



**Senator the Hon. Richard Colbeck**  
Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources  
Senator for Tasmania

M E D I A R E L E A S E

## Revamped fisheries harvest strategy policy

The harvest strategy policy underpinning Australian fisheries has been updated, in a move which reflects advances in international best practice, further supports trust in our world-class fisheries management systems and provides certainty for commercial fishers and the environment.

Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, Senator Richard Colbeck, said that the Second Edition of the *Commonwealth Fisheries Harvest Strategy Policy* and implementation guidelines would ensure that Commonwealth-managed fisheries remain at the forefront of sustainability.

“Australia is a world leader in fisheries management and I am committed to keeping our fisheries healthy and sustainable for the benefit of all Australians,” Minister Colbeck said.

“This policy is the cornerstone of the government’s commitment to Australia’s fishing industry—providing the framework for the evidence-based approach to setting sustainable harvest levels.

“The second edition of the policy has been updated following developments in fisheries science and fisheries management practice, as well as stakeholder consultations and technical reviews.

“The policy now gives even greater guidance on managing for variability in our ocean environment, and more explicit consideration of recreational and Indigenous fishers.

“It also ensures consistency of management across fisheries to provide the industry with a more certain operating environment.

“By using the best available research, we’re able to meet these sustainability targets and support jobs all over the country, particularly in regional areas.

The *Commonwealth Fisheries Harvest Strategy Policy* and the *Commonwealth Fisheries Bycatch Policy*, also released today, are the foundation for the management of Commonwealth fisheries.

The *Commonwealth Fisheries Harvest Strategy Policy* is available online at [agriculture.gov.au/fisheries/domestic/harvest\\_strategy\\_policy](http://agriculture.gov.au/fisheries/domestic/harvest_strategy_policy).

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