

West Coast Rock Lobster document list for IWS 2018, with additional comments linking the documents to the key questions addressed to the Panel

Johnston, S.J. and Butterworth, D.S.

Summary

This document lists the west coast rock lobster document list for IWS 2018 and includes comments linking the documents to key questions addressed to the panel.

A brief description of each document is provided in red italics, with the particular aim of linking the documents to the key questions to the Panel.

Primary Documents

P1. Brandão, A., Butterworth, D.S. and Johnston, S.J. 2018. Refined trends in poaching for West Coast rock lobster based upon information from the DAFF compliance “new” database for the period 2012 to 2017, and final poaching trends used for updated assessments and projections.

This document provides the full specifications and results of the poaching analyses undertaken since December 2017 following the 2017 panel’s various recommendations at that time. It will assist address the question of whether the panel’s recommendations about the analysis of the compliance data to estimate poaching trends have been appropriately addressed?

P2. Johnston S.J. and Butterworth, D.S 2018. The size-structured (length based) stock assessment methodology applied to west coast rock lobster.

This document gives the full model description of the assessment methodology. Several recommendations (BG2) were made in 2010 by the panel and these have by and large been followed through. The panel is asked to advise how the assessments could still be improved, giving prioritised suggestions related to data and to the analysis methodology, and some initial pointers on this are offered.

P3. Johnston S.J. and Butterworth, D.S 2018. 2018 updated west coast rock lobster assessments.

This document provides results of the most recent 2018 updated assessments for each of the five super-areas. There are aspects where improvement is desirable, and the panel is asked to comment on this, taking note of some pointers to be found in the Assessment shortfalls section.

P4. Johnston S.J. and Butterworth, D.S 2018. Projections of the west coast rock lobster resource under different poaching and future catch scenarios scenarios.

This document reports determinisitc projections with mainly constant catches in the future, including under different poaching scenarios. The panel is asked to comment on whether the updated resource projections under alternative levels of catch (both legal and poaching) been carried out appropriately.

P5. Butterworth, D.S 2018. On options for the basis for future west coast rock lobster TAC advice.

This document describes in detail the process of TAC decision making since 2016. It discusses why advice was given on a “best assessment” basis, and how uncertainties were previously taken into account when projecting the resource forwards. Suggestions on how to move from a probability envelope about a deterministic projection approach towards an OMP approach are made. The Panel

is asked how such projections might be best improved methodologically in future, including in particular to take account of stock-recruitment effects.

P6. West Coast Rock Lobster: Questions to the panel

Background Documents

BG1. Johnston S.J. and Butterworth, D.S 2018. A summary of the west coast rock lobster fishery.

This document provides a summary of the west coast rock lobster fishery. It discusses geographic distribution, biology, trends in abundance, harvesting and management rules that have been in place historically. The document also describes briefly the data available for assessments, and a few updated 2018 biomass assessment variants as well as showing past and future catch trajectories (legal and illegal).

BG2. Johnston S.J. 2018. West Coast Rock Lobster: Responses to previous Panel Recommendations.

This document provides responses to the 2010 IWS panel's recommendations where that panel spent considerable time evaluating the underlying size-structure operating model of the resource. Responses to the panel's recommendations have been provided in this document. The last section deals with the 2017 IWS panel recommendations regarding the analysis of the compliance poaching data. P1 provides considerable detail on the progress made here.

BG3. Johnston S.J. and Butterworth, D.S 2018. The Consequences of Different Inshore/Offshore splits of the WCRL TAC.

This document discusses the consequences of different inshore/offshore splits of the WCRL TAC. Recall it is the larger industry boats that fish in deeper waters using traps, with smaller-scale inshore fishers using hoopnets nearshore. A shift from harvesting less lobster offshore and more inshore may have resource implications. This document discusses this possibility and suggests that increases in the current inshore allocations in the two super-areas studies (A3+4 and A8+) will lead to a rapid and substantial decrease in inshore abundance.

BG4: Johnston, S.J. and Butterworth, D.S. 2018. West Coast Rock Lobster document list for IWS 2018, with additional comments linking the documents to the key questions addressed to the Panel.