



Australian Government
Department of the Environment

The Hon Matthew Groom MP
Minister for Environment, Parks and Heritage
GPO Box 469,
Hobart Tasmania 7000

Dear Minister

I am writing to you as the Delegate of the Minister for the Environment in relation to the assessment of the Tasmanian Gould's Squid Fishery under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

In January 2014, the Tasmanian Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment submitted an application to the Department of the Environment seeking export approval for the Tasmanian Gould's Squid Fishery. The application has been assessed for the purposes of the wildlife trade provisions of Part 13A of the EPBC Act.

I am pleased to advise that the assessment of the operation of the Tasmanian Gould's Squid Fishery is now complete. The assessment report will be available on the Department of the Environment's website at: <http://www.environment.gov.au/topics/marine/fisheries/tas/goulds-squid>.

I consider that the Tasmanian Gould's Squid Fishery operates in line with the Australian Government 'Guidelines for the Ecologically Sustainable Management of Fisheries – 2nd Edition.' Given the management arrangements in place for the fishery, including limiting the species approved for catch, utilising low impact gear, and implementing reporting requirements, I have decided to amend the list of exempt native specimens to allow export of product from the Tasmanian Gould's Squid Fishery for a period of five years, until 19 June 2019.

While there are some environmental risks associated with the Tasmanian Gould's Squid Fishery, I believe that the Tasmanian Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment has in place measures to address these issues. Officers from the Tasmanian Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment and this Department have discussed and agreed to five recommendations focussing on ensuring the continuation of good management practices. These recommendations can be found at **Attachment 1**.

I would like to thank you for the constructive way in which your officials have approached this assessment.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joanne Beath', written over a circular stamp or seal.

Joanne Beath

Delegate of the Minister for the Environment
18 June 2014

Recommendations to the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment on the ecologically sustainable management of the Tasmanian Gould's Squid Fishery, June 2014

1. Operation of the fishery will be carried out in accordance with the management regime in force under the Tasmanian *Living Marine Resources Management Act 1995*.
2. The Tasmanian Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment (DPIPWE) to inform the Department of the Environment of any intended material changes to the Tasmanian Gould's Squid Fishery management arrangements that may affect the assessment against which *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* decisions are made.
3. The Tasmanian DPIPWE to produce and present reports to the Department of the Environment annually as per Appendix B of the 'Guidelines for the Ecologically Sustainable Management of Fisheries - 2nd Edition'.
4. The Tasmanian DPIPWE to periodically review existing management triggers and responses in line with the national stock assessment and reporting framework, and incorporate these into formal management arrangements as appropriate.
5. The Tasmanian DPIPWE to continue to work cooperatively with other relevant jurisdictions sharing the Gould's squid stock, including:
 - a) data sharing for inclusion in national assessment and reporting processes, and
 - b) taking account of management actions or changes, research and assessment information from other jurisdictions.