



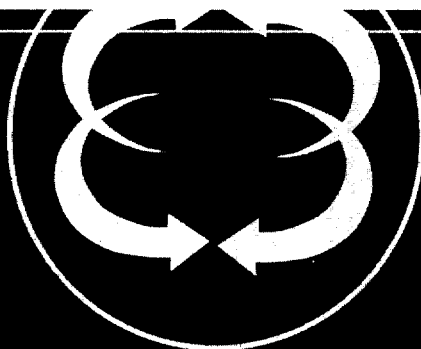
Australian Society for Fish Biology
AND THE
Fish and Aquatic Resource Management
Association of Australasia

JOINT WORKSHOP PROCEEDINGS

**Taking stock: defining
and managing
shared resources**

Darwin • 15–16 July 1997

D.A. Hancock (editor)



CORRECTION

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Foreword

P.C.Young

*Australian Society for Fish Biology
President 1995–97*

Strategies for the management of wild fish stocks are often compromised by little known and poorly quantified human activities impacting on fish species within the ecological range of each stock boundary. This is compounded by the poorly understood responses of the fish, leading to conflicts between nations, states and provinces, and between stakeholders within a single jurisdiction. Typical activities resulting in such conflict include recreational fishing, taking of bycatch, traditional fishing, commercial fishing, fishing in waters adjacent to managed jurisdictions, and habitat modifications. Each of these activities can, under certain circumstances, have detrimental effects on the well-being and sustainability of fish stocks. Solutions to these conflicts are shaped by government jurisdiction, maritime boundaries, and the state of scientific knowledge, and are strongly influenced by political whim. The understanding of resource dynamics and management needs, and our ability to perceive and resolve conflict, may also be critically flawed because of activities in distant parts of the range of a fish stock.

What are fish stocks? Can stocks be contained within meaningful boundaries? And what are the implications of assessing resources and implementing management strategies if stocks are shared by many users, or if stock boundaries are not clearly known?

This volume contains the proceedings of the 1997 ASFB–FARMAA Workshop which was held in Darwin to bring together fishery scientists, managers and stakeholders to debate methods for defining and managing shared stocks. The Workshop discussions were enlivened by the presence of a number of invited experts, and was characterized by intense interaction in the well-facilitated discussion groups. The Workshop advanced our understanding of the key issues, and provided benchmark information for future directions in fisheries research and management. Taking Stock: Defining and Managing Shared Resources is a pivotal issue for the fishing industry, fisheries scientists and fisheries managers and I commend these proceedings to you.

The Society once again gratefully acknowledges the support of the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation who provided funds for the Workshop and have generously supported ASFB Workshops since 1988, and including the 1996 World Fisheries Congress, which was hosted and organized by the Society.

The 1997 Workshop in Darwin was jointly convened by the Australian Society for Fish Biology (ASFB) and the Fish and Aquatic Resource Management Association of Australasia (FARMAA) and has benefited

from the full resources of the Northern Territory Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries. The Workshop was facilitated by Kayt Raymond & Associates of Sydney.

As always with meetings of this nature, those who contributed to its success are too numerous to name. However, acknowledgment needs to be made to the Workshop Organizing Committee under the chairman-

ship of Roland Griffin. They are Anne Coleman, Rik Buckworth, Julie Lloyd, Darryl Grey, Ric Fallu, Rosemary Lea, Helen Larson, Tracy Hay, Joanne Stubbs, Chris Calogeras, David Ramm and Ray Clarke. These proceedings have been edited by Don Hancock with considerable assistance from Kristen Campbell of NT Fisheries, in conjunction with Gregg Berry of the Bureau of Resource Sciences.

Contents

Foreword <i>P.C. Young</i>	iii
Welcome <i>Roland Griffin</i>	1
Official Opening <i>David Hall</i>	2
ASFB/FARMAA workshop process <i>Kay Raymond, Facilitator</i>	3
Session 1: What is a Stock?	
Taking stock: or, Who is taking what stock? <i>John Mark Dean</i>	7
Stock structure across Northern Australia <i>Clive Keenan</i>	31
Questions to John Dean and Clive Keenan	40
Group Discussions	41
Session 1 Group Discussion	44
Session 2: Stock Assessment and Research	
Stock assessment and harvest policy design for shared resources <i>Carl Walters</i>	51
Questions to Carl Walters	62
Accommodating uncertainty in assessing returns from research for Tasmanian orange roughy management <i>A. David MacDonald, Anthony D.M. Smith and Adam J. Davidson</i>	65
Questions to David MacDonald	71
Session 2 Group Discussion	73
Session 3: Management and Allocation of Shared Stocks	
Establishing a consultative mechanism or arrangement for managing shared stocks within the jurisdiction of contiguous States <i>John F. Caddy</i>	81

Questions to John Caddy	124
Biting the allocation bullet — Allocation in international fisheries <i>Mary Harwood</i>	125
Questions to Mary Harwood	131
Making things work: Recognizing the values and interests of stakeholders <i>Nigel Scullion</i>	133
Questions to Nigel Scullion	137
Session 3 Group Discussion	139
 Session 4: Summing up — Panel Discussions	
Session 4 — Panel Discussions	149
<i>Recorded by Patrick Coutin</i>	
Summing up <i>Peter C. Young</i>	165
Workshop programme	169
 Prize Winning Essays	
Notes on the FRDC Workshop student awards	172
Stock identification and fisheries management: the importance of using several methods in a stock identification study <i>Troy Coyle</i>	173
An appraisal of techniques commonly employed in stock structure assessment in Australasian shellfish and finfish species <i>Dean R. Jerry</i>	183
Spatial Autocorrelation: A new analytical tool for use in stock determination and fisheries management <i>Marie Roseline Yardin</i>	196
Abstracts from ASFB 1997 Annual Conference	213
List of participants	223

Welcome

Roland Griffin

Chairman — 1997 Organizing Committee

Welcome one and all to Darwin for the 23rd Annual Conference of the Australian Society for Fish Biology (ASFB) and the Annual Workshop which has become a major feature of the conference week. This year the Workshop is a joint project between ASFB and the Fisheries Managers, again generously supported by the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation. This will be the 11th ASFB and the 5th Fisheries Managers Workshop which is supported by the newly formed Fish and Aquatic Resource Management Association of Australasia (FARMAA). The next two days presents a great opportunity for fisheries managers and researchers to get together and discuss common interests, something which I think most will agree, we probably should do more often. There are also a few fishing industry representatives, and even the occasional politician, to add their angle to the discussion. This year's Workshop theme — Taking Stock: Defining and Managing Shared Resources — was chosen with those joint interests in mind. The topic also suits the location — we in the NT share many of our fish resources with other States and another nation, and we have had a lot of experience in sharing the resources between user groups.

Some of you may have fond memories of the last ASFB conference in Darwin way back in 1986. We won't try to make this one a repeat of that one, but we will be doing our best to

make sure that it is at least as enjoyable and productive. In addition to the Workshop and Conference we have a busy social programme and some interesting tour opportunities for you. Hopefully these will once again be useful in establishing new network contacts and in renewing old ones.

This year's Workshop format will be quite different to what you might be accustomed to — we will have three keynote speakers, John Dean, Carl Walters and John Caddy, who will each provide an overview of one of the three aspects of the Workshop topic. Each will be supported by one or two speakers who will present more specific case study/experience papers. Most of the time will be taken up with group discussions on questions raised by the keynote speakers. This will take a considerable amount of organization to accomplish and the timetable will have to be strictly enforced. The Workshop process will be co-ordinated by Kayt Raymond. Kayt will have quite a bit to say about that before we get underway.

At this stage I would like to specifically acknowledge the tremendous contribution, both financial and otherwise, made by the NT Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries to the organization of this Workshop, and call on the Director of Fisheries, Mr David Hall, to officially open the proceedings.

Official Opening

David Hall

Director of Fisheries

Northern Territory Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries

On behalf of the Minister for Primary Industry and Fisheries, Mr Mick Palmer, whom some of you may have met yesterday at the icebreaker function at Parliament House, welcome to the Northern Territory. I'm sure that you will all have an enjoyable and productive stay in the Top End. As some of you might be aware (particularly those of you from South Australia) I have only been in the NT myself since May. Even so I can assure you that it is a most exciting place to work in the fisheries field with new fisheries developing and the opportunity to get it right the first time on the management front. So if any of you are looking for a new challenge why not look northwards.

As you are all aware these events don't just happen — they require a lot of hard work. I would therefore like to take this opportunity to thank Roland Griffin and the organizing committee for their tremendous effort in getting this all together and happening. In addition we must thank the major sponsor, FRDC, and our Minister and

Department for their generous support. The new Workshop format will hopefully prove to be a winner. Given the mixture of people that we have here and the Workshop theme I'm sure that we can look forward to some lively and provocative discussion. Coming, as I do, from a background of research and management, I think the concept of a joint Workshop with managers, researchers and students, plus the industry representatives (and even the politicians) meeting together to discuss common problems is a very good one. Many people would argue, myself included, that such cooperation is in some cases somewhat overdue. In the NT we already have our researchers and managers in the same organization working closely together. I know that there is a very busy programme ahead and we are a little behind time so without further ado I will declare the 1997 ASFB/FARMAA Workshop officially open and hand over to Kayt Raymond who will brief you on the workshop procedures and processes. Thank you.

ASFB/FARMAA workshop process

Kayt Raymond, Facilitator

Kayt Raymond & Associates

GPO Box 2950, Sydney 2001, AUSTRALIA

The organizers' aim with the Workshop was to be innovative — providing researchers and managers with opportunities to experience speakers, discuss issues and questions, and dialogue feedback.

The Workshop process had three sessions, each involving a main speaker followed by case study speakers. In each of the three sessions, participants (in groups with leaders and rapporteurs) were asked to consider questions posed by the keynote speaker. Twelve groups reported back to the Workshop, some in a requested format (why, what, how, what else/if) or in summary points. The suggested format for presentations worked well for some groups and was less useful for others.

The Workshop was facilitated, all the sessions were recorded both on audio and with written notes. Time was a constraint in not allowing enough dialogue on feedback, by means of overhead transparencies, from groups within the Workshop. However, the feedback from groups was typed and distributed at the end of the Workshop.

The fourth and final session involved three panels of speakers from the first three sessions. Panel members made summary comments and Workshop participants dialogued points of interest. Though the plenary session was the last session of the Workshop there was a maximum attendance, clear focus and participation.

A key feature of the process was the opportunity provided for participants to gain first-hand experience from key workers in international and Australian negotiations, and to be able to discuss the implications in intimate fora shared by scientists, managers and fisheries administrators.

An evaluation form was completed by participants giving feedback and making constructive suggestions on Workshop and process refinements for future workshops.

A summary of proceedings was prepared and the diagram below indicates the workshop process and outputs.

ASFB/FARMAA Workshop

PROCESS

OUTPUT

SESSIONS 1, 2 & 3

