



TARFish

Tasmanian Association for Recreational Fishing Inc.

www.tarfish.org

*Looking after the
interests of recreational
marine fishers*

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Rec Fishers Exit Ministers Working Group

Federal Fisheries Minister Joe Ludwig established a Working Group in late July comprising the Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA), Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF), Recreational Fishing representatives and Super Trawler proponent Seafish Tasmania to try to find a way forward in addressing recreational fishers concerns about the risks on local fish stocks of industrial scale fishing operation's in the Small Pelagic Fishery (SPF) announced by Seafish Tasmania in May.

TARFish entered the Working Group in good faith, representing the interests of state and national recreational fishers as the delegate representative for the Australian Recreational Fishing Foundation (ARFF) and Recfish Australia and were provided with an independent scientific reference source from CSIRO to assist with questions surrounding the science used within the Small Pelagic Fishery.

Following detailed discussions and a review of all the scientific information, provided to the Working Group, TARFish has come to the conclusion that there is a lack of detailed scientific knowledge surrounding;

1. the extent and rates of movement of each species of small pelagic fish
2. the amount of time it would take for local populations of small pelagic fish to recover from intensive localized fishing and
3. the size of the resident population of Jack Mackerel on the East Coast of Tasmania"

TARFish CEO said "Reviewing the Small Pelagic Fishery science has heightened our concerns and raised more questions without answers. No one seems to be able to answer what we see as some fairly simple questions such as, What is the effect on the marine environment of taking 10,000 tonnes of Jack Mackerel from the resident population on the East Coast of Tasmania?"

Recreational fishers call on Minister Ludwig to not allow industrial scale fishing operations to occur in the Small Pelagic Fishery and address the significant public concerns surrounding the risks of local area depletion on fish stocks.

Contact Mark Nikolai, Chief Executive Officer on 0403 868 004 for further information.

TARFish is the independent, government recognised peak body looking after the interests of recreational marine fishers in Tasmania.