

OCEAN TRAWL – DEEPWATER PRAWN

Profile

Total no. of Fishing Businesses (FBs) with shares	Total no. of shares	Reported annual catch (avg.)	No. of FBs accounting for 80% of the catch value
41	656	3 tonnes	2

Draft share linkage recommendation

It is recommended that a small increase in minimum shareholdings from 20 to 25 shares be applied, from July 2016. The development of the deepwater prawn sector should be monitored over the coming years and the framework reviewed in 2020.

Other proposed measures

- Remove the requirement for boats under 20m to be licensed (from July 2016).

What does the recommendation deliver for fishers?

- Removes some of the excess capacity from the fishery and brings the maximum number of endorsements closer to 15 which is the number of operators the working group previously advised this sector of the fishery could reasonably support.
- Removing the need to use licensed boats will take away an unnecessary and ongoing burden for fishers.

Things to consider

- By July 2016: If you currently have less than the new minimum shareholding and wish to remain endorsed to fish, you will need to get hold of enough shares to get up to the minimum. You can buy shares from someone else or put in a bid to buy shares in the exit grant program.
- If you no longer want to be endorsed to fish in this share class, you can put in an offer to sell shares in the exit grant program or you can sell shares to someone else at any time.
- Note that the exit grant program offers a good opportunity to buy or sell shares at a subsidised rate, without having to find buyers or sellers yourself.