Coolangatta to now — where did we go?

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Outline

- The Coolangatta workshop
- How Commonwealth fisheries are managed
- Foundations and framework for the Australian Government’s resource sharing process
- Complexities and lessons learnt
- A way forward
The Coolangatta Workshop

- Involve recreational sector in fisheries management
- 2002 Workshop – broad representation
- Focus on the need for resource sharing (environmental, socio-economic drivers)
Commonwealth Fisheries Management

- OCS arrangements
- The commercial sector - AFMA
- The recreational sector (including gamefishing) – States & NT
Framework for Resource Sharing

Objectives for resource sharing are:

- Equitable access
- Resource sustainability – need to manage for all extractive uses
- Engaging all sectors – consensus where possible

Resource Sharing Principles

Consultative Process

MOU with States/NT for non-commercial component
Progress with Implementation

- Negotiations - Stalemate - Facilitator
- WTBF announcement - Oct 2005
- ETBF – commenced Jun 2005
- Northern tuna fisheries to commence soon
Complexities and Lessons Learnt
- Management Arrangements

- Multi-jurisdictional management

- Lack of common institutional frameworks
  - access rights vary between sectors and jurisdictions
  - available management tools vary widely
Complexities and Lessons Learnt
- Communication

- Different expectations of what can and cannot be achieved

- Different understandings
  - eg. allocation, re-allocation, shared access?

- Difficulty of reaching some stakeholders
Complexities and Lessons Learnt
- Information base

- lack of biological & socio-economic data

- lack of resources / mechanisms to obtain information from some sectors

- making best decision on available information, set review period and put in place necessary MCS arrangements
A Way Forward

- The resource sharing process is a significant step in the right direction.
- Clear, consistent messages & management of stakeholder/state expectations
- Adaptive management:
  - risk based approaches
  - best decision with available information
  - MCS and research program
  - review periodically
- Information exchange between jurisdictions