



Department of
Primary Industries

Our ref: CTS 07145/25

16 April 2025

Shawn McAtamney
Managing Director
Independent Seafood Producers
shawn@ispseafood.com

Dear Mr McAtamney

Thank you for your email of 2 April 2025 regarding the Gulf of Carpentaria mud crab fishery performance and total allowable commercial catch (TACC) for the upcoming fishing season.

The Gulf of Carpentaria mud crab fishery has triggered decision rule 1.7 (known as the 'breakout rule') of the [Mud Crab Harvest Strategy 2020-2026](https://www.publications.qld.gov.au/ckan-publications-attachments-prod/resources/eb98e02e-ad8b-421e-ad1b-6e5ad66b9cc5/mud-crab-harvest-strategy.pdf?ETag=ce3279ac2e07c0dd3d8f69c5439880c0) (available at <https://www.publications.qld.gov.au/ckan-publications-attachments-prod/resources/eb98e02e-ad8b-421e-ad1b-6e5ad66b9cc5/mud-crab-harvest-strategy.pdf?ETag=ce3279ac2e07c0dd3d8f69c5439880c0>) which calls for a reduction in the TACC at the commencement of the 2025/26 fishing season on 1 July 2025. Importantly, the Mud Crab Harvest Strategy 2020-2026 also requires consideration of broader social and economic indicators to help guide the interpretation and application of the decision rules—particularly where trends in the fishery may raise concern. Thank you for providing additional context and information that can assist with the interpretation of catch and effort data and inform the application of the Mud Crab Harvest Strategy 2020-2026 decision rules.

As you are aware, Fisheries Queensland has met with relevant stakeholders to review the fishery's performance data and discuss the socio-economic factors that may be influencing fisher behaviour. Fisheries Queensland is undertaking the necessary internal briefings in line with the proposed 'no change' TACC position for the Gulf of Carpentaria mud crab fishery. To assist this process, a survey has been sent to those industry members regarding the social and economic drivers impacting fishing behaviour.

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Thank you again for your input on this important matter, if you require any further information, please contact Lauren Jubb, Fisheries Manager, Fisheries Management on 0476 879 373 or by email at lauren.jubb@daf.qld.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Dallas D'Silva', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Dallas D'Silva
Executive Director
Fisheries Queensland