

Abalone Industry Reinvestment Fund (AIRF)

Updated: June 2024

Social–economic analysis for the Tasmanian dive sector

Lead Agency: Institute of Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS)

Funding: \$101,769.00

Start Date: 1 September 2022

End Date: 1 August 2024

Status: CURRENT

Aims and Objectives:

The aim of this project is to conduct a social-economic analysis for the dive sector (commercial dive and the abalone dive) in Tasmania.

Objectives:

1. Undertake a desktop review to provide a comprehensive and up to date understanding of what the dive sector currently looks like (e.g., who catches the fish and who helps them? How many licences are active and inactive? What conditions are required for a licence to be considered viable?).
2. Undertake engagement with abalone and commercial dive fishers to understand the dive-sector's priorities going forwards, and what options exist for assisting the dive sector in a context of declining catches and rising input costs (e.g., fuel).
3. Measure the contribution of both commercial dive and abalone dive to Tasmanian economy for the 2020-21 year.

Progress Report

- The survey has now concluded (31 May), there are 23 responses altogether.
- Every diver active for the 2020-21 base year has been contacted in relation to the study.
- The quantitative data analysis has commenced.