



## Snapper meeting notes – Caloundra 8 February 2011

**Attending** - 6 Fisheries Queensland staff, 2 QBFP (Boating Patrol) and approx. 35 Anglers (Rec, Commercials and Charter)

### Observations –

- ***The meeting was definitely very hostile and vocal***
- ***They were not happy with any of the options***
- ***A lot of concern over socio economic issues and the data***
- ***No real concern over catches by the meeting***

### Statements from the floor -

- Fisheries Qld were discouraging questions or discussion during the presentation
- All fishing and tourism related businesses would suffer major economic hardship
- Commercials stated that the last 4 years had seen good catches of snapper
- Attendees considered the current system was working
- Several said they considered the proposals to be nothing but revenue raising
- June- October closure period was the peak fishing and tourism period
- Sunshine Coast businesses depend on offshore fishing
- EPA (Dept. of Environment and Resource Management) and Fisheries Qld don't talk to one another
- Fisheries Qld obviously don't have the resources to manage this fishery without permit fees

### Questions and Fisheries Qld responses-

- How many boat anglers had Fisheries Qld estimated would buy permits – ***Approx. 9000***
- Why did Fisheries Qld go to New Zealand for the scientific review – ***Independent review was necessary***
- When did the data collection start – ***1940***
- Do unregistered boats(kayaks etc.) /land based fishers need permits – ***No***
- If I use 2 boats do I need 2 permits –***Yes, they are issued to a registered vessel***
- Why wasn't reliable data collected first – ***Fisheries Qld said they had enough to raise concerns***
- Who says that catches are bad – ***Some charter operators from the Gold Coast and Fisheries Qld modelling***
- Where will the permit fee go – ***To managing the snapper fishery and increased compliance***
- How many people/boats are currently fishing for snapper – ***Not known***
- Has a socio economic study been done and by whom – ***Internally by Fisheries Qld***
- What about fish caught outside the "snapper area"- ***Anglers to prove where fish caught***
- Why not raise the size – ***Modelling shows little advantage***
- Why not introduce a tagging program for released fish – ***Cost too high***
- What is being done by Fisheries Qld to protect habitat and juveniles – ***Moreton Bay closures***
- What happens if TAC reached – ***Not decided but probably more restrictions and closures***
- What scientific studies are or have been done since the problem occurred – ***Low level by Fisheries Qld***