



**COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA**

***Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999***

**DECLARATION OF AN APPROVED WILDLIFE TRADE OPERATION –  
WESTERN AUSTRALIAN G-TRAP FISHERY – AUSTRALIAN HERRING,  
MARCH 2024**

I, BELINDA JAGO, Branch Head, Ocean and Wildlife Branch, as Delegate of the Minister for the Environment and Water, have considered in accordance with section 303FN of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) the application from the Western Australian Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, public comments on the proposal as required under section 303FR, and advice on the ecological sustainability of the operation. I am satisfied on those matters specified in section 303FN of the EPBC Act. I hereby declare the operations for the harvesting of Australian Herring (*Arripis georgianus*), taken in the Western Australian G-Trap Fishery – Australian Herring as defined in the management regime in force under the:

- *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* (Western Australia),
- Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995 (Western Australia),

and excluding:

- (a) specimens that belong to taxa listed under section 209 of the EPBC Act (Australia’s List of Migratory Species), or
- (b) specimens that belong to taxa listed under section 248 of the EPBC Act (Australia’s List of Marine Species), or
- (c) specimens that belong to eligible listed threatened species, as defined under section 303BC of the EPBC Act, or
- (d) specimens that belong to taxa listed under section 303CA of the EPBC Act (Australia’s CITES List),

to be an approved wildlife trade operation, in accordance with subsection 303FN(2) and paragraph 303FN(10)(d), for the purposes of the EPBC Act.

Unless amended or revoked, this declaration:

- a) is valid until 7 March 2027 and;
- b) is subject to the conditions applied under section 303FT specified in the Schedule.

Dated this 7<sup>th</sup> day of March 2024

BELINDA JAGO

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Delegate of the Minister for the Environment and Water

Notes: Under the Administrative Appeals Tribunal Act 1975, a person whose interests are affected by this decision may apply for a statement of reasons and for independent review of the decision. An application for a statement of reasons may be made in writing to the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water within 28 days of the date of the declaration. An application for independent review may be made to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal on payment of the relevant fee within 28 days of the date of the declaration, or if reasons are sought, within 28 days of receipt of reasons. Further information may be obtained from the Director, Sustainable Fisheries Section, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, Email: [sustainablefisheries@dcceew.gov.au](mailto:sustainablefisheries@dcceew.gov.au).

**Declaration of the harvest operations of the Western Australian G-Trap Fishery – Australian Herring as an approved wildlife trade operation, March 2024**

**ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS (section 303FT)**

Relating to the harvesting of fish specimens that are, or are derived from, fish or invertebrates, other than specimens of species listed under Part 13 and Part 13A of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act), taken in the Western Australian G-Trap Fishery – Australian Herring:

**Condition 1**

Operation of the Western Australian G-trap Fishery – Australian Herring must be carried out in accordance with the management regime in force under the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* (WA), Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995 (WA), Herring Trap Net notice 1991 endorsement (Condition 42), Prohibition on Herring Trap Nets Order (2015), and annual exemptions in accordance with Section 7 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*, which exempt specified operators from the Prohibition on Herring Trap Nets Order 2015.

**Condition 2**

The Western Australian Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development must inform the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water of any intended material changes to the Western Australian G-trap Fishery – Australian Herring management arrangements that may affect the assessment against which *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* decisions are made.

**Condition 3**

The Western Australian Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development must inform the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water of any intended changes to fisheries legislation that may affect the legislative instruments relevant to this approval.

**Condition 4**

The Western Australian Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development must produce and provide reports on the Western Australian G-trap Fishery to the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water annually, within one month of publication of the annual report, as per Appendix B of the *Guidelines for the Ecologically Sustainable Management of Fisheries – 2nd Edition*.

**Condition 5**

By 28 February 2025, the Western Australian Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development must publish an ecological risk assessment for the South Coast Nearshore Finfish Resource, that considers risks to target, bycatch and protected species, as well as the ecosystem more broadly.

**Condition 6**

By 28 February 2025, the Western Australian Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development must publish a harvest strategy for the resource including objectives and

performance criteria by which the effectiveness of the management arrangements is measured.

**Condition 7**

By 28 February 2025, the Western Australian Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development must provide the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water with an interim stock assessment for Australian Herring.