



**MEDIA RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Seafood peak body welcomes Crisafulli LNP Government's ongoing support**

THE Queensland seafood industry peak body has welcomed a funding commitment announced today by the Crisafulli LNP Government.

“What this demonstrates is that Queensland has a State Government that genuinely supports primary industries, including the fishing industry, and wants to work with us to see our industry prosper,” Queensland Seafood Industry Association (QSIA) CEO David Bobbermen said.

Mr Bobbermen was attending an event at Tin Can Bay, where Minister for Primary Industries Tony Perrett announced funding of \$150,000 a year for four years to expand the operations of the QSIA.

“This funding will allow QSIA to confidently expand its operations and significantly enhance its engagement with fishers and other stakeholders, and to provide the Government with timely, informed and representative advice in relation to fisheries management matters.

“It will also enable QSIA to continue to support the rebuilding of a vibrant, sustainable and thriving seafood industry, valued by the Queensland community.

“We harvest an enormous variety of the best wild-caught seafood in the world, providing affordable, highly-nutritious meals for Queensland families, as well as gourmet experiences for tourists, while working under tight management and environmental controls. We need to celebrate this.”

Mr Bobbermen said the Crisafulli LNP Government has clearly demonstrated its intention to work with the QSIA to rebuild the wild-caught sector.

“Just last month, Minister Perrett removed the unnecessary investment warnings that had long shackled the Queensland commercial fishing industry. Today’s announcement is another strong statement of support for the industry and the desire to rebuild it after many years of setbacks and neglect.

“The Government has acknowledged that working with a peak body to deliver positive reform is a tried and tested model. This Government clearly wants to engage industry in future management. Isolating and ignoring industry views and knowledge suits only those who wish to dismantle it.

“There is a lot to do in the next four years, and having a strong industry peak body is imperative to deliver enduring positive changes to the industry, while also re-building community awareness and support of the industry.

“The Queensland Government’s soon-to-be-released Prosper 2050 Plan for Primary Industries, with five-year action plans for local areas, the lifting of investment warnings and now peak body support together represent a massive vote of confidence for the industry.

“The commitment to prepare a specific action plan for the seafood industry – something QSIA has been advocating – also clearly shows this Government’s strong commitment to commercial fishing and to the many regional and remote communities it supports.

“Our fishing families and businesses along the length of the Queensland coast have been neglected and worse by recent governments here. It is refreshing and exciting to know now that we have the tangible support of the State Government.

“QSIA looks forward to working with Minister Perrett and the Government to develop and deliver an Industry Action Plan, and many other projects to continue to rebuild our industry.”

**Further Information:**

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**About the Queensland Commercial Fishing Industry**

The Queensland Commercial Fishing Industry operates along the Queensland Coast using varied apparatus, mainly pots, lines, nets and trawling. Historically, it is an industry important to many small coastal towns.

In the most recent economic data (2021-22), it contributed over \$250 million to the State’s GVP. This contribution was calculated at “beach price” – the wholesale price paid to fishers at the first point of sale – which significantly undervalues the industry (when compared with the retail price paid at the last point of sale in Australia). Over 900 businesses operate in the industry, directly employing around 3,000 people.

**About QSIA**

Queensland Seafood Industry Association Inc (QSIA) is Queensland’s peak membership-based organisation representing businesses in the wild harvest commercial seafood industry in Queensland. Its history dates back over 100 years. Membership activity ranges from the NSW border to the NT border and encompasses all forms of commercial fishing, namely line,

pot, net and trawl. QSIA also has members that provide pre- and post-harvest goods and services to the industry.

The QSIA Vision is:

*The trusted advocate for a profitable, thriving and sustainable Queensland Wild Caught Seafood Industry.*

QSIA Mission:

*To champion Queensland's wild-caught seafood industry, its people, and its communities by enhancing profitability, supporting best practices, fostering innovation and maintaining sustainability.*

QSIA's is proud and honoured to have Mr Keith Payne VC, AM as its patron.

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