



Review of Fishery Advisory Committees

SUMMARY

As part of the review of the *Living Marine Resources Management Act 1995*, NRE Tas reviewed the effectiveness of Fishery Advisory Committees (FACs), their structure and role.

The review included an external consultant, with expertise in governance and law, assessing models used across Australia, as well as canvassing both internal and external stakeholder viewpoints on existing FACs. The consultant's findings contributed to the Department's review of FACs.

Summary of the consultant's findings

The consultant found that the challenges with fisheries management are similar across jurisdictions. This includes managing vast amounts of information and interests, stakeholder consultation, managing conflicts of interest and where to best place Total Allowable Catch (TAC) decisions. The consultant provided recommendations for NRE Tas to consider, including:

Part A - structure

- Creation of a new model; or
- Retain the FACs and improve governance processes.

Part B – governance

- Integrate fisheries sectors (recreational, Aboriginal and commercial sectors)
- Reduce harvest strategy timeframes
- Governance improvements (focus on legislative objectives, education for members, clear governance structures, adopt standard processes, clear communication of scientific information, consideration of paying sitting fees)

Further information can be found on the [NRE Tas website](#).