

**SEARCH CRITERIA**

<b>Model</b>	Model C: Technological Development Model
<b>Industry</b>	Seafood
<b>Focus/Level</b>	Industry
<b>Purpose</b>	Creating new knowledge/Improve productivity
<b>Outcomes</b>	Development of specific technologies
<b>Special Interest Groups</b>	Other
<b>Design and Implementation</b>	Designed and managed by extension officers

**1. PROJECT TITLE:**

Moreton Bay to Spencers Gulf. Trawl fishers “at sea” mentoring experience. EMS in Action

**2. FUNDERS:**

Funding application in progress at the Seafood Industry Development Fund

**3. PROVIDERS:**

Moreton Bay Seafood Industry Association, Qld  
Spencer Gulf and West Coast Prawn Fishermen’s Association. SA

Trawl fishery representative bodies  
MBSIA. 91 Main Rd Clontarf Qld. 4019  
SGWCPFA. P.O. Box 8 Port Lincoln SA 5606

**4. KEY CONTACTS:**

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**5. INDUSTRY/ISSUE/GEOGRAPHY**

Issue: maximising economic returns and minimising environmental impacts.  
Industry: Seafood  
Geography: Spencers Gulf, South Australia

**6. PROJECT CONTEXT**

At the National Prawn industry conference in Cairns (Nov/Dec 2004) a paper was delivered by Greg Palmer from the Spencers Gulf Prawn Fishery. It gave an outline of the real time management that allows the fleet to work at very fine detail to tune harvest strategies on an hourly basis if required. The “committee-at-sea” concept of complete cooperation within the trawl sector was very impressive .

As both Moreton Bay and Spencers Gulf trawl fisheries are participating in the EMS case study project and Moreton Bay is now a closed fishery there appeared to be an opportunity for a technology transfer to happen by using the mentoring process, with the Spencers Gulf trawl fishers demonstrating in real fishing time to the Moreton Bay

fishers how they had managed to achieve a high level of cooperation and economic efficiency.

This demonstration should be inspirational for the Moreton Bay trawl fishers as they start to manage their fishery as a closed fishery. After discussing the idea with both fisheries and gaining enthusiastic support from both representative groups it was decided to request funding assistance from SSA.

### **7. PROJECT NICHE**

This project could be looked upon as a case study in moving industry best practice between similar fishing sectors.

It is hoped that the Moreton Bay operators will include real time management changes in their at sea operations.

The real time management may become part of the Moreton Bay trawl fishers EMS. The project itself is an extension exercise.

### **8. PHILOSOPHY/APPROACH:**

The objectives of the project were:

1. To allow Moreton Bay trawl fishers to experience at sea, real time management, as practiced by the Spencer gulf trawl fishers.
2. To demonstrate to Moreton Bay fishers what can be achieved by co-operation at a co-managed fisheries level.
3. To utilise the synergy between both groups of fishers doing EMS development, and to enhance the continuous improvement process for the Moreton Bay trawl fishers.

### **9. RESOURCES, MANAGEMENT AND STAFFING STRUCTURES**

Denis Ballam the Queensland Seagnet fisheries extension officer instigated the program and managed the SA visit.

### **10. PROCESS/METHODS USED**

The Moreton Bay trawl fishery is now a closed fishery. This allows the remaining trawl fishers the opportunity to fine tune the management of the resource.

Spencers Gulf prawn fishery is the leading trawl fishery in relation to real time management and sophisticated cooperation is demonstrated during fishing operations.

By witnessing the Spencers gulf fishers working, the Moreton Bay fishers will receive the full impact of what cooperation can achieve in maximising economic returns and minimising environmental impacts.

### **11. IMPACTS TO DATE.**

Once the final report is published, the impacts of this project will be able to be further discussed. From anecdotal evidence the project was a success for the trawl fishers from Moreton Bay as well as the Spencers Gulf fishers. The resulting report will advise other fisheries on steps to take towards co-management and to promote the industry mentoring concept.

The major output was allowing the Moreton Bay trawl fishers the opportunity to see how the Spencers Gulf trawl fishers have maximised their advantages both economic and environmental with the real time cooperative management regime.

**13. PROJECT DOCUMENTATION AVAILABLE:**

Funding application to Seafood Industry Development Fund.  
A final report will be available in about one month.

**14. ISSUES:**

The timing of the mentoring visit is critical to the success of the technology transfer, as Moreton Bay fishers need to witness the stock assessment survey as well as the real time management delivered by the committee at sea.

**15. COMMENTS/CONCLUSIONS:**

The final report is in the process of being finished. Further conclusions will be available once this is published.

**16. REVIEW METHODS:**

Funding application to Seafood Industry Development Fund and conversation with Denis Ballam.