

**The reduction in effort that would be achieved based on the choice of months selected for fishing  
in the West Coast Rock Lobster fishery**

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**Summary**

At the SWG meeting held on 12 August 2016 a proposal was made by DAFF regarding an effort limitation scheme based on restricting the number of months within which fishing can take place in each Super-Area. Industry was requested to put forward their preferred selection of months for consideration and this document reports a comparison across the various suggestions.

Table 1 reports the months put forward by each organization (DAFF, The West Coast Rock Lobster Association (WCRLA) and the SMME West Coast Rock Lobster Association (SMME)).

Table 2 reports the percentage reduction in effort for the different methods of fishing (hoops and traps) that would be achieved in each of the Areas given the respective months selected by each organization. These calculations were based on the number of records per month over the period 2011-2015 for each Area/fishing method combination.

**Table 1: Comparison of the months selected by respective stakeholders per Super-area as per the effort reduction proposal**

	DAFF	WCRLA	SMME
<b>A1+2</b>	Nov-Jan	Oct-Jan	Nov-Jan
<b>A3+4</b>	Nov-Jan	Nov-Mar	Nov-Jan
<b>A5+6</b>	Dec-Feb	Dec-Mar	Nov-Jan
<b>A7</b>	Jan-Mar	Dec-Mar	Nov-Jan
<b>A8<sup>1</sup></b>	Mar-May	Feb-May/July	Mar-July
<b>A11-14<sup>2</sup></b>	Mar-May	Dec-Mar	Mar-July

**Table 2: Percentage reduction in effort per Super-Area and fishing type based on selected fishing months**

	Traps			Hoops		
	DAFF	WCRLA	SMME	DAFF	WCRLA	SMME
<b>A1+2</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	46	20	46
<b>A3+4</b>	41	21	41	53	12	53
<b>A5+6</b>	40	15	40	45	30	62
<b>A7</b>	27	15	61	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>A8</b>	62	28	35	55	21	36
<b>A11</b>	56	35	36	56	45	30
<b>A8+A11<sup>3</sup></b>	62	54	35	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>A12</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	63	49	46
<b>A13</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	82	36	79
<b>A14</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	58	38	48
<b>A8+A11+A12+A13+A14<sup>4</sup></b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	66	47	52
<b>All areas</b>	42	39	28	61	28	61

<sup>1</sup> DAFF and SMME referred to Area 8+, but WCRLA split Area 8 into Area 8 nearshore and offshore, with Feb-May assigned to nearshore and February-July assigned to offshore.

<sup>2</sup> WCRLA also included Areas 11 – 14. It has therefore been assumed that the DAFF and SMME Area 8-Area 14 months would be the same as for Area 8+.

<sup>3</sup> Areas 8+11 relate to trapboat fishing (i.e. Area 8+ for trapboats).

<sup>4</sup> Areas 8+11+12+13+14 relate to hoopnet fishing (i.e. Area 8+ for hoopnets)