

BRYAN SKEPPER General Manager 31 March 2016

1 Introduction

Sydney Fish Market Pty Ltd (SFM) is the principle interface between seafood consumers and producers in NSW. It accepts responsibility to support the seafood consuming public on issues that impact supply of, and demand for, seafood in this State. As such we have a fundamental responsibility to promote informed debate on the issues that affect the health and sustainability of marine commercial fisheries.

We are a working fish market which sources product from all Australian fisheries management jurisdictions and trades about 14,000 tonnes of seafood annually – with up to one hundred seafood species traded every day and approximately 500 species traded

(1) Valuing commercial fisheries based on the market value of catch is an underestimation of the economic benefit of the sector.

SFM considers it erroneous to consider the value of the catch as the sole measure of the market value of commercial fishing and as a guide to help determine sectoral allocation criteria. The Fisheries Service of the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has been estimating the economic impact of the fishing sector using a common valuation method, input output modelling. These models are based on the value that each agent in the supply chain adds to the fish and seafood products that it purchases. This would include for example: the activities of commercial fishermen (reflected in commercial landings of fish), processors, wholesalers/distributors, retailers, cafes and restaurants. So, whilst the value of US fisheries landings was estimated to be \$3.9 billion in 2009, the seafood industry as a whole generated US\$116 billion in income impacts.

Commercial Economic Impacts Trends for the United States

(Source:

http://www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/Assets/economics/documents/feus/2009/US_Summary_Econ.pdf)

Catch Revenue	US\$3.9 billion
Jobs	1.3 million full and part-time jobs
Income	US\$ 31. 6 billion
Sales	US\$ 116 billion
Value Added	US\$ 48. 3 (\$15m from imports)

Using the trip cost approach, in 2009, NOAA estimated that there were approximately 1 Tm[ahe)-101(trip41 0 0 1 241.13 3elp)-42 0 1 240 0 1 .64 reWhBT/F1 9.96 Tf1 0o81TBT1 0 0 1 72

recent of which investigates the social and economic contribution of commercial fishing to 18 regions along the coast of NSW and the state as a whole. The preliminary results of this project will be available soon.

Therefore i

Specification on the information to be recorded in captured finfish distribution chains and ISO 1287:2011 Traceability of finfish products -- Specification on the information to be recorded in farmed finfish distribution chains.

This system is very sophisticated and therefore best suited to an environment where seafood undergoes transformation in highly mechanised seafood processing factories primarily aimed at supplying the major retailer supermarkets. Whilst often considered to be best practice in seafood traceability it would not suit the current Australian industry due to the fact the industry here is much less focused on processed and packaged retail products.

Labelling: SFM supports the principle that consumers are entitled to make an informed choice when making purchasing decisions. Our view is that the introduction of country of origin labelling for seafood sold through restaurants and catering outlets would allow the consumer to make this informed anestaure this inocessedaEMC 5 /P a(d)5(eci7i Tg-3(d)Pht)4