



Senator the Hon. Ian Macdonald
Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation



FISHING INDUSTRY TO FOCUS ON ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

The Australian Government will spend \$270,000 to better understand what effect target fishing on black jewfish is having in the Northern Territory.

Australian Fisheries and Conservation Minister Senator Ian Macdonald said the species had an unfortunate habit of aggregating to spawn, making it a relatively easy target for commercial, recreational and indigenous fishers.

“Understanding the movement and aggregation patterns will provide managers guidance on appropriate ways to ensure sustainable harvest of this important fishery,” Senator Macdonald said.

“It will also provide evidence for how movement data can be used to determine spatial management protection for fish species, to ensure their sustainability into the future.”

In all, \$24.8 million in funding from the FRDC will be poured into new projects across the nation to secure the future of our natural fisheries resources through research and development.

“The funding provides for new projects that will ensure fisheries natural resources are used and developed in an ecologically sustainable manner and that the fishing industry remains profitable and internationally competitive,” Senator Macdonald said.

Senator Macdonald said the projects would be managed through the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation.

Attached is a list detailing all projects to receive FRDC funding.

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