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[2019

Fisheries Management Act 1998 (As Amended)

NATIONAL MUD CRAB FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN

I **Dr. Lino Tom, M.P., Minister for Fisheries and Marine Resources** by virtue of the powers conferred by Section 28 of the *Fisheries Management Act 1998*, and all other powers vested in me, hereby give notice of my approval of **The National Mud Crab Fishery Management Plan**. This plan takes effect from the date of notification in the *National Gazette*.

Dated 17th of September, 2019.

Hon. Dr. L. TOM, MP,
Minister for Fisheries and Marine Resources.

National Mud Crab Fishery Management Plan—continued**BACKGROUND****Resource**

Mud crabs also commonly known as mangrove crabs are swimming crabs with the last pair of walking legs with flattened segments. They are found in the mangrove and estuarine habitats throughout the coastal provinces in PNG. There are 4 species of mud crabs found in PNG. The four species belong to the family Portunidae and genus *Scylla*. The species are; *Scylla serrata*, *Scylla paramamosain*, *Scylla olivacea* and *Scylla tranquabarius*. Mud Crabs are an important food resource which is consumed in large quantities by local coastal communities. Some communities who live in and around the mangrove habitats are heavily dependent on mud crabs for food and income generation.

Mud crabs are also a valuable component of the small scale coastal fisheries in Papua New Guinea where they form an important component of the artisanal coastal fisheries and therefore support the livelihood of coastal communities. Prices for mud crabs vary between the provinces but are highly priced especially in urban markets. Price of mud crabs depends on the sizes with larger crabs fetching higher prices. Prices range from 5 kina per crab to 50 kina per crab. Markets in Port Moresby where mud crabs are sold are normally higher than other provinces. This is partly due to the high demand and easy accessibility to urban markets, restaurants, hotels and other business houses in Port Moresby.

Biology and Ecology

The four species of mud crabs of the genus *Scylla* found in PNG have similar features and are often difficult to separate into species. Mud Crab fishermen and fisherwomen use colour and some features to separate them into species or varieties. The biology and ecology is thought to be similar for the different species. Two mud Crab species, (*Scylla serrata* and *Scylla paramamosain* studied at Labu estuary at Morobe Province indicate that the reproductive cycle and the size at first sexual maturity are very similar. In order to make good management decisions to manage the mud crab fishery at a sustainable level, there is a need to conduct studies on the biology and ecology of each species.

The current knowledge on mud crabs in PNG is based mainly on the fisheries catch monitoring and socio-economic studies conducted in the 1980s and 90s.

Mud crabs have a relatively short larval cycle of 2 to 3 weeks at planktonic stage before settlement. Tides and current transport the larvae to the estuarine environment where they settle. The study of the two species of mud crab at Labu Estuary did not present any evidence of spawning of crabs offshore suggesting that spawning may occur inside of the estuary or somewhere else. Mud crabs mature at about 1.5 to 2 years at carapace lengths of 9 to 11 cm. The Labu Estuary mud crab population reaches maturity within 1 year, spawning all year but with a peak at the end of May and end of September for *Scylla serrata*.

To spawn mud crabs normally migrate offshore as much as 50 kilometre's and at depths of 300 meters. The exact movement and locations for spawning in PNG waters is unknown.

Mating takes place when the female's carapace is soft, within a period of about 48 hours following a moult. On New Hanover in the New Ireland Province, the crabs are said to moult with each new moon and breed about two weeks after moulting suggesting that spawning occurs throughout the year.

Fishery

There is no commercial fishing and collecting of mud crabs and therefore no fishing licence are necessary at this stage of development of the fishery. However crabs have been recorded in the catch of prawn trawlers in the Gulf of Papua Prawn fishery. The crab fishery is a subsistence fishery in remote coastal areas and as an artisanal fishery for coastal areas close to or accessible to urban local markets. The thousands of fishermen and fisherwomen who fish and collect mud crabs are not licenced mainly because of the small scale catches and the large number of people involved in the fishery. It is estimated that 21 thousand households harvested 414 tonnes of mud crabs exported in 2018 which brought in export revenue of 4.6 million kina to the PNG economy.

National Mud Crab Fishery Management Plan—continued**Fishery—continued**

Crabs are caught by a variety of methods including by hand, dragged out from the crab holes using a forked stick, baited traps or nets, and gillnets. Crabs are mainly marketed as live animals but they can be marketed frozen or cooked. Crabs are kept alive using various storage facilities. They are either packed in wet bags, typically with mangrove leaves, or aerated bags (for longer periods), or maybe kept in oxygenated containers. Important things to note in keeping crabs alive are that they are strong animals and can survive for long periods of time so long as they are kept in optimum conditions (cool environment, wet bags etc.).

The study conducted by NFA in 2017 and 2018 indicate that on average households sell 50 kinas worth of crabs per week at urban markets. But it is not unusual for households to sell a few hundred kinas worth on a weekly basis. Harvesting of mud crabs occurs throughout the year. A two year study conducted in Western Province recorded fluctuations in mud crab trap catches but with a peak mean catch recorded on July of the second year of the study. The mean catch in July on the first year of the study recorded a small peak on that year. More studies are needed to establish the parameters that influence the distribution and abundance of crab populations.

Status of Stocks

In late 2018 NFA conducted crab stock assessment for 10 provinces of PNG. This was the first time that a country wide survey has been conducted for PNG. However there have been area specific fisheries studies conducted for parts of the Gulf of Papua, East Sepik, New Ireland and Manus in the 1970's and 80's. There have been recent studies conducted by Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) in New Ireland.

Table 1. Preliminary results summary of the crab stock assessment.

PROVINCE	MANGROVE AREA (ha)	CRAB PER HECTARE	MEAN CRAB WEIGHT (KG)	TOTAL BIOMASS (TONNES)
Western	117,623	8.85	0.346	360
Gulf	260,822	29.00	0.213	1611
Central	59,029	7.20	0.416	177
Milne Bay	44,606	15.02	0.325	218
Oro	16,137	15.76	0.286	73
Morobe	3,590	15.76	0.286	16
Madang	812	14.28	0.293	3
East Sepik	19,872	17.25	0.278	95
West Sepik	783	15.76	0.286	4
Manus	7,404	15.23	0.457	52
New Ireland	18,933	14.28	0.403	109
ENB	2,788	6.96	0.504	10
WNB	14,509	3.75	0.275	15
Bougainville	7,959	2.85	0.835	19
TOTAL				2761

National Mud Crab Fishery Management Plan—*continued*

Status of Stocks—*continued*

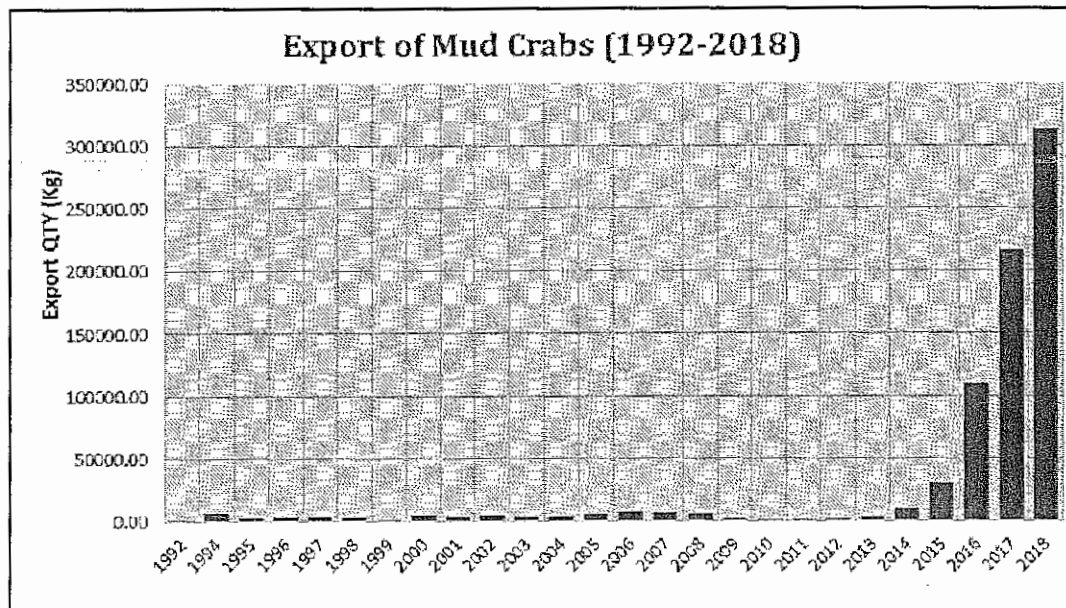


Figure 1. Official NFA mud crab export records since 1994. Note the significant increase in export from 2016 onwards.

The NFA 2018 assessment is the most comprehensive country wide crab stock assessment conducted to date. The assessment preliminary results is given on table 1. The crab total biomass was calculated based on the crab density and mean crab weight for the crabs sampled from the assessments and extrapolated using the mangrove area for each province (table 1). Mean crab density and mean crab weight for the provinces not covered in the assessment (3 provinces) was extrapolated from the mean of the neighbouring provinces.

Export and Marketing

Mud Crab is an export product which has been exported in small volumes for a long period. Official NFA records show mud crab export since 1994 (see figure 1). In 1994, 7 tonnes of mud crabs valued at US\$59,000.00 was exported. Since then the trend showed a continuous decline both in quantity and value, recording it's lowest in 1999. Exports increased after 1999 but stabilized at around 3 tonnes in 2000 and 2001. From 2015 onwards mud crab export has been increasing significantly. In 2016 export tripled the export achieved in 2015 reaching over 100 tonnes for the first time. Export in 2015 was 33 tonnes while in 2016 export was 111 tonnes. This further increased to 193 tonnes in 2017 and 314 tonnes in 2018 valued at 4.6 million kina.

NCD and New Ireland provinces are the most important exporters of mud crabs accounting for 77% and 23% respectively. Milne Bay, Western, Central and Madang account for less than 1 % each of mud crab export from 2002 to 2015. The mud crab exported out of NCD is likely to have been bought from Central as well as other parts of PNG.

ENVIRONMENT IMPACTS

There are no known environmental impacts of overharvesting mud crabs. But there may be some impacts on the mangrove ecosystem because of the role that mud crabs play in the mangrove ecosystem. As scavengers they feed on slow moving animals and sedentary animals such as molluscs, smaller crabs, worms but they also feed on plant materials. This feeding behaviour play a role in the production of particle sizes of the mud, help keep the muddy bottom clean as well as fast tracking the process of storing carbon in the mud. Removing too many crabs has the potential to affect the health of the mangrove habitat and slow done the process of carbon storage in the mud.

National Mud Crab Fishery Management Plan—continued**Environment Impacts—continued**

There are risks to diseases being introduced to new mud crab populations in other mangrove habitats if there is no control on the movement of mud crabs for the purpose of fattening or ranching. All precautions need to be taken to ensure that local populations of mud crabs are protected at all times. Mud crabs inhabit mangrove and estuarine habitats and therefore any environmental impacts on these habitats will directly impact the mud crab populations.

Interpretation

In this Part, unless the contrary intention applies, each word or group of words has the same meaning, if any, as it has in the *Fisheries Management Act 1998* (as amended), except where this differs as provided below:—

“**Act**” means the *Fisheries Management Act 1998* as amended from time to time;

“**Authorised Fisheries Officer**” means a fisheries officer as gazetted under section 48 of the *Fisheries Management Act 1998* as amended;

“**Berried**” means a female with large egg masses attached under the abdomen during the period of incubation;

“**Carapace**” means the large non-segmented piece of the hard external shell covering the dorsal and lateral parts of the crab;

“**Closed area**” means a specific area where no fishing shall take place as specified by this plan or any local management plan established under the framework of this plan;

“**Closed season**” means a time period when no fishing shall take place as specified by this plan or any local management plan established under the framework of this plan;

“**Co-management**” means the process in which NFA will collaborate with the resource owners, industry and other relevant stakeholders in sustainably managing the mud crab fishery;

“**Commercial Aquaculture**” means all commercial aquaculture operations with an annual production of 1 tonne or more.

“**Crablets**” juvenile post larval crabs that have yet to obtain sexual maturity, sub-adults;

“**Crab Stock**” means a discrete breeding population of individual crab species belonging to the genus *Scylla*;

“**Crab pot**” includes a dilly (net), crab pot and any device designed to act as a trap or that may act as a trap for mud crabs;

“**Ecosystem Based Management**” an extension of conventional fisheries management recognizing more explicitly the interdependence between human well-being and ecosystem health and the need to maintain ecosystems productivity for present and future generations;

“**Fate**” means the form in which the crabs are purchased or stored or exported (e.g. live, frozen, or cooked)

“**Fishing methods**” includes crab pots, baited traps, scoop nets, mangrove hook and mangrove stake used to catch mud crabs;

“**Moulting stage**” means the routing casting off of a part of its body (often the outer layer or covering), either at specific times of the year, or at specific points in its life cycle;

“**Mud crab**” means a crab, or part of a crab, of the genus *Scylla* and includes, in relation to a mud crab:

- an egg or larva;
- a dead body or part of a dead body; and
- a shell or exoskeleton or part of a shell or exoskeleton;

“**Mud crab licence**” means a licence entitling the licensee to buy, store or export mud crab.

“**Mud crab licensee**” means a person or entity holding a mud crab licence, fish processing and storage facility licence, export facility licence and aquaculture facility licence;

National Mud Crab Fishery Management Plan—continued**Interpretation—continued**

“**Plan**” means the national mud crab fishery management plan;

“**Regulation**” means Fisheries Management Regulation 2000 as amended;

“**Size limit**” refers to sizes critical to the population biology of the crab species related to its age at first maturity and the reproductive mature size classes;

“**Taking**” means capture, catch or harvesting of mud crabs for commercial purposes;

“**Total Allowable Catch (TAC)**” means the proportion of the stock that is allowed to be taken out by any one province in any one year;

“**Traditional resources owner**” means individual, families or clan who have traditionally fished or utilised the mud crab, shells and other mangrove resources and are recognised by the village community in which they live as traditional resource owners or have the rights to use the mud crab, shells, finfish and other resources. In the plan traditional resource owners are also referred to simply as resource owners.

1. Application

- a) The National Mud Crab Management Plan is cited as “the Crab Management Plan”.
- b) This Management Plan applies to all species belonging to the genus *Scylla* of the family Portunidae.
- c) This Management Plan applies to the mud crab capture fishery, aquaculture of crabs and includes all fishing and activities associated with the collection, farming, fattening, processing, storage, buying, selling and exporting of mud crab both as live products, cooked products and processed crab products.
- d) The Schedules attached to this Management Plan form part of the Management Plan and shall be read together as part of the plan.
- e) This Management Plan is to be interpreted in conjunction with the *Act* and the Regulation.
- f) Words and expressions used in this Management Plan shall have the same meanings as defined in the *Act* and the Regulation.
- g) Where there is inconsistency between this *Management Plan and Act* and the Regulations, the *Fisheries Management Act* shall prevail in all instances.
- h) Where there is inconsistency between this Management Plan and any associated Provincial, LLG and community management actions, a hierarchal process of legal standing will apply, e.g. Provincial-level Management Plan will hold precedent over a LLG Management Plan, with this Management Plan prevailing overall.

2. Review of the Plan

- a) The Management Plan will be reviewed by the NFA every two (2) years or at such earlier time as the NFA Managing Director or the NFA Board shall direct.
- b) Review of the Management Plan will include extensive stakeholder consultation on the issues that affect the effective implementation of the Management Plan and any new and updated information on the biology, ecology and fisheries that will inform the management plan.
- c) Subject to prior approval of the NFA Board, any review of the Management Plan shall be made public by the National Fisheries Authority and due consultation will be conducted with relevant stakeholders involved in the mud crab fishery and trading of mud crab.

National Mud Crab Fishery Management Plan—continued**3. Objectives:**

- a) To sustainably manage the mud crab fishery for the long term livelihood of the mud crab resource owners.
- b) To maintain all species of mud crab populations at a biologically sustainable level.
- c) To sustain the economic benefit of the fishery for the benefit of resource owners and industry.
- d) To enable resource owners, industry, other relevant groups and research institutions are involved in the management of the mud crab fishery.

4. Management Principles

- a) **Precautionary Approach**
The precautionary approaches to fisheries management will be used to guide the implementation and review of the management plan and will take into account the latest scientific and other relevant information is used to refine management actions.
- b) **Good Enough**
The Good Enough principle will trigger decisions to be made on the management of the crab fishery based on the best available scientific and technical data and information that is Accurate but not Precise and therefore data is vaguely right. Decisions will be made while working towards data and information that is accurate and precise.
- c) **Ecosystem Approach**
The fishery will be managed using the values, principles and guidelines for ecosystem based management of the fishery. This means a holistic approach to management of the mud crab fishery, ensuring that the vital natural habitats supporting the different life history stages of the *Scylla* species are managed/protected.
- d) **Co-Management**
Resource owners, Industry and other relevant stakeholders will be involved in the management of the mud crab fishery. The resource owners will be directly involved in the day to day management of fishing and related activities in areas that the traditional resource owners control.

5. Management Measures**a) Licensing****i. License Types**

Individuals and companies wanting to be involved in the mud crab business will require a Buyers Licence's, Storage Facility License, Fish Factory Licence and Export Facility Licence. Other licences such as the Aquaculture Facility and Hatchery Licences and other types of licences may be required. All Licences are issued for one year and once a licence has expired the Licensee has to reapply for the licence.

- a. **Buyers License**
A person buying mud crabs from the fishermen requires a mud crab Buyers Licence. The Buyers Licence allows the licensee to buy direct from the fishermen.
- b. **Storage Facility Licence**
A Storage Facility Licence is required for fattening and storage of mud crabs. A Storage Facility Licence will only be issued if NFA is satisfied that the company has met all licensing conditions, and has complied with the conditions of the Management Plan.

National Mud Crab Fishery Management Plan—continued**5. Management Measures—continued****a) Licensing—continued****i. License Types—continued****c. Export Facility Licence**

Companies intending to export mud crabs require an Export Facility Licence as specified under the Regulations. An Export Facility Licence will only be issued to a company that holds a Storage Facility Licence or a Fish Factory Licence.

d. Fish Factory Licence

A company intending to process crab requires a Fish Factory Licence.

e. Buying Permit

Hotels, Guest Houses, Restaurants, Retail Shops and other related business buying mud crabs from the fishermen will require a Buying Permit to enable them to buy mud crabs from the fishermen who come and sell at their doorsteps. A buying permit only allows for the buying of mud crabs at the doorsteps. A full Buyers Licence is required if the business wants to buy mud crabs direct from the fishermen located in the markets and villages.

ii. Licence Conditions

- a) There shall be a limit on the number of Export Facility Licences who will be allowed to buy Mud Crabs from Licenced Buyers operating in the provinces. The limit on the number of Export Licences will be determined based on the cumulative TAC for the whole country.
- b) There shall be a limit on the number of Buyers Licences issued per province based on the advice by NFA. The limit on the number of licences will be set based on the TAC allocated for the province.
- c) All mud crabs collected and purchased from the areas under the jurisdiction of the province will be exported from that Province. Companies who want to transfer or sell their crab products to another company located in another province must apply for a special transfer permit of the products from NFA using the form on Schedule 3.
- d) The transfer permit will be approved by the NFA Managing Director using the form on Schedule 3.
- e) All approved export facility licenses will pay a compliance bond of K10, 000 which will be held as security by the National Fisheries Authority.
- f) In the instance whereby there is no infringement, the compliance bond will be reimbursed to the company who was issued the Export Facility Licence. The company has the option to roll over the compliance bond to the next year and held as security for that year when the Export Facility Licence is approved and issued.
- g) In the event that the company is found to be in breach of this plan or the Act and Regulations, NFA has the right to deduct from the compliance bond. Any outstanding amount of the compliance bond will be reimbursed at the end of the licence period.

iii. Licence Eligibility

- a) Licenses to participate in the mud crab trade are reserved for PNG citizens only.
- b) Trade of mud crabs are restricted to licensed operators only.

iv. Licensing Requirements

- a) Licensed Buyers and Exporters are required to provide all purchasing data every week, using the form as set out in Schedule 1 of this plan, along with their advertised buying prices, also weekly; and export prices when an export has occurred to the NFA.

National Mud Crab Fishery Management Plan—continued**5. Management Measures—continued****a) Licensing—continued****iv. Licensing Requirements—continued**

- b) All licence holders may have their licence terminated if they breach licence conditions, the Act, the Regulations or breach the provisions of this plan.
- c) Licences may be suspended once an investigation is commenced for any infringement with regards to the conditions of the Management Plan or licensee is involved in any illegal activities.
- d) Licences may be terminated by the NFA Board if the licensee is found guilty of any offence related to the conditions of the Management Plan, license conditions or any provisions of Act or Regulation.
- e) Licences which are terminated are not eligible for reapplication.

v. Buying and Exporting Requirements

- a) Buying, possession, export and trade of undersized mud crabs less than 12 cm carapace width is prohibited. Any undersized product will be confiscated, a fine incurred and the licence may be cancelled.
- b) Licensed exporters will only export mud crabs with a carapace width of 12 cm and above. The carapace width measurement is shown on Schedule 5.
- c) Export of mud crabs will be consistent with the administrative standards and other standards set by NFA.
- d) Exporters may sell to an exporter in another province under special circumstances as approved by the NFA Managing Director. The Exporter must use the form on Schedule 3 to apply and justify special circumstances.

vi. License Considerations

- a) A limited number of licences may be reserved for traditional resource owners to venture into the mud crab business.
- b) Licence applications by traditional resource owners will be given due consideration but they must meet all licence requirements.
- c) Mangrove land owners or any other resource owner who is prevented by belief, culture, tradition or other legitimate means to eat mud crabs may have the option to sell or give permission for the other users to harvest mud crabs from their area.

b) Total Allowable Catches (TAC)**i. Calculation and Allocation of TAC**

- a) NFA has calculated the TAC for each province based on their respective stocks. This information was obtained through stock assessment conducted by NFA in 2018. The calculation of the TAC took into account the density, relative abundance of the crabs, mean weight of the crabs found in the province and the mangrove and estuarine habitats suitable for the mud crab species. The initial allocated TAC is given on table 2 below. The TAC will be reviewed when updated stock assessment is conducted and more information is available.
- b) The calculated TAC may be allocated to each Licensed Exporter and Buyer for the purpose of exporting

National Mud Crab Fishery Management Plan—continued**5. Management Measures—continued****b) Total Allowable Catches (TAC)—continued****i. Calculation and Allocation of TAC—continued**

- c) When each province reaches its allocated TAC, taking, buying and exporting of mud crabs for that province will cease. A notice informing the fishermen, Licenced Buyers and Licenced Exporters to cease buying and exporting from the province which has reached its TAC will be posted in the media.

Table 2. Initial TAC calculated and allocated for the provinces.

PROVINCE	TAC (TONNES)
Gulf	807
Western	180
Milne Bay	109
Central	88
New Ireland	55
East Sepik	48
Oro	35
Manus	26
Autonomous Region of Bougainville	9
Morobe	8
West New Britain	7
East New Britain	5
Madang	2
Sandaun	2
TOTAL	1380

ii. TAC Monitoring

- a) NFA will monitor the TAC in near real time using the purchase data form on schedule 1 and through the monitoring of the export statistics.
- b) Selling of mud crabs to hotels, restaurants and retailers with the use of buying permits will continue during the export closed season.
- c) Buying permit holders are encouraged to submit reports of monthly purchases to NFA in the prescribed form.

6. Prohibitions

- a) Fishing for mud crabs shall be restricted only to traditional resource owners employing allowable fishing methods.
- b) Buying of mud crabs for the purpose of exporting and the export of mud crabs is prohibited when a specific provincial TAC has been reached.
- c) The taking, buying, exporting and trade of mud crabs less than 12 cm carapace width for all species of mud crab is prohibited
- d) Taking of mud crabs in moult stage is prohibited.
- e) Taking of berried female mud crabs is prohibited. Captured berried female mud crabs must be immediately returned to the body of water or the mud from which it was taken, with as little injury to the crab as possible.

National Mud Crab Fishery Management Plan—continued**7. Commercial Aquaculture**

- a) All commercial crab aquaculture must have a valid aquaculture license.
- b) Sourcing crablets from the wild for commercial aquaculture is prohibited.
- c) All commercial aquaculture operations must source their crablets from the hatchery.
- d) Translocation of crabs from the international border provinces (Western, Sandaun, Bougainville) for hatchery use must be quarantined.
- e) Importing crab or crablets from overseas for aquaculture purposes is prohibited.
- f) All commercial crab aquaculture operations must comply with CEPA and NAQIA laws (EIA, Environment Management Plan etc.) and other applicable laws.

8. Reporting

- a) In accordance with the Act, licensed mud crab buyers shall submit data on catch (number of individuals and their total weight), as well as the area where the crabs were caught, name of fisher(s), date of receipt and price paid, to the licensing and data management section of the National Fisheries Authority on a monthly basis.
- b) An exporter shall report to NFA each time mud crab is to be exported detailing the species, fate, weight (in kilograms) and value. Failure to submit the required reports set out in the sections above by more than ten (10) days or submitting incorrect or false data is an offence.
- c) All exporters shall be subject to the PNG Standards for Fish and Fish Products.

9. Customary Rights

- a) Traditional and customary management measures which are consistent with the Management Plan will be encouraged. The traditional resource owners are encouraged to notify the National Fisheries Authority of any traditional or customary management measures.

National Mud Crab Fishery Management Plan—continued

Schedule 3. Application and approval form to sell and transfer crabs from one province to the other

NATIONAL FISHERIES AUTHORITY

Mud Crab Product Movement Form

Name of Company:..... Export Licence No:.....
Originating Province:..... Originating Port:..... Port Code:.....
Receiving Province:..... Receiving Port:..... Port Code:.....
Receiving Company Name:..... Export Licence Number:.....
Date Application Lodged:..... Date Received:.....
Date Products Intended to Move:..... Shipping Method. Ship/Air (Circle)
Flight Number:..... Shipping Freight Code:.....

Reason for Moving Products:

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

Table with 7 columns: TRADE NAME, SPECIES, SEX, Carapace size (cm), Weight (g), QUANTITY AT PORT OF (Kg) ORIGIN, VALUE Kina

Name of Applicant:..... Signature of Applicant:.....
Date:.....
Name of Inspecting Officer at Port of Origin..... Signature:.....
Date:.....
Inspecting Fisheries Officers Comment.....

Executive Manager Monitoring Control and Surveillance Comment
.....
.....
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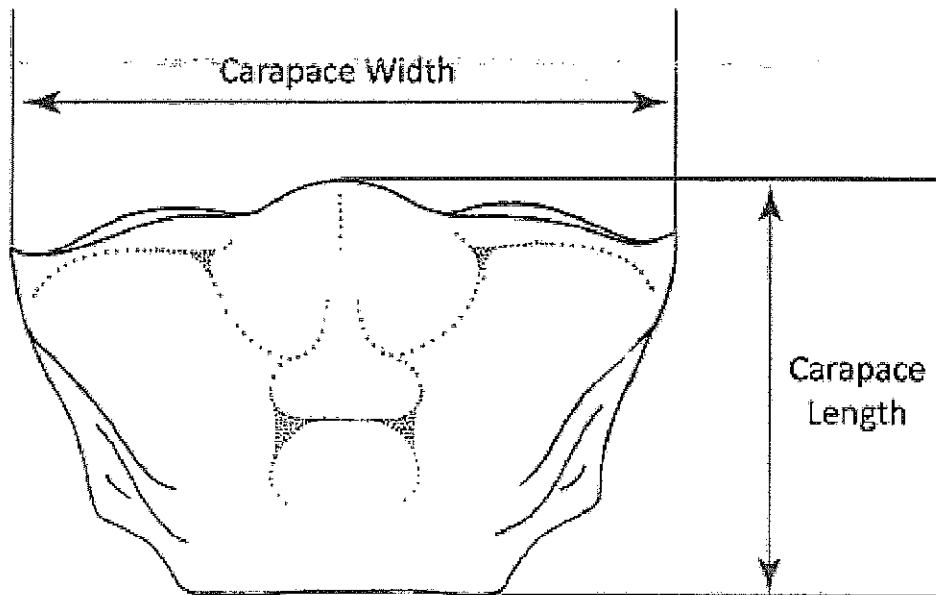
Managing Director Approval (Signature)..... Date.....

Inspecting Fisheries Officer at Receiving Port
Signature

Comment:
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

National Mud Crab Fishery Management Plan—continued

Schedule 5. Standard measures for the size restrictions to be used in implementing the provisions of this plan and the *Fisheries Management Act*.



Show picture of whole crab with measurement of carapace width and carapace length.

National Mud Crab Fishery Management Plan—continued

Schedule 6. MUD CRAB BUYING PERMIT FOR HOTELS, RESTAURANTS, RETAIL SHOPS AND OTHER RELATED BUSINESS.

The Independent State of Papua New Guinea
National Fisheries Authority
Fisheries Management Act, 1998

MUD CRAB BUYING PERMIT TO SERVE MUD CRABS IN RESTAURANTS, HOTELS, RETAIL SHOPS AND OTHER RELATED BUSINESS.

NAME OF RESTAURANT, HOTEL OR SHOP.....
LOT NUMBER.....
SECTION.....
BUYING PERMIT START DATE.....
BUYING PERMIT END DATE.....
TOTAL NUMBER OF MUD CRABS ALLOWED.....

CONDITIONS:

- 1. PURCHASE DATA MUST BE SUBMITTED TO NFA MONTHLY.
2. BUY ONLY MUD CRAB SIZES OF 12 CM CARAPACE WIDTH AND ABOVE.
3. BUYING PERMIT ALLOWS FOR THE BUYING OF MUDCRABS ONLY AT THE DOORSTEP.

Approved by NFA Managing Director

Date Buying Permit Approved.....