

**MEDIA RELEASE
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Industry Reacts to Fisheries Reform

EVIDENCE that the Queensland fisheries reform process is flawed and working against the interest of commercial fishers. “The results of our second industry survey reflect the mood and stress amongst my industry. The reform process is undermining the confidence of hundreds of small, family operated, multi-generational businesses” said Queensland Seafood Industry Association (QSLA) President Keith Harris.

“What should raise alarm bells amongst industry and government are the findings that 80 percent of respondents to the survey had considered exiting industry. Add to this 75 percent of respondents stating they had considered leaving industry as a result of the introduction of vessel monitoring systems (VMS)”.

“The survey results should be a concern to the Agriculture and Fisheries Minister, Mark Furner MP and the Queensland Government” said Mr Harris.

ENDS

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Attachment 1. Final Survey Results
Attachment 2. QSLA News – Lack of Trust in the Fisheries Reform Process

Attachment 1. Summary of Survey Findings

Views regarding Queensland Fisheries Reform

- 95 percent of respondents indicated the reform process was rushed.
- 94 percent of respondents indicated that they wanted more time to consider the impact of the reform on them and their businesses.
- 97 percent of respondents indicated they had concerns with how Fisheries Queensland engages with industry.
- 80 percent of respondents indicated that they had considered leaving industry as a result of the reform process.

Views regarding Vessel Monitoring Systems

- 93 percent of respondents indicated concerns with the security of their information upon implementation of VMS across industry
- 93 percent of respondents indicated concerns with the number of agencies that may have access to VMS data.
- 94 percent of respondents indicated concern with the potential financial impacts of VMS on their business.
- 75 percent of respondents have considered exiting industry based on the introduction of VMS.
- 79 percent of respondents indicated that government would compromise their intellectual property by allowing access to their VMS data.
- 93 one percent of respondents stated that Fisheries Queensland had not adequately consulted with the commercial seafood industry regarding VMS.

Attachment 2. QSIA News – Lack of Trust in the Fisheries Reform Process

QSIA News: [Lack of Trust in the Fisheries Reform Process](#)