



Hello

Welcome to August's FRDC News. In this issue: a wrap up of the recent UN Oceans Conference, fuel alternatives for boats, FRDC's team of Extension Officers is complete, environmental recognition for our oyster growers and more.

We are always keen to get your feedback and story suggestions, so please send them to [Communications Team](#).

FRDC acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia, and recognises their continuing connection to lands, waters and culture. We pay our respect to Elders past and present.



### **Australian impressions, United Nations Oceans Conference**

Climate change and global food systems were key themes at the United Nations Ocean Conference in June 2022, which focused on achieving Targets under Sustainable Development Goal 14 (Life Below Water), as well as several others.

The event drew more than 6000 delegates from 150 countries, including many Australians.

[Read more](#)

This relates to [R&D Plan Outcomes 1,2,3 and 4](#); [Enabling Strategies II, III and IV](#).



### **Fishing for alternative fuels**

As escalating diesel prices see a growing number of boats tied up at ports all around the world, Seafood Industry Australia's (SIA's) current research into alternative fuels is tackling this increasingly urgent issue for our wild-catch seafood and aquaculture vessel fleets.

The 'Climate Resilient Wild Catch Fisheries' project is funded by FRDC, with Austral Fisheries, Blue-X and Sunshot Industries as research partners, and Tom Cosentino as Project Manager.

[Read more](#)

This is reflected in [R&D Outcomes 1 and 5](#); [Enabling Strategies II, III and IV](#).



### FRDC appoints extension officer for Tasmania

A fisheries scientist with extensive experience in wild catch, marine education and training and natural science extension has been appointed as the FRDC extension officer for Tasmania.

[Read more](#)

This is reflected in [R&D Outcomes 3 and 5](#); [Enabling Strategies II and V](#).



### Pearler of an eco-story for oyster farmers

A new FRDC-funded research project helps oyster farmers leverage impressive environmental credentials to improve the community and consumer messaging.

[Read more](#)

This is reflected in [R&D Outcomes 1 and 2](#); [Enabling Strategy V](#).

## In Brief

### MSC certified scallops

The [Bass Strait Central Zone Scallop fishery](#) recently achieved the Marine Stewardship Council's blue tick in recognition of their sustainable practices. Certification came after a team of independent auditors led a 12 month assessment of the fishery against the MSC Fisheries Standard, a globally recognised benchmark for sustainable fishing.

### Tagging Southern Rock Lobster

This [FRDC-funded project](#) for a Program that commenced in July 2017 assesses options for streamlining and improving the current rock lobster electronic reporting process via the Victorian recreational rock lobster app (VicRLTag app) and is based on an evaluation of the first three years of the Victorian Recreational Rock Lobster Tagging Program.

All recreational fishers harvesting rock lobster are required to register with the Victorian Fisheries Authority (VFA) to obtain tags and report the fate of the tags via the app that is available on a variety of iOS and Android devices.

### NSW trials Local Management Plan for Aboriginal cultural fishing

A recent [media release](#) announced that NSW is trialling a [Local Management Plan \(LMP\)](#) for Aboriginal cultural fishing in the Hastings region near Port Macquarie over the next two years.

The Aboriginal-led program is designed to allow for more flexibility than state-wide regulations, acknowledging that different Aboriginal communities will have different needs when it comes to their cultural practices.

### FRDC to contribute to the Global Library of Underwater Biological Sounds

Data from past FRDC-funded projects will soon join a set of worldwide data to form the open-access Global Library of Underwater Biological Sounds. The library will contain the signature sounds of mammals such as whales, as well as invertebrates, fish and crustacean.

Lead author, marine acoustics scientist Dr Miles Parsons from the Australian Institute of Marine Science, said listening in on life in marine, brackish and freshwaters, allowed scientists to monitor changing diversity, distribution and abundance, and identify new species.

### New campaign supporting farmers' mental health

Australia's premium food and baking brands have joined forces for #PlateForAMate 2022, a multi-channel campaign produced by Asia-Pacific's leading entertainment, production and content agency, MGI Entertainment.

Products from brands including [Humpty Doo Barramundi](#), are brought to life by acclaimed chefs and Australian icons who love to cook in exquisitely produced short films with a powerful call to action.

Encouraging us all to 'share a plate with a mate,' the campaign reminds Australians of the power of shared meals to bolster mental health.

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## Upcoming events

### Seafood Directions

Have you registered for the premier seafood industry conference in Australia, yet?

Hosted by Seafood Industry Australia, Seafood Directions 2022 will be held in Brisbane on 13-15 September.

### AMSA Conference

The 58th annual Australian Marine Sciences Association (AMSA) Conference will be held in Cairns from 7 - 11 August 2022.

The theme for the conference is “Change and Connections”, emphasising important linkages among environmental, ecological and social systems at a time characterised by rapid change across all these areas.

FRDC is sponsoring two students’ presentations.

### The 11th International Abalone Symposium

The 11th International Abalone Symposium will be held in Auckland, New Zealand on 27 February- 2 March 2023. Find out more [here](#).

### Oyster Seminar in South Australia

The [SA Oysters Growers Association](#) will be hosting the 2022 Oysters SA Seminar at the Pt Lincoln Hotel, 13 – 14 October 2022. [Tickets](#) available now.

### World Recreational Fisheries Conference

Submissions are now open for the next [World Recreational Fishing conference](#) to be held in Melbourne on 18-23 February 2023. The themes will be around keeping pace in a dynamic and challenging world with changing fisheries.

### International Seaweed Symposium

Early registration rates are now available for the 24th [International Seaweed Symposium](#) which will be held in Australia for the first time. It will take place in Hobart, Tasmania, on 19-24 February 2023.

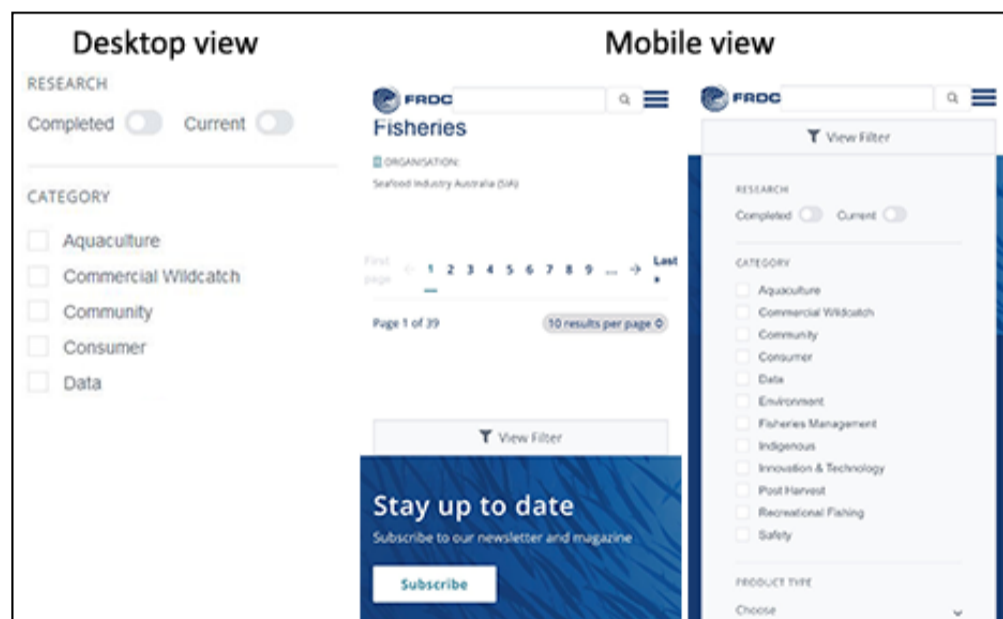
### AgriFutures evokeAG

Tickets are now on sale for [AgriFutures evokeAG](#). is the Asia Pacific's premier agrifood tech event, attracting leaders, farmers, innovators, researchers, universities, corporates, government and investors to one location to connect and collaborate on 21-23 February 2023, in Adelaide, South Australia.

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## FRDC projects

Find a dynamic list of our [current](#) and [completed](#) projects on our website. On these pages, you will also be able to filter our projects by topics, species, organisation and more, using the filter list on the right (on desktop view) or at the bottom of the list (in mobile view).





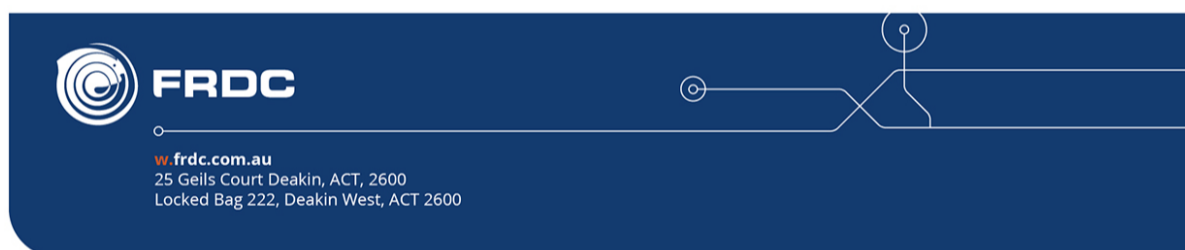
## Movers

- FRDC's Managing Director Dr Patrick Hone has been appointed Chair of the National Marine Science Committee for the next 12 months.
- Kylie Dunstan has taken on the role of General Manager, Stakeholder Engagement at FRDC after recently leaving Isentia as Head of Government Business.
- Delahay Miller will be leaving PIRSA and the fisheries sector to take on new role with the Commonwealth Government (Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation). Delahay will also be stepping down as a member of the AFMF Indigenous Working Group.
- Steven Clarke recently retired from SARDI-PIRSA after starting in 1984 in the Department of Fisheries.
- Dr Joanne Randall from Charles Darwin University moved to Northern Territory Fisheries.
- Angela Williamson left Tassal (Senior Manager – Responsible Business) and is now with Blue Economy CRC – Director, Blue Policy and Planning.
- Laura Skipworth (AgriFutures – Manager, Emerging Industries) will depart 12 August to take up a role with the Department of Regional NSW, Regional Programs branch.
- Philip Wiese has left Huon Aquaculture and started a role with Cooke Aquaculture as Managing Director of East Coast Aquaculture Operations in Canada. Henry Batista has taken up the role as CEO of Huon.
- Joffrid Mackett has been promoted to Assistant Secretary at the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment.
- Daniel Curtis has been promoted to branch head at Austrade.
- Cec McConnell has been named the new leader of agricultural research and development at the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, filling a role left vacant by Mark Sweetingham nearly two years ago. Cec previously worked as the State's Soil and Land Conservation Commissioner.
- Alastair Smart is taking on the General Manager role with Barramundi Group Australia.

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