



Australian Government

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

UPDATE FOUR: EASTERN TUNA AND BILLFISH FISHERY RESOURCE SHARING PROCESS

You have registered your interest with the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (the Department) to receive regular updates on the progress of the resource sharing process in the Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery (ETBF).

Further to my letter dated 5 May 2006, the independent facilitator for resource sharing, Mr Ewan Colquhoun, finalised discussions with individual stakeholders and has been working with the ETBF Technical Working Group to develop resource sharing options for consideration by the broader ETBF Stakeholder Steering Group. A copy of the Options Paper can be found on the Department's website at www.daff.gov.au/resourcesharing or you can obtain a hardcopy by contacting Dr Elizabeth Foster by email at elizabeth.foster@daff.gov.au or by phone on 02 6272 3244.

The Options Paper will form the basis of negotiations at a Steering Group meeting that will be facilitated by Mr Colquhoun in Sydney on 20 June 2006. The purpose of the workshop will be for stakeholders to work with Mr Colquhoun to reach an agreeable resource sharing outcome for the ETBF that will be presented to the Government for consideration. I encourage you to contact Mr Colquhoun or your relevant Steering Group representative (see [Attachment A](#)) if you would like to make a contribution that will be taken forward to the facilitated discussion on your behalf.

In addition to his comprehensive consultations, Mr Colquhoun has researched and gathered significant background information which informed the development of his Options Paper. This information is provided in a series of Background Papers, which are listed below and can be obtained from the aforementioned website or from Dr Foster.

- Background Paper 1: The Fishery
- Background Paper 2: The Resource Users
- Background Paper 3: Data Used
- Background Paper 4: Other Issues
- Background Paper 5: Stakeholder Consultation

Thank you for your continued interest in the ETBF resource sharing process.

Yours sincerely

Russell James
General Manager
Fisheries and Marine Environment Branch
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