

SeaNet Program Overview

The SeaNet program was established in 1999 to advance the sustainability of Australian fisheries and introduce conservation behaviours and new technologies to the industry. The SeaNet program is the only professional extension program operating within the seafood industry.

Its yearly work plan is directed by the National Steering Committee and state based reference groups.

What does SeaNet do?

SeaNet assists the industry, seafood harvesters and producers to be more sustainable in the following ways:

1. **Provides a national extension service** for the development, trialling and adoption of innovative fishing technologies
 - to improve environmental, economic performance through the adoption of by-catch reduction devices to reduce capture of non-target and endangered species,
 - to reduce [interference with species listed as threatened, endangered or protected](#) (TEP) (under the [Commonwealth EPBC Act 1999](#)).
2. **Provides on-ground assistance** to seafood producers
 - to facilitate industry's involvement in research trials
 - to develop and implement improved practices, and technologies
 - to develop, adopt and implement Threat Abatement Plans and Recovery Plans.
 - to reduce the impact of seafood production practices on critical aquatic habitat such as seagrass and reefs
 - to improve water quality through improving waste management on vessels and at wharf facilities.
3. **Promotes environmental stewardship** among seafood harvesters and producers
 - through the development and implementation of environmental management systems and industry codes of practice.
 - Assisting industry to access incentive and other funds for the implementation of environmental management system actions.
 - practical assistance to improve the environmental performance of the seafood industry in a manner that allows them to remain internationally competitive through the use of innovation and best practice.
4. **Develops training and technical guides** to build capacity and knowledge among seafood harvesters and producers

5. Integrates seafood producers with the CMA, NRM and local communities

- through involvement in regional projects that reduce environmental impacts or expanding their knowledge and involvement in regional activities.
- links to the community providing education and information in relation to harvesting and production methods and the sustainability measures being adopted by the seafood industry.

2009/2011 SeaNet strategic plan includes work in the following areas:

1. To assist in the identification, development and implementation of environmental best practice management using national industry driven initiatives and research.
2. Contribute to the implementation of environmental programs relevant to Australian Government policies and legislation.
3. Influence and extend environmental research relevant to industry.
4. Assist in the communication of industry knowledge and priorities to relevant natural resource management processes (i.e. who is industry, what industry is doing, what incentives they need to proceed, what are the national priorities) and contribute to information exchange between stakeholders.
5. Assist in the dissemination of information to industry on new tools and practices.
6. Promote and communicate the SeaNet Program's role regarding the above priority areas (industry adoption and implementation of best practice).

SeaNet Fact Sheets

- [Dehookers and Line Cutters](#)
- [Popeye Fishbox BRD](#)
- [Square Mesh Codend BRD](#)
- [Codes of Practice](#)
- [Deep Setting Longline Technique](#)
- [Turtle Smart Crab Pot](#)

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