



WAMSI Biannual Progress Report to 31 July 2007 for *WAMSI Node 4 Project 1 (WAMSI Code 4.1):*

Applying the EBFM framework (WA FISHERIES)

Executive Summary

The management of fishing must be undertaken within the context of the ecosystem(s) that support the exploited stocks, a management approach termed Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management (EBFM). Implementing EBFM is inherently complex because it requires consideration of a much broader range of management issues than is required for single-stock management.

This project aims to (1) develop mechanisms and processes for integrating EBFM into “mainstream” fisheries management, including the WA Government’s Integrated Fisheries Management (IFM) initiative, and (2) to source, identify and integrate appropriate supporting research.

The activities being undertaken to date have focussed on collating relevant scientific and management literature that will assist in identifying and prioritising of the complex range of issues that will need to be addressed within EBFM.

The identification of issues has proceeded via implementation of the nationally recognised EBFM framework. Initial implementation of an EBFM system has also entailed considerable liaison with colleagues, collaborators and stakeholders.

These are only preliminary findings in the first year of a five year program.