

NSW TOTAL ALLOWABLE FISHING COMMITTEE

ABALONE FISHERY

DETERMINATION FOR THE 2025/26 FISHING PERIOD

6 May 2025

Executive Summary

Preamble

The New South Wales (NSW) Total Allowable Fishing Committee (TAFC) has statutory responsibilities set out in Part 2A of the *Fisheries Management Act 1994* (the Act) to determine the Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC) or Total Allowable Commercial Effort (TACE) by NSW fishers holding the relevant shareholding or endorsement in some commercial fisheries. Various fishing regulations under the Act also contain provisions requiring the making of fishery determinations.

The TAFC is an independent statutory body established under Schedule 2 of the Act. In making a determination on catch or effort in a commercial fishery, the TAFC must consider the ecological, economic and social issues associated with each fishery and make determinations that 'on balance' pursue the objectives of the Act. Currently, there is no formal harvest strategy for this fishery.

The TAFC is not subject to the control or direction of the Minister as to any determination made. However, the Minister may direct the TAFC on the procedures to be followed and the matters to be taken into account in making a fishing determination.

A preliminary draft Harvest Strategy for the Abalone Fishery was developed in 2015 in consultation with industry and a working group (that included industry representatives and national abalone fishery scientists). No further progress has been made to finalising this draft strategy.

This Determination is for the Abalone Fishery for the period 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026.

Management recommendations & supporting actions

The TAFC provides the following recommendations to the Minister, NSW DPIRD Fisheries and the fishing industry towards improving the management of the fishery:

1. Efforts should be made to conduct periodic fishery-independent dive surveys in the main fished areas to provide estimates of the density and abundance of abalone. Such surveys, possibly conducted in cooperation with industry, should particularly collect length-frequency data across the full size range of abalone.
2. It is challenging to try and mentally integrate the many indicators that are collected for this fishery, particularly considering their interannual variability and potential for bias. Options should be considered for some form of integrated assessment, perhaps at an SMU level, to try and integrate available indices, such as the length-based models that have been applied elsewhere, provided representative length-frequency data can be collected.
3. That DPIRD and industry work together to finalise an agreed harvest strategy with appropriate performance indicators for the Abalone fishery.

4. That regional catch caps across the four SMUs be enforced at the catch levels identified in this report.
5. Continued targeted enforcement activities to combat the illegal take and sale of NSW abalone, focussed on the abalone supply chain.

Determination

The Total Allowable Fishing Committee (TAFC), pursuant to Part 2A of the *Fisheries Management Act 1994*, determines that the commercial catch of Abalone should be controlled and allocated through the following measure:

1. A TACC of **88 tonnes** during the fishing period 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026.
2. That the catch in each of the SMUs is restricted as recommended in the following table:

SMU	Catch Limit 2025/26 (tonnes)
1	2.0
2	25.0
3	33.0
4	28.0

Introduction

The NSW Abalone Fishery extends the entire length of the coastline of NSW and is managed as a single stock, although there are four identified spatial management units in the fishery, which assist in pursuing sustainable fishing and monitoring the performance of the fishery (Table 1). The Abalone Fishery was developed through the 1960s and annual catches peaked around 1,200 tonnes in the early 1970s. This catch was not sustainable and the fishery was restricted in 1980 to control over-exploitation. Quota management was introduced in 1989 at 10 tonnes (t) per licence. In the early 2000s, the fishery experienced a sustained period of lower catches, with the TACC dropping to 110 t in 2007/08 and 75 t in 2009/10. The TACC was then increased and ranged between 120 and 130 tonnes from 2012/13 to 2017. Since 2018, the TACC has been 100 tonnes.

There are currently 44 shareholders in the fishery with shareholdings between 10 and 90 shares from a total pool of 3,454 shares. 35 shareholders hold the required minimum number of shares (70) to have an endorsement that authorises the taking of abalone. Quota can be traded within each fishing period, with a maximum of twice the initial shareholding able to be transferred to their existing shareholding¹.

Table 1: Spatial management units and fishing areas in the NSW Abalone Fishery

Spatial Management Unit	Fishing areas
1	Tweed, Port Stephens, Kiama, Ulladulla, South Brush, Batemans
2	Tuross, Narooma, Bermagui, Bunga, Moon Bay, Turingal, Long Beach
3	Eden, Saltwater, Bittagabee, Green Cape, City Rock
4	Wonboyn, Saltlake, Howe

The Abalone Fishery is subject to a range of spatial closures arising from the comprehensive system of marine protected areas in NSW waters. These include marine parks, aquatic reserves and intertidal protected areas in which commercial fishing is restricted or prohibited.

Abalone are subject to a regulated legal minimum length (LML) to assist in protecting the stock from over exploitation and ensure fish mortality does not result in the depletion of reef systems, whereby all abalone are removed. The LML for commercially harvested abalone was increased from 117 mm to 119 mm in 2018 and further increased to 120 mm and to 125 mm south of Womboyn in 2019. Recreational fishers are subject to a LML of 117 mm.

An annual assessment of the Abalone Fishery is commissioned each year by the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD), with support

¹ McKinnon, F (2025) Abalone Fishery Management Report: Total allowable catch determination. Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development 33 pp

from the Abalone Council of NSW². The TAFC met on-line with fishery scientists, fishery managers, compliance officers and participants in the Abalone fishery on 25 March 2025 to discuss the current fishery assessment, economic conditions and compliance in the fishery.

Biological considerations

Biology and stock structure

The NSW abalone fishery harvests Blacklip Abalone (*Haliotis rubra*), larvae of which are planktonic and may be distributed some distance from the spawning adults by ocean and tidal currents. However, once settled, abalone are highly resident, forming non-migratory aggregations on suitable reef habitat, often in substantial localised densities. Blacklip Abalone are slow growing, taking five years to reach maturity and attaining from 20 to 50 years of age. Abalone are therefore susceptible to serial localised depletion under heavy fishing pressure, with depleted areas potentially taking decades to re-populate. Abalone aggregations exhibit the same dynamics as separate stocks when fished and so are often spatially managed, with relatively small areas being managed as separate management units.

Abalone aggregations are typically genetically indistinguishable from one another and do not constitute separate biological stocks, but they may have different growth rates and are certainly susceptible to localised exploitation and depletion. There are no separate stocks defined for NSW abalone, but the coast has been divided into four separate Spatial Management Units (SMUs), with 21 smaller fishing areas across these SMUs, for the purposes of logbook catch and effort reporting and calculation of performance indices.

Although separate TACCs by Spatial Management Area (SMA) have previously been recommended, these have not been formally implemented. Instead, non-binding catch limits have been implemented since 2022 for SMA2 (20 t), SMA3 (60 t) and SMA4 (35 t). These have largely been adhered to by means of improved reporting and notification arrangements. Boundaries of the SMAs differ slightly from the SMUs.

In the absence of measures to limit catches to estimated sustainable levels in the individual SMAs, minimum size limits, set at levels that provide protection to an adequate proportion of the spawning adults, become an important management measure to prevent depletion of adult stocks in any particular area. These minimum size limits (currently 125 mm in SMA4, 120 mm in SMA1 and SMA3, and 117mm, reduced from 120mm in 2022, in SMA2) provide an essential safety net to ensure that adequate spawning to maintain populations continues to occur in all areas.

Catches

The history of catches in the NSW abalone fishery is summarised in Figure 1. Total landed catches peaked at over 650 t in 1983, with most of the catch coming from SMU1 and SMU2. Catches declined rapidly to 1987 and then averaged about 325 t per year over 1987 – 2001, with catches in SMU1 continuing to decline, and catches increasingly dominated by SMU2 and SMU3.

² Abalone Council of NSW (2025) Assessment of Abalone stocks in NSW: Submission to the TAC setting process for 2025/26, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development 184 pp

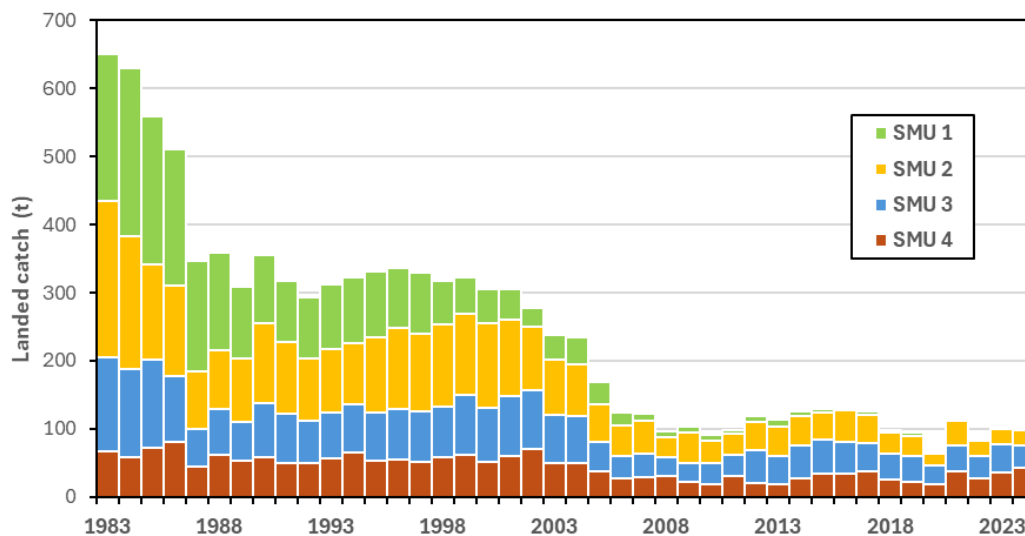


Figure 1. Total reported catch of abalone by Spatial Management Unit (SMU) and Year over 1983 – 2024.

There was a further decline in catches over 2002 – 2006, associated with the *Perkinsus* disease outbreak, with subsequent catches averaging 106 t per year over 2007 – 2024, and currently being 100 t, capped by the TACC. Over the full history of the fishery, percentage contributions to total catch have been SMU1: 25%, SMU2: 32%, SMU3: 25% and SMU4: 18%, but the southern SMUs have contributed an increasing proportion of the catch over time, with the average proportions over 2022 – 2024 being SMU1: 2%, SMU2: 24%, SMU3: 37% and SMU4: 37%.

TACCs have tracked and perhaps contributed to this decline in catches. First implemented in 2000 at 305 t, the TACC was reduced to its lowest level of 75 t in 2010 following the *Perkinsus*-related catch declines. The TACC was then incrementally increased to 130 t over 2015 – 2017. A large north-east storm impacted much of the shallow coastal reef on the NSW south coast in 2016, catch rates declined below 40 kg per hour and the TACC was reduced to its current level of 100 t in 2018.

Stock assessments and performance indicators

Integrated stock assessments are not conducted for the NSW abalone resource. A few snapshots of abalone abundance or density have been derived from fishery independent surveys. A fisheries independent dive survey of abundance and size-structure of abalone on key southern reefs was conducted in 2013, providing an assessment of the spatial distribution and densities of stocks on the southern reefs at that time. A fishery-independent survey conducted in 2022 included sampling at sites from Bermagui to Cape Howe, where comparisons with historical data were possible. These have provided useful independent benchmarks for abundance in the surveyed areas at the time, but have not been used in integrated assessments.

In the absence of formal stock assessments, performance indicators are used to provide evidence on trends in stock status. The 2025 assessment³ presented updated analyses of catch, catch rates, the average weight of abalone landed and estimate indices of legal-sized abalone biomass within each of the four SMUs. These

³ Abalone Council of NSW, 2025, *Assessment of abalone stocks in NSW: Submission to the TAC setting process for 2025-26*, Sydney.

are primary performance indicators in the fishery's Interim Harvest Strategy and the interim harvest strategy includes preliminary proposed reference points against which trends in the various indicators may be compared, although neither the harvest strategy, nor the reference points, have been formally adopted. Nonetheless, one of these reference points has been influential in prompting TACC decisions – the target of maintaining catch rates above 40kg per diving hour.

There are concerns regarding each of these performance measures, all of which may be positively biased. Catch rates of abalone are prone to hyper-stability, remaining high despite declines in the underlying stock, because of aggregation of abalone and efficient search and harvest practices of divers. Divers have reported moving on from areas in which the target catch rate of 40 kg/h could not be attained, which serves to reduce effort on sparse abalone beds, but also results in hyper-stable CPUE. Serial depletion of aggregations is masked by moving of diving effort to maintain high catch rates, despite a decline in the overall stock.

Average size of abalone is likely to be biased towards larger animals due to increases in the minimum legal size limits over the history of the fishery, but also by active selection by divers of larger abalone to meet market preferences. There are also concerns relating to using the density of abalone removed from the water to estimate the density of abalone left in the water, as is done using the dive logger data. Optimal site selection behaviour by divers and how this has changed over time, will affect estimation of dived area and of suitable habitat.

There have been several externally driven disruptions to the abalone resource that have resulted in reductions in abundance and catch rates. The first and most serious was the outbreak of *Perkinsus* disease (a protozoan parasite that infects abalone and other molluscs) in NSW abalone stocks. It is unclear when mortality related to *Perkinsus* commenced, but anecdotal reports suggest in the 1980s around Sydney and the Central Coast, before spreading north and south. Fronts of infection and loss of abalone populations spread from Port Stephens to Jervis Bay in the early 2000s, and the SMU1 area was closed to fishing in 2002. A structured fishing survey indicated that stocks had been heavily depleted in many areas, but that some less depleted populations remained and the area was reopened to fishing. However, because of the decline of abalone populations in SMU1, divers and processors gradually reduced their efforts in the area and moved south to fish SMU2 and SMU3.

Stock Status

Reported trends in the key performance indicators are highly variable, with sequential substantial interannual increases and decreases that are clearly not related to abalone abundance, but result from shifting of fishing effort to different reefs targeted in different years. For a long-lived species such as abalone, it is more informative to look at trends over a longer time period, which would be expected to average out inter-annual effects of targeting.

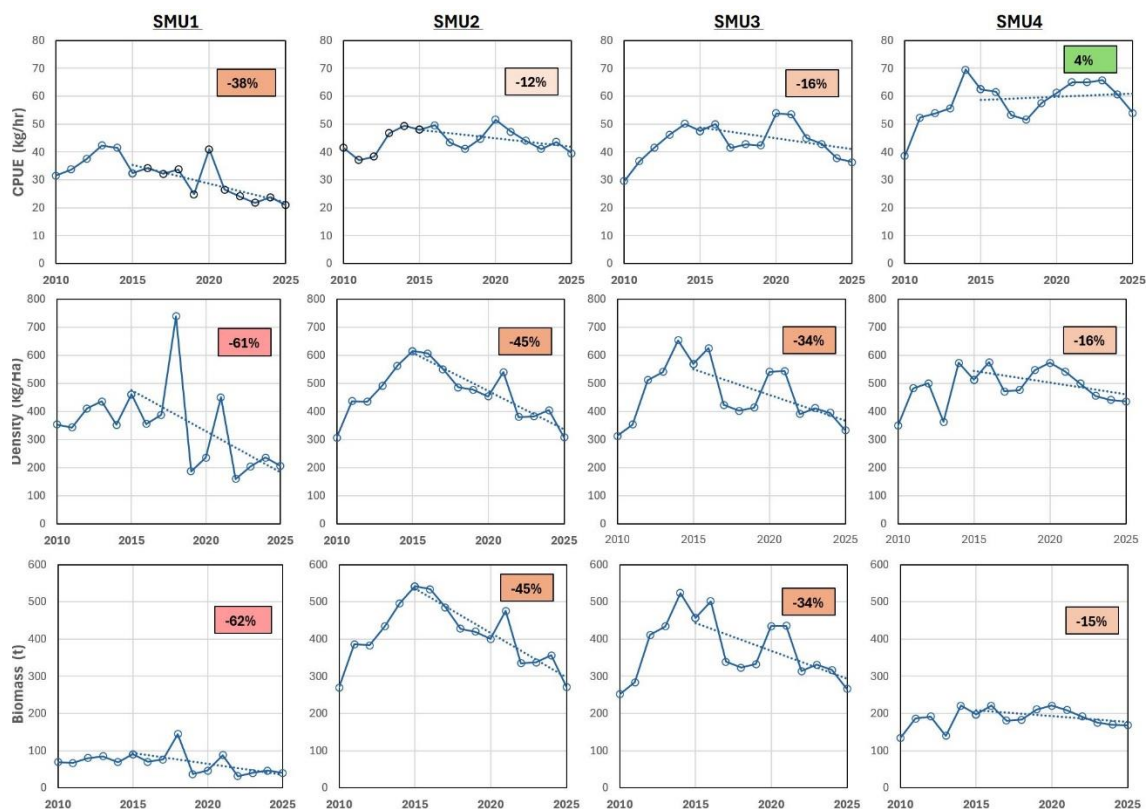


Figure 2. Overview of fitted linear trends over 2015 – 2025 for the primary indicators for NSW abalone: CPUE (top row), density (middle row) and estimated biomass (bottom row) for the four SMUs (columns left to right). Shaded boxes on each plot show the percentage decline in the linear trends for each indicator between 2015 and 2025. Headings show the most recent stock status classification.

Figure 2 shows the most recent reported trends¹ in CPUE, abalone density and estimated biomass for the four SMUs over 2010 - 2025. Linear trends are fitted to these over the recent decade 2015 - 2025 and the percentage change in the level of these linear trends between 2015 and 2025 are shown for each indicator in each SMU. Also shown are the most recent stock status classifications by DPIRD NSW⁴ using the weight-of-evidence classification system for the *Status of Australian Fish Stocks* (SAFS) reports.

Despite the likely hyper-stability in CPUE, CPUE has declined in all SMUs except SMU4 with the declines being 38% in SMU1 and 12% - 16% in SMUs 2 and 3. The increased targeting in SMU4 is currently reflected in a slight increase in CPUE in that SMU. The linear trend through estimated abalone density has declined since 2015 in all the SMUs with a north – south trend from greatest decline in SMU1 (61%) to least decline in SMU4 (16%). Given that estimated biomass is calculated from estimated density, there is a close correlation between trends in density and in biomass, with estimated biomass declining between 62% in SMU1 to 15% in SMU4.

⁴ Saunders, T. 2025. NSW Stock Status Summary 2024/25 – Blacklip Abalone (*Haliotis rubra rubra*). NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Fisheries. 12 pp.

These trends have contributed to stock status classifications of **Depleted** for SMU 1; **Depleting** for SMU2 and SMU3; and **Sustainable** (*under review*) for SMU4.

There has also been a clear trend in north – south spatial distribution of fishing effort over time, with a steady shift southward as stocks in northern NSW declined due to the combination of natural events and fishing of reduced stocks. Figure 3 shows the northern latitude below which 90%, 75% and 50% of the abalone catch was made in each year from 1982 - 2024, compared to the boundaries between the four SMUs.

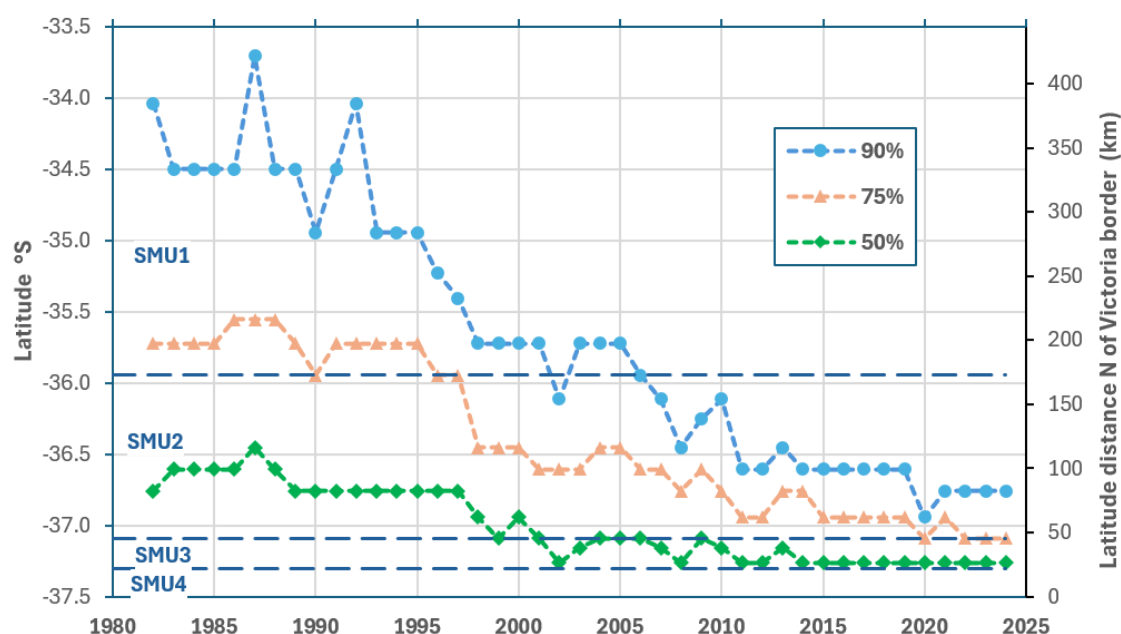


Figure 3. Latitude below which 90%, 75% and 50% of the abalone catch was taken by year over 1982 – 2024 showing the positions of the boundaries between SMUs 1, 2 3 and 4.

From 1982 – 1995 the fishery operated well up into SMU1, with 90% of the catch being taken south of 34° to 35° S. The fishery contracted southwards over 1995 – 2006 with 90% of the catch being taken only from SMUs 2, 3 and 4 from 2006 onwards. The fishery continued to contract southwards with 75% of the catch being taken from SMU4, SMU3 and the southernmost part of SMU2, and 50% of the catch being taken from SMU4 and the southernmost part of SMU3 over the past decade. At present, the fishery relies on SMU3 and SMU4 for 75% of the catch, over a latitude (north – south) distance of little more than 50km, with 90% of the catch being made over a distance of < 100km.

Catches and estimated biomass by SMU are used to derive estimates of the annual harvest rate (proportion of estimated biomass taken in catches) by SMU by year. The harvest rates reported in the latest assessment report¹ were averaged across 2015 – 2025 and are presented in Table 2, together with the average estimated biomass over the three seasons 2022-23 to 2023-24. Assuming that the average harvest rates over the past decade are what could be taken in each of the SMUs, Table 2 shows the recommended maximum catches that would be obtained by applying these average harvest rates to the recent average estimated biomass in each SMU over the recent three seasons 2022-23 to 2023-24.

Table 2. Recommended maximum catch limits obtained by applying average harvest rates over 2015 – 2025 to the average estimated biomass over 2023 – 2024 in the four SMUs.

Measure	SMU1	SMU2	SMU3	SMU4	Total
Biomass 2023-24	42	321	305	171	839
Harvest Rate 2015-2025	0.06	0.08	0.11	0.16	
Recommended catch limit (t)	2	25	33	28	88

Given the ongoing indications of declines in CPUE, abalone density and biomass over the past decade, catches should be limited to: SMU1 – 2 t; SMU2 – 25 t; SMU3 – 33 t; and SMU4 – 28 t, with a total all-areas TACC of 88 t. These catch limits should be applied and effectively managed at the SMU level.

Recommendations

- Efforts should be made to conduct periodic fishery-independent dive surveys in the main fished areas to provide estimates of the density and abundance of abalone. Such surveys, possibly conducted in cooperation with industry, should particularly collect length-frequency data across the full size range of abalone.
- It is challenging to try and mentally integrate the many indicators that are collected for this fishery, particularly considering their interannual variability and potential for bias. Options should be considered for some form of integrated assessment, perhaps at an SMU level, to try and integrate available indices, such as the length-based models that have been applied elsewhere, provided representative length-frequency data can be collected.

Economic considerations

From 2023/24 onwards, abalone beach price information has been provided directly by industry. Previously, prices—and therefore Gross Value of Production (GVP)—were based on SFM (Sydney Fish Market) prices. However, the industry considered SFM prices to be unrepresentative, as they were based on less than 1% of the total catch and tended to be higher than average prices. As a result, the use of different data sources for beach prices means that trends in beach price and GVP over time are not directly comparable.

As of November 2024 (the latest available data), around two-thirds of the catch was sold to just two export companies. In real terms, the beach price of abalone using industry information for the 2024/25 financial year has declined compared to 2023/24—falling from \$33.00/kg (December 2024 prices) to approximately \$25–\$30/kg. This decline has been attributed to several factors, including the closure of the Mallacoota cannery, increased availability of farmed abalone, and the presence of illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) product being sold at lower price points.

The Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES) 2024 Outlook⁵ reported that “over the medium term, production value is projected to decline annually by 1% on average, due to lower real prices of abalone exports as an expected appreciation of the Australian dollar dampens export prices.” The current tariff war initiated by the United States, combined with the effect on the US/AUS dollar exchange rate may further impact global and domestic markets, but none of these impacts are predictable.

Due to lower beach prices in 2024/25, some industry members have indicated that the TACC may not be fully caught this year.

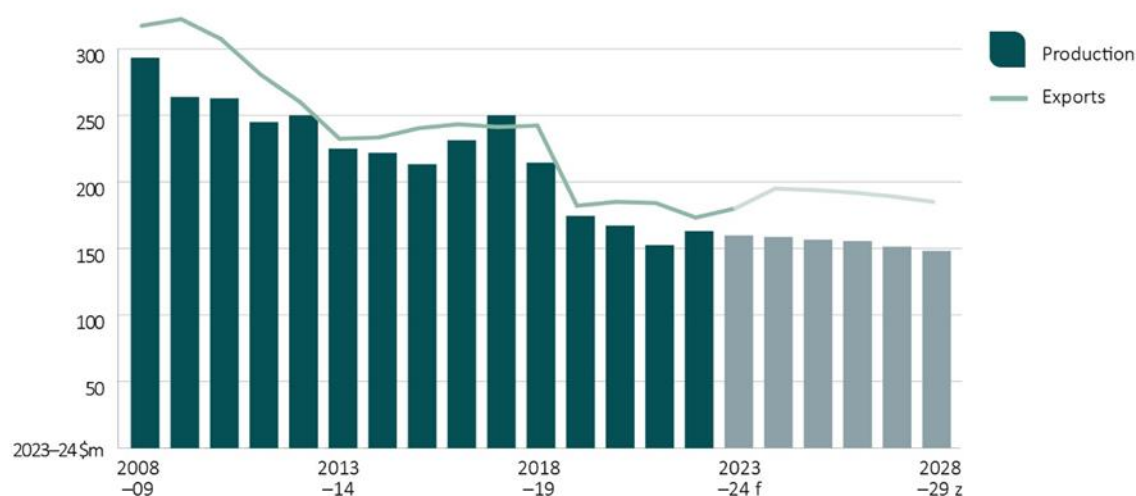


Figure 4. Abalone real gross value and real export value, 2008–09 to 2028–29 (from ABARES forecast/projection) Source: ABARES

The TAFC were also informed by DPIRD Fisheries Compliance that the domestic market for illegally caught abalone of any size is both strong and sophisticated, which suggests that there may be scope to expand sales of legal product in the domestic market, albeit at lower prices. However, this may result in lower profits for those commercial fishers willing to supply domestic markets and for the few days a year spent fishing by some FBs, may not be viable.

The TAFC is recommending the following enforceable catch caps for each SMU, equivalent to a 12 t reduction in the overall TACC.

	2025/26 TAFC Advice
SMU1	2
SMU2	25
SMU 3	33
SMU 4	28

⁵ <https://www.agriculture.gov.au/abares/research-topics/fisheries/fisheries-economics/fisheries-forecasts#abalone>

Assuming the TACC is fully caught, this would result in a potential loss of revenue in the whole fishery of between \$300,000 to \$360,000 at December 2024 beach prices. Additionally, the estimated 30 t IUU catch is a potential loss to the commercial fishery of \$750,000 to \$900,000.

A TACC reduction may affect quota sale and lease prices in a functioning market, reflecting beliefs about stock health and fishery profitability. The market appears healthy with 42% of TACC traded annually during 2022-2024, including 18% held by 14 non-participating FBs.

The proposed TACC reduction would signal stock concerns which, combined with declining export prospects and falling beach prices, could push both lease and sale prices downward. Additionally, SMU-specific catch caps might increase operational costs as fishers travel to alternate areas, potentially reducing profit expectations and further depressing lease prices. The magnitude of this impact will largely depend on beach price and the cost benefit of longer travel distances.

Fishery management considerations

The NSW Abalone Fishery is a limited entry fishery managed through legislative instruments and a co-management arrangement between the NSW DPIRD and the Abalone Council of NSW.

A TACC is applied to the fishery under which individual transferable quota (ITQ) is allocated among all shareholders in the fishery on an annual basis. The TAFC determines the TACC for each fishing period, which is divided into a weight value in kg per share. Other fishery controls are minimum legal sizes, controls on fishing gear, areas closed to fishing (including marine protected areas) and mandatory use of GPS loggers. The TACC had historically been fully caught, except for some disruptions during the COVID-19 pandemic and recent bushfires, which led to variations to the usual pattern of fishing.

Dive based fisheries for site-attached/sessile invertebrates such as abalone inherently have a strong component of serial stock depletion. Management aims for such fisheries typically include attempting to ensure that local harvested populations have the capacity to recover from such serial depletion. Given this, spatial management measures are an important consideration in the assessment and management of these types of fisheries.

The TAFC is concerned about the long-term southward contraction of the fishery to its current focal areas, with potentially limited stock recovery in areas historically fished. The reason for this contraction includes fishery and environmental considerations over a significant period. The fishery is now operating principally in the south and far south of the state, meaning that further spatial contractions southwards to maintain catch rates are constrained by jurisdictional boundaries.

The TAFC recognises the difficulty and cost of implementing finer scale spatial management, however given the risk of continued localised depletion and hyperstability undermining sustainability, the TAFC strongly encourages DPIRD and industry to continue exploring practical improvements to spatial management. Finer spatial scale monitoring and management has become more accessible with the implementation of mandatory GPS loggers in recent years.

Recreational catch of abalone is managed with a daily possession limit of two abalone per person and a minimum size limit of 117 mm. DPIRD estimates that the recreational catch from this sector is between 1 and 3.3 tonnes per annum. A small amount of catch (estimated to be less than 1 tonne per year) is also taken by the Aboriginal cultural fishing sector, which has a daily limit for take and possession of 10 and permits available for larger harvests for cultural events.

The TAFC noted that NSW DPIRD Fisheries Compliance uses both deterrence and prosecutions to counteract offenders with varying degrees of success. While there was a trend in recent years of increasing illegal take (estimated up to 50 tonnes per year in 2024), a revised estimate provided by DPIRD to the TAFC this year is between 25-35 tonnes. In terms of the reduction in illegal take identified by DPIRD, this maybe a result of improved estimation of illegal take, or an actual reduction in illegal take (or a combination of both). Targeted enforcement activities undertaken by DPIRD are likely to have made a substantial contribution in reducing the illegal take. However, the deterrent effect of these targeted activities would be expected to wane through time if they ceased. The TAFC notes that enforcement activities have focussed on several parts of the abalone supply chain and not just fishers during or immediately following fishing activities. The TAFC considers that this is a conceptually sound and practical approach for improving compliance given the nature of the fishery and the challenges it faces.

Illegal take of abalone is not a new problem in Australia⁶ but it remains a persistent one. The TAFC reiterates its previous advice that the illegal take poses a substantial risk to the sustainability of abalone stocks and remains a clear concern. Illegal abalone catch is a serious issue, involving organised crime in those jurisdictions with abalone fisheries⁷.

There remain differences in abalone minimum size limits between the recreational (117mm) and commercial (117, 120 & 125 mm) sectors. These differences within and between sectors make management and compliance more complex, and DPIRD are encouraged to monitor and review them to ensure that all size limits are achieving the intended effect.

A draft Interim Harvest Strategy for the Abalone fishery was developed in 2015. Recently the Abalone Association has prepared a revised draft harvest strategy that seeks to simplify the approach and reflect the framework currently being utilised in the fishery. Noting that a Harvest Strategy would provide a strong management framework to guide future TACC setting processes, the TAFC recommends that DPIRD and industry work together to finalise an agreed Harvest Strategy for this fishery as a matter of priority.

The most recent stock status classification identifies the fishery as depleted in SMU1 and depleting in SMU2 and 3. There are several uncertainties and risks as discussed in this report including the spatial contraction of fishing effort and the illegal harvest. Taking into consideration all the fishery data available, the TAFC recommends that the TACC be reduced to 88 t for the 2025/26 fishing season.

⁶ Tailby, R., & Gant, F. (2002). The Illegal Market in Australian Abalone. *Trends & Issues in Crime & Criminal Justice*, (225).

⁷ Putt, J., & Nelson, D. (2008). Crime in the Australian fishing industry. *Trends & Issues in Crime & Criminal Justice*, (366).

Recommendations

- The TAFC recommends that DPIRD and industry work together to finalise an agreed harvest strategy with appropriate performance indicators for the Abalone fishery.
- The TAFC recommends that regional catch caps across the four SMUs be enforced at the catch levels identified in this report.
- The TAFC recommends continued targeted enforcement activities to combat the illegal take and sale of NSW abalone focussed on the abalone supply chain.

Determination

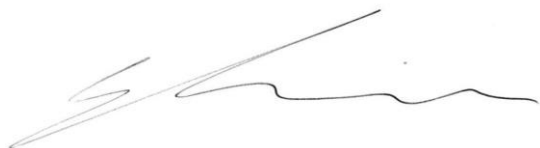
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1. A TACC of **88 tonnes** during the fishing period 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026.

Species	Catch Limit 2025/26 (tonnes)
Abalone (<i>Haliotis rubra</i>)	88.0

2. That the catch in each of the SMUs is restricted as recommended in the following table:

SMU	Catch Limit 2025/26 (tonnes)
1	2.0
2	25.0
3	33.0
4	28.0



William Zacharin

Chair, TAFC

6 May 2025

Andrew Penney – Deputy Scientific member

Daryl McPhee – Deputy Fisheries Management member

Sevaly Sen – Natural Resource Economist member