised catch rates (CPUE)**
- **Chosen by industry to maintain profitable catch rates (average 1997-2001)**
- **Tested through Management Strategy Evaluation to ensure it meets sustainability objectives**
- **Primary harvest control rule**
 - Compare current CPUE to target CPUE
 - Recommends management control (quota or effort) based on the above comparison
- **Secondary harvest control rule**
 - Uses size structure and recent CPUE trends (5 years) to refine the above adjustment

Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission

- **Broadbill Swordfish is managed in the WCPFC by flag based catch limits in the South Pacific**
- **If taken these limits would exceed the MSY**
 - Cause a decline in biomass
 - A decline in catch rates
 - A decline in the profitability of the industry
- **Australia can't meet the management objectives on our own – we are all in this together**

Co-operation and compatibility

- **Need for agreed management objectives by all WCPFC CCMs**
- **Ideally with harvest control rules designed to meet agreed objectives**
- **It is possible to develop different but compatible management arrangements to respond to changes in the fishery, for example**
 - Quota limits
 - Vessel day limits
 - Licence limits



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Any Questions?



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