1. Queensland’s fisheries resources are managed by the Queensland Government on behalf of the broader community. Over the last decade it has become apparent that the current framework used to manage these resources is not optimising the potential economic, social and environmental outcomes these resources could potentially generate for the community. Competition for access to these resources has increased to the point where there is now conflict between sectors; and the ability of the management framework to ensure the sustainability of these resources for some species is in jeopardy.
2. The need for fisheries management reform was identified in the independent review by MRAG Asia Pacific in 2014. The Queensland Government committed through its Sustainable Fishing election platform and the *Reef 2050 Long Term Sustainability Plan* to improve how fisheries resources are managed into the future to deliver better outcomes for Queenslanders and the marine environment overall.
3. The Queensland Government has prepared a Green Paper on Fisheries Management Reform to start a discussion with Queenslanders on how to best manage access to and use of Queensland’s fisheries resources into the future. It outlines Government’s vision for wild harvest fisheries management and identifies 10 areas of reform that if implemented will ensure long-term sustainability, provide reasonable access for all resource users, ensure a transparent and responsive decision making process and enhance the systems that support management.
4. The initiatives outlined in the Green Paper are consistent with best practice fisheries management principles and if implemented will establish a management framework that is capable of ensuring the long term sustainability of Queensland’s fisheries resources, providing fair ongoing access to all users and maximising the potential economic benefits these resources can provide to the community.
5. The Green Paper gives Queenslanders the opportunity to provide comment on the Government’s proposed reform package. Feedback received through this process will be taken into consideration by the Government in the development of a strategic policy that will provide clear direction for the management of the state’s fisheries resources over the next decade.
6. Cabinet approved the release of the Green Paper on Fisheries Management Reform for public consultation.
7. *Attachments*
* [Green paper on fisheries management reform in Queensland](Attachments/Paper.PDF)