

ACWA



AQUACULTURE COUNCIL
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Annual Report

2008/09



ACWA Committee of Management

	Experience and Special Responsibilities
Mr Max Ball Appointed Oct 2008 Independent Chairman	Following a career in the Australian Army, Max has been involved in the fishing and food processing industries since 1985. During this time he has served on several industry organisations at the State and Federal level, including as a Director, Vice-Chairman and Chairman of WAFIC, was a member of the Rock Lobster Industry Advisory Committee and an inaugural Director of the Australian Fisheries Management Authority.
Mr Glenn Dibbin Appointed Oct 2008 Vice Chairman	Has extensive experience in mussel aquaculture in Australia over the past 21 years. He is founding partner in Blue Lagoon mussels, Western Australia's leading mussel producer. Serves as Chair of Western Australia Mussel Producers Association. Previously worked in Western Australia in the Scallop, Crayfish And Prawn Commercial Fishing Industry
Ms Sue Harris Appointed Oct 2007 Committee	After many years in the health industry Sue joined the aquaculture industry four years ago when her husband moved to the country to develop a Marron Farm. Production and sales are now well under way with more ponds being developed this summer. Sue is the Secretary of the Marron Growers Association.
Dimitri Bacopanos Appointed Oct 2007 Committee	Dimitri Bacopanos was a Partner of Hall Chadwick as well as a Director of Hall Chadwick Corporate Finance. Prior to joining Hall Chadwick, Dimitri was with Ernst & Young and had worked in their Audit, Management Consulting and Corporate Finance Divisions. The three years spent in Audit provided a rudimentary exposure to business whilst the seven years in Consulting and Corporate Finance provided increased business specialisation. Dimitri specialised in business and strategic planning, valuations and experts reports, mergers and acquisitions, operational reviews, debt/equity raisings and restructuring. He brings a wealth of experience, having worked in commerce and the profession across a number of industry sectors, including mining, manufacturing, wholesaling, retail and agriculture. Dimitri has held senior consulting positions with private and public companies assisting them to develop their businesses through either mergers or acquisitions or corporate restructuring.
Prof. Bruce Phillips Appointed Oct 2007 Committee	Currently an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Environmental Biology at Curtin University of Technology in Western Australia. From 1992-1996 was the Chief Scientist with the AFMA and was involved in developing a research program for all Commonwealth managed fisheries, including trawl fisheries, finfish, sharks, tuna and prawns. Prior to this he spent 28 years as a scientist with the CSIRO studying lobster ecology.
Mr Barry Hall Appointed Oct 2007 Committee	Since 1997 Barry investigated proposals for mariculture along the south coast of WA. As Managing Director of Bayside Abalone he developed Western Australia's first commercial abalone farm at Bremer Bay until its recent sale to WA Abalone Ltd which resulted in Bayside being the significant shareholder of the combined operations. Barry has instigated several research projects to greatly benefit the abalone industry including the successful Brownlip/Greenlip hybrid program and other completely new "grow out" practices. Current commitments are focused on mariculture fish farming in WA to offset the current reduction in wild catch quotas and as construction consultant on several overseas RAS projects. Barry Hall & Associates was a long established architectural practice from 1976 to 1997.
Geoff Glazier Appointed Oct 2008 Committee	
Tony Bart Appointed Oct 2008 Committee	Tony Bart's aquaculture career began in 1995 when he worked at Cowell in South Australia on an Oyster Farm farming the famed Franklin Harbour oysters. In 1996 he worked as an aquaculture technician at The South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI) at West Beach in Adelaide. At West Beach Tony also worked for several months at the Protech Barramundi recirculation system. In 1997 Tony was appointed as a lecturer in Aquaculture to the WA Maritime Training Centre in Fremantle. Besides lecturing Tony has been involved in research in abalone and marron farming. Tony's particular interests and work centres on hatchery culture and techniques for both marine and freshwater fish as well as culturing abalone. Tony has a B.Ed (biology) and a Master in Aquaculture.
Dr Suresh Job Appointed Oct 2008 Committee	Dr Suresh Job has 20 years of experience with aquaculture, marine conservation, and enterprise development and training in remote and regional communities. His experience encompasses scientific research, industry development, business management, and capacity building in indigenous communities. Dr Job has a strong interest in fish disease management, marine ornamentals and sub-tropical foodfish species.
Mr Dan Machin Executive Officer	Executive Officer of ACWA since Feb 2004. Has 14 years experience in aquaculture industry development. Over this time he has held both senior and middle management positions in aquaculture businesses (Ireland and Greece) and in government, and has provided him with a strong technical knowledge. Dan has BSc. (zoology and botany); Diploma in Business, MSc. in Aquaculture.

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Quick Reference Table of ACWA Activities 2008-2009

Aquaculture for Profit

Project	Strategy	Status
State Election 2009	Gained Bi-partisan political support for industry development initiatives.	Achieved
Aquaculture Laws	Advocate for new aquaculture laws in the next term of government	Achieved.
Aquaculture Leases	Secure the release of aquaculture leases policy	Not achieved. The final lease deed and policy has not been released by the Minister for Fisheries. This was planned for June 2008.
Trade Delegations	Advise members of relevant trade or investors that make inquiries about WA aquaculture	Achieved
Environmental Approvals	Advocate for political awareness and action to remedy the slow approval process for aquaculture ventures and absence of whole of government policy for aquaculture in marine parks and unallocated coastal waters.	Achieved The Department of Fisheries has revised its deadline for deregulation of the marine finfish and prawns from the Environmental Protection Regulations and the MOU with the Environmental Protection Authority from June 2009 to December 2009.
Collie Mine Void Aquaculture	Implement ACWA indigenous aquaculture development policy.	Achieved. Work with Wesfarmers Premier Coal, Ngalang Boodja Enterprises Pty Ltd and the State Government to prove up a temperate freshwater aquaculture industry hub. Secured an additional \$551,000 worth of funding and plant and equipment. Submitted grant application project worth \$750,000 to complete phase 3 expansion to a commercial scale. Total funding to date: \$1,200,000.
Biosecurity Council	Attend all meetings	Achieved
Representation and submissions	See Appendix 1 of the Annual Report	Achieved
Policy and Legislation	Key issues advocated : 1. State Aquaculture Policy 2. Aquaculture law reform 3. Streamlining Aquaculture environmental approvals process. 4. Red tape Reduction 5. Aquaculture Leases 6. Live Sand Rock and Coral Policy 7. Advocacy for specific ACWA members.	Achieved See Appendix 1: for a summary of key submissions.
Training	Provide input on industry training needs to the following committees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary, Food & Beverage, Light Manufacturing and textiles Industry Training Council. • Challenger TAFE Maritime Industry Training Advisory Group 	Achieved.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WA Primary Industry Training Council. • WAFIC OHS and training subcommittee • Central West College of TAFE 	
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Aquaculture for People

Project	Strategy	Status
Member and Industry Communication	Maintain an up to date website.	Achieved.
Member and Industry Communication	Maintain an up to date communication Plan	Achieved
Member and Industry Communication	Provide regular updates to members to facilitate timely two-way communication between industry and the ACWA board.	15 Communiqués (Chairman's summary, ACWA Digest, Member Alerts)
Member and Industry Communication	Provide a referral service for members and prospective members, and investors.	Achieved. First Line inquiries: 1247, excludes the 4200 per month website hits. Member inquiries: 112 Investment referrals: 5 Business referrals: 127
Member and Industry Communication	Schedule regular meetings to the Minister for Fisheries.	Achieved
Aquaculture Development Council (ADC) – the Minister for Fisheries Advisory Committee.	As required, provide a background paper to the ADC detailing industry issues affecting the development of the Aquaculture industry in WA.	Achieved
Member and Industry Communication	As required, held meetings with DoF to progress aquaculture industry management and compliance issues.	Achieved
Industry Promotion	Contribute to Secondary, VET tertiary aquaculture courses, on an as needed basis.	Achieved
Industry Promotion	Host one industry promotional events per annum	Achieved MusselFest 2008: Coordinate, setup and man the ACWA/WAMPA stand Over 1500 people visited the booth.
Industry Promotion	Provide regular media releases and interviews.	Achieved
Industry Promotion	Host one sundowners per annum	Achieved
Industry Promotion	Visit key regional centres of Broome, Geraldton, Exmouth and Albany	Not achieved. Visited Kimberley and Geraldton only.
People Development	Promote Brussels Food Expo and the EMDG travel grant.	Achieved
People Development	Host FRDC Indigenous Development Scholarship	Achieved

Aquaculture for Tomorrow

Project	Strategy	Status
Environmental Code of Practice	Assist in the development of industry sector specific Environmental Code of Practice.	Achieved – Marine Finfish Environmental Code of Practice.

Corporate Services

Project	Strategy	Status
Governance	Provide good governance over the affairs of ACWA Reviewed governance manual for ACWA Committee of Management (CoM) members. Hold a minimum of 4 Board meetings per annum and one AGM	Achieved Achieved Achieved AGM held on 30 October 2008
Strategic and Business Plans	Review and update business plan.	Achieved
Representation & Consultation	Ensure that all industry are consulted with on public policy matters.	Achieved
Performance	Produce ACWA Annual Report to members	Achieved
DBIF Peak Body Funding	Maintain Minister's DBIF grant to ACWA.	Achieved Entered into negotiations over future DBIF arrangements, as part of the Funding and Consultation working Group.
Political Advocacy	Review and develop a advocacy plan for ACWA.	Achieved
Industry Sector Association. Secretariat	Provide WA Mussel producers Assoc. for executive officer and secretariat support	Achieved
Finance, database and office management, EO support	Manage the accounts in accordance with Australian accounting standards. Deliver ACWA business plan within budget.	Achieved Achieved
ACWA Membership/ private revenue Program	Improve membership by 10%	Not Achieved
Members Saving Programs	Decrease business cost to members. Improve membership value	Ongoing. Maintained national residue survey to enable EU market access. ACWA facilitated the combinations of two AQIS programs at 100% saving to affected members.

Chairman's Report to ACWA Members

I have pleasure in submitting to the members of ACWA this report on the activities of your Council for 2008/2009 and to comment on some of the issues for 2009/2010.

Highlights of 2008/2009

Steady progress has been made towards achieving ACWA's policy objectives and, although progress has been slower on some issues than we would have wished, we have been encouraged by the approach taken by the Minister for Fisheries, the Hon Norman Moore, who has demonstrated a willingness to make decisions that will ultimately lead to improvements in fisheries and aquaculture policies and in the effectiveness of the Department of Fisheries. I am also pleased to report ACWA has developed a sound and open relationship with the senior staff in the minister's office and their assistance has been appreciated.

A new CEO of the Department of Fisheries, Mr Stuart Smith, was appointed during the year. Mr Smith has met with the ACWA Committee of Management and outlined some of the initiatives he wishes to implement and which we are pleased to support.

Significant outcomes during the year have included;

- Prior to the last State election ACWA had discussions with the three major parties and was singular in receiving bipartisan support for its policies.
- A first step forward for law reform has been made with the tabling in Parliament of a small package of amendments to the FRMA.
- An indigenous aquaculture project was launched in the Collie region. The project has been supported by Wesfarmers Premier Coal, Curtin University and by Members of Parliament from both sides of the House.
- Draft repeal of Environmental Protection Regulations for category 3 & 4 premises are now expected to be released for public comment by the end of December 2009. While this is a slippage of some six months from the date advised previously ACWA looks forward to reading the draft repeal notice.
- The recognition of the substance of an ACWA submission to the Government's Red Tape Reduction initiative. This initiative will result in a report being presented by the Treasurer to the Government's Economic Expenditure and Review Committee, a Cabinet Sub-Committee

Issues for 2009/2010

Seeking improvements to the environmental approvals process will continue to be a major focus of ACWA activities in 2009/2010. The complexities of the current processes, and the diversity of public and political interests in environmental issues, are such that industry resources need to be targeted at objectives that can be achieved within the current political framework.

The second stage of the law reform process comprises a larger package of amendments to the FRMA. This is currently being drafted. It will be important that ACWA, and other industry bodies, examine critically the package when it is tabled in the Parliament, which we hope will be early in 2010.

The Minister for Fisheries has proposed significant changes to the current consultation and financial arrangements that exist between the Department of Fisheries and the commercial fishing industry, including aquaculture. A process to implement those changes has been developed by the Department and has begun. ACWA will need to be involved closely with this process as there are three significant issues that need to be considered.

Firstly, in terms of consultation, at this time it is intended by Government to remove the Ministerial Advisory Committees, such as the Aquaculture Development Council (ADC), from the current legislation, to be replaced, if necessary, by some less formal process of advice to the Minister. From

an industry view it will be argued that ACWA should be the principal source of external advice, in addition to public consultation processes, to the Minister and the Department.

Secondly, while cost recovery from commercial fisheries for Departmental services has been in place for some time, it has been indicated that the aquaculture sector may now also be subject to cost recovery. It would be an alarming development, and simply not viable, if industry was required to fund the current level of expenditure reported by the department on aquaculture. However, the principle of cost recovery may be of benefit to industry if the services provided by the department were those services required by industry, as compared to those the Department wishes to provide, and were delivered on a commercial basis. ACWA needs to now begin to prepare its position on cost recovery.

Finally, industry bodies such as the Western Australian Fishing Industry Council (WAFIC), the Western Rock Lobster Council (WRLC) and ACWA, are funded by the Minister from the Development and Better Industry Fund (DBIF). As a result of the downturn in the fishing industry the funds available to the DBIF have decreased and, for 2009/2010, so will the funding of the industry bodies, including ACWA. Further, the Minister has indicated that his preference is for industry bodies to be self funding, while being prepared to support them financially in the short term.

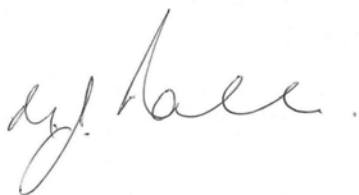
The challenge now is for representative bodies in the fishing industry to consider their funding options. A further challenge is for the industry bodies to also consider their business models and to examine what efficiencies can be gained through a more co-ordinated approach, which will also satisfy the Minister's desire to concentrate the sources of industry proposals put to his office.

In my view, the availability of specialized industry sector based advice, such as provided by ACWA, will always be of benefit to any Minister for Fisheries, but there are grounds for a more cohesive and progressive approach to policy issues by the fishing industry as a whole.

Fortunately, in early 2009, proposals for a change in the structure of the peak industry body, WAFIC, were proposed and agreed by a majority of WAFIC members. While the implementation of those changes has not occurred to date, at the recent AGM a significant change was made to the composition of the Board of Directors of WAFIC and a commitment given by the new Chairman of WAFIC, Mr Kim Colero, that the new Board will progress the desire of many members for change.

Your Executive Officer, Dan Machin, has continued to provide enthusiastic and energetic support to your Committee of Management and to myself. With part-time administrative support from Katherine Galatis, your Executive Officer continues to deal with a wide range of complex issues on behalf of industry, while also providing time to assist individual members of ACWA.

Similarly, your Committee of Management has continued to guide the activities of ACWA in a professional and considered manner. I am grateful for the support I have received from your Executive Officer and the members of your Committee.



Max Ball
Chairman

Annual Report

The ACWA Annual report is an overview of our performance for the 2008/09 financial year to its members.

Committee of Management

The Committee of Management comprised the following during the financial year and up to the date of this report:

Chair (Independent)	Mr Max Ball	Committee	Mr Dimitri Bacopanos
Vice Chair	Mr Glenn Dibbin	Committee	Mr Barry Hall
Committee Committee	Dr Suresh Job Mr Sue Harris	Committee Committee	Mr Tony Bary Mr Bruce Phillips
Committee	Mr Geoff Glazier		

REVIEW OF OPERATIONS

Overview

In the year to 30 June 2009, income and expenses was \$236,114 and \$242,983 respectively. Of the income \$12,118 was attributable to member subscriptions and \$7,500 from secretariat services purchased by WAMPA. The remaining \$216,496 was derived from various projects undertaken and managed by ACWA totalling \$46,882, bank interest of \$3,196 and a grant of \$147,000 from the Minister of Fisheries through the Development and Better Interest fund (DBIF) to provide peak body services to the aquaculture industry.

Consequently, ACWA has finished the year with a net loss of \$6,868.

The government funding future of ACWA is uncertain due to various factors. In 2010-2011 there is likely to be wholesale change to peak body funding mechanisms. ACWA members, to maintain ACWA's level of service, will need to cover fixed costs of \$180,000 per annum.

Principal Activities

The principal activities during the financial year ended 30 June 2009 comprised of the representation and promotion of the Western Australian Aquaculture Industry, member communication and professional development.

Results

A net loss of \$6,868

Review of operations

The ACWA financial policy is to budget for a minimal surplus from operations. This allows ACWA to satisfy the following objective to *maximise the value provided to members*, either by minimising the costs of membership or providing services.

Indemnification and Insurance of Committee of Management (CoM) and Officers

During the financial year, ACWA paid an insurance premium for CoM members and all officers of ACWA against a liability incurred by such a CoM member or officer to the extent permitted by the Association Act.

CoM members and Remuneration

The CoM members of ACWA are appointed on an honorary basis and as a result do not receive any remuneration either directly or indirectly in their capacity as a CoM member. The only exception is the ACWA chair who received a small honorarium of \$10,000.

The Executive Officer (EO) has been appointed by the CoM, and is remunerated as an employee of ACWA. The EO's contract expires on 30 June 2010.

Remuneration of the EO is established by ACWA's remuneration subcommittee. Remuneration is determined as part of an annual performance review, having regard for market factors, as well as a performance evaluation. This remuneration package generally comprises a salary, car, and superannuation.

Corporate Governance Statement

Committee of Management (CoM)

The Committee of Management (CoM) is the governing body of ACWA. Its powers are set out in ACWA's constitution and the ACWA operations manual. The ACWA constitution is reviewed regularly by the CoM. The adoption of any proposed changes is subject to the approval of the membership at an annual general meeting. The ACWA constitution is available on the ACWA website (www.aquaculturecouncilwa.com).

Composition of the CoM

The ACWA CoM currently consists of 9 members. The procedure for appointing CoM members can be found in the ACWA constitution. The skills, experience and expertise relevant to the position of CoM member is available at the front of this annual report or from the ACWA website.

Role of the CoM

The CoM is responsible for the overall corporate governance of ACWA. This includes setting and periodically reviewing the strategic direction, monitoring the achievements and financial performance of the organisation, and deciding key policy positions for ACWA to take on behalf of the WA Aquaculture industry. In addition, committee members volunteer time each to specific projects and initiatives. Six (6) meetings were held during the fiscal year. The chair is the primary spokesperson for ACWA.

The CoM and the Executive Officer

The CoM is responsible for the appointment and employment contract of the executive officer (EO). The EO role is to lead the organization. He develops a business strategy in collaboration with the CoM. The EO is responsible for the internal work culture of ACWA, the employment of staff and for the financial management and control.

The EO is the lead person in the key relationships with government and other organizations.

The CoM determines the EO's performance, goals and remuneration on advice from the remuneration subcommittee.

CoM subcommittees

To improve its efficiency, the board delegates tasks to sub-committee(s). At present ACWA has the following sub-committee(s):

1. Finance subcommittee
2. Remuneration sub-committee.

Adherence to ethical standards

All ACWA members and CoM agree to be bound by the principles contained in the COM operations manual.

All ACWA staff agree to use the following values to guide their decisions.

- Promote aquaculture industry at every opportunity
- Member focus
- Uphold the principles and practice of ecologically sustainable development
- Working in partnership with industry and shareholders
- Improving the skills and competence of people in the industry through training

ACWA'S Business Programs

Good progress was made during the year towards the goal of creating a world best practice environment for aquaculture industry development in Western Australia.

Aquaculture for Profit

State Election 2009

ACWA gained bipartisan support for the aquaculture development, aquaculture law reform and environmental approvals.

Fish Resources Management Amendment Bill 2009

Provided the Department of Fisheries advice on the legal framework WA aquaculture industry requires under the proposed FRMA amendment Bill.

Aquaculture Leases for Coastal Waters

The complete package of all lease arrangements was to be published in June 2008. The Department of Fisheries has yet to release this policy.

Environmental approval system

Large scale aquaculture projects environmental approval system is inefficient, requiring up to three approvals (EPA, Dept of Environment and Conservation (DEC) and Marine Park and reserve Authority) and two licences (Dept of Fisheries & DEC) for the one activity. In addition, the timeframe for the majority of the approvals are open ended.

Over 2008/09, ACWA has continued to work in partnership with the Marine Finfish Association, and the Dept of Fisheries and the EPA to create the following policy and administrative arrangement

1. Deregulation of aquaculture as a prescribed premise, under the EP Regulations;
2. the Department of Fisheries obtaining a Memorandum of Understanding with the EPA, under EP act; and
3. Develop a legal framework to create assessed schemes for aquaculture development zones.
4. Aquaculture policy guidelines for Marine Parks and Reserves and the EPA.

The Department of Fisheries have revised completion date to December 2009.

Funding Application Support

ACWA provided letters of support, and grant writing support and advice to the aquaculture industry. ACWA and its members secured over \$1,350,000 in government grants over 2008/09.

ACWA secured an IDU grant to develop seafood funding grant website and grant writing workshop for the next three years.

Collie Mine Void & Indigenous Aquaculture Development

In September 2007, ACWA chair and EO were invited to provide advice to Mick Murray and Wesfarmers Premier Coal on the potential of Collie mine lake aquaculture. The assessment was that:

1. there was a significant industry development opportunity in the development of temperate freshwater aquaculture development hub; and
2. And a opportunity for ACWA to fostering a key relationship with mining sector, as part of their mine lake rehabilitation programs, demonstrating aquaculture integration with the mine sector.

Currently, ACWA is working with the Ngalang Boodja Enterprise Pty Ltd (NBE) aquaculture venture in collie. ACWA provides leadership support to the NBE. The project has the following objectives:

1. to assess the commercial viability of mine lake aquaculture by undertaking a 2.5 ha commercial pilot project; and
2. to build the capacity of the NBCAC to self govern the commercial entity within 5 years; and
3. to build the capacity of local people to participate in an emerging aquaculture industry development cluster in the region; and
4. To develop long term "value to community" solutions for existing mine voids.

NBE, with ACWA's assistance, has raised \$1,200,000 to fund its pilot commercial project over the next three years.

Coral Aquaculture

The Department release its draft policy should in December 2007 for public consultation. ACWA has undertook industry consultation and provided a submission on the policy. The policy was to be published in 30 June 2009.

Biosecurity Agriculture Management (BAM) Act and regulations

This council will advise the Minister on matters that relate to biosecurity under the objects of the biosecurity agriculture management bill (http://www.agric.wa.gov.au/content/pw/bamb_info.htm).

The Department of Fisheries has yet set up a formal consultation process for industry to provide input on the draft regulations.

Conflict of Interest Policy

ACWA has continued to establish whether the Department of Fisheries staff conflict of interest policy is consistent with office of integrity and *Office of Public Sector Standards* to ensure that industry can have absolute confidence in the Department's officers.

Submissions on Government Policy and Fisheries Management papers, leases, licences, variations and translocation applications

ACWA provided a total of 58 letters and submissions over the 2008/09 year, see Appendix 1 for a summary.

Key Policy Officer Relations

ACWA has maintained relationships and networks with the following Ministers, Ministerial and Departmental policy officers and advisors:

- The Minister for Fisheries
- The Minister for Agriculture and Food
- The Minister for Industry & Resources
- The Minister for Local Government and Regional Development,
- The Minister of the Environment,
- The Minister for Planning and Infrastructure;

Department of Premier and Cabinet, Department of Fisheries (Aquaculture program, community relations, research, legal), Environmental Protection Authority, Marine Parks & Reserve Authority; Department of Environment and Conservation, Department for Planning and Infrastructure;; Department of Health, Regional Development commissions, and the Department of Agriculture and Food.

Representation

Positions held by Management Committee and Executive of ACWA on behalf of the organisation and Other Associations (* denotes representation made on behalf of ACWA).

Board Member	Committee and Working Group
Max Ball	Chair, ACWA Finance subcommittee* WAFIC Sector body meeting
Glenn Dibbin	Seafood Quality Management Initiative (SQMI) steering committee Australian Shellfish Quality Assurance Advisory Committee WAFIC Representative Cockburn Sound Management Committee Chair -WA Mussel Producers Association
Bruce Phillips	Fisheries Assessment Panel, Northern Development Taskforce FRDC Rock Lobster Post-Harvest Program FRDC Rock Lobster Enhancement and Aquaculture Sub-Program
Dimitri Bacopanos	ACWA Finance subcommittee*
Sue Harris	Secretary of Marron Growers Association
Geoff Glazier	Chair, AMWING Pearl Producers Association
Dr Suresh Job	
Dan Machin	Biosecurity Council * WA Fishing Industry Council (WAFIC) Native Title Subcommittee* Primary Industry Training Council Inc * WAFIC Industry Promotion subcommittee* Aquaculture Environmental Monitoring Conditions Working Group* WAFIC Occupational Health and Safety & Training Subcommittee* ACWA Finance subcommittee*

Aquaculture for People

ACWA website

The site provides a gateway to information; in particular products and services to assist new entrants find information. It also enables members to advertise for free juvenile sales, equipment, jobs and services. The website has maintained a top three ranking by Google™ for aquaculture sites.

ACWA website receives 19% of all global aquaculture search engine inquiries and the service and supply directories have a top ranking in Google for 12 months.

ACWA has generated 50 new pages over the year.

ACWA website will offer new functions to enable it to develop pocket of revenue through directory listings.

Indigenous Development

ACWA hosted Phil Ugle, FRDC Indigenous Development Scholarship. During 2008, ACWA arranged a tour of the Kimberley indigenous aquaculture enterprises. A special thanks, to Dr Suresh Job, Monique Kelly and Jeff Cooper, Kimberley College of TAFE for coordinating and hosting the tour.

Member Communication

The following communication was provided to members – 6 State Election Bulletins, 2 ACWA digest, Member, 4 Chairman Summary to members, 12 Member Alerts.

ACWA has gained agreements from both the ADC and Department of Fisheries, quarterly and monthly reporting, respectively. These reports are posted on the ACWA website.

Mussel Festival 2009

This event was held on Saturday and Sunday, 21 and 22. March 2009. The ACWA and the Challenger TAFE staffed a shared display booth. The key messages were the promotion of the mussel sector, ecological sustainable development, serving tasting of WA farmed fish to over 1500 people. Over 25,000 people visited the event over the two days.

Industry Sundowners

AGM sun downer this event was well attended by members, politicians and Fisheries Staff.

Meetings with the Minister for Fisheries

ACWA had two meetings scheduled with the Minister over the year. ACWA has a series of meetings with Minister's policy advisors and key back benchers and upper house members, on an as needed basis.

ACWA has had one meeting with the opposition spokesperson for Fisheries and Aquaculture.

Aquaculture Development Council

As required, ACWA provided background papers to Minister Advisory Committee, the Aquaculture Development Council (ADC). During the 2008/09 period the ACWA CoM did not require papers to be provided, primarily as the focus of the ADC was open ocean aquaculture and all strategic priorities have been previously provided to the ADC. ACWA participated in the Aquaculture Innovation Roadmapping project and Workshop.

Industry Development

ACWA has formed relationships with TAFEs throughout the State to provide specific skills training for would-be staff of member businesses.

Media releases

ACWA produced a total of 11 media releases/appearances over the year (see appendix 3)

Aquaculture for Tomorrow

Environmental Monitoring (EM) and reporting

Given the costs of compliance with EMP at the early stage of a project's development ACWA has been working with DoE and DoF to develop an EMP that is commensurate with the environmental risks of the stages of a project development. In addition, ACWA has been advocating the need for DoF to improve the efficiency and effectiveness by standardising licence conditions, make provision for online records and provide pro-forma EMP for species sectors.

ACWA has assisted the Marine Fish Farmer Association to review its Environmental Management.

Corporate Services

DBIF Peak Body Funding

ACWA maintained the Minister for Fisheries peak body funding at 2008/09 level of \$147,000, or 45% higher than 2003 levels.

Governance Manual

The ACWA CoM has reviewed the COM operations manual to help assist with the induction of new CoM members. The manual is focused on accountability to members.

It produced an annual report for members.

Political Advocacy

The ACWA CoM developed a advocacy plan for the industry.

Membership

ACWA direct membership represents over 95% of aquaculture industry GVP, excluding beta-carotene production. See Appendix 2 for a list of businesses and associations.

Discount programs

As part of its commitment to reduce costs to its members, ACWA has maintained the following discounts:

- National residue survey – EU export approval
- Shoprite ACWA card
- 20% off Fish Farm International.

Significant changes in the state of affairs

In the opinion of the Committee of Management, there were no significant changes in the state of affairs of ACWA that occurred during the financial year, not otherwise disclosed in this report.

Matters subsequent to the end of the financial year

Except as disclosed in the financial report, no other matter or circumstance has arisen since 30 June 2009 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect:

1. the operations of ACWA in future years
2. the results of those operations in future years, or
3. the state of affairs of the company in future years.

Likely developments and expected results of operations

Further information on likely developments in the operation of the Council and expected results of those operations have not been included in this report because the CoM believe it would likely result in unreasonable prejudice to ACWA.

Meetings of the Committee of Management

The number of meetings ACWA held during the financial year ended 30 June 2009 and the number of meetings attended by each director are set out below.

		Number of Management Committee meeting attended during the financial Year, of those they were eligible to attend.
Chair	Max Ball	5 of 5
Vice Chair	Mr Glenn Dibbin	5 of 5
Committee	Ms Sue Harris	5 of 5
Committee	Professor Bruce Phillips	2 of 5
Committee	Mr Barry Hall	4 of 5
Committee	Mr Dimitri Bacopanos	1 of 4 (note that all Finance sub-committee meetings were attended)
Committee	Mr Geoff Glazier	2 of 3 ¹
Committee	Mr Tony Bart	3 of 3
Committee	Mr Suresh Job	2 of 3

We commend the report to you and look forward to playing a part in pursuing aquaculture industry in Western Australia.



Max Ball
Chairman

¹ Due to election to the committee in October 2008, as such was only eligible to attend the 3 subsequent committee meetings.

ACWA Financial Report

**Independent Audit Report to the members of
The Aquaculture Council of Western Australia Inc.**

Scope

We have audited the attached special purpose financial report of The Aquaculture Council of Western Australia Inc for the year ended 30 June 2009. The financial report comprises the Statement by Executive Director, Balance Sheet, Income and Expenditure Statement and Notes to the Accounts.

The Association's committee of management is responsible for the financial report in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 1987 and the funding organisation(s). This includes responsibility for the maintenance of adequate accounting records and internal controls that are designed to prevent and detect fraud and error and for accounting policies and estimates inherent to the financial report. The committee has determined that the accounting policies used are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the Association's constitution and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. We have conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the members of The Aquaculture Council of Western Australia Inc. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used are appropriate to the needs of the members.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to the members for the purpose of fulfilling the committee of management's financial reporting requirements under the Association's constitution. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility of reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any other purpose than that for which it was prepared.

Audit Approach

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free of material misstatement. Our procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report, and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with the accounting policies as described in Note 1 to the financial report. These policies do not require the application of all Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

INDEPENDENCE

In conducting our audit, we followed applicable independence requirements of the Australian professional ethical pronouncements and the Corporations Act 2001.

Audit Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report presents fairly in accordance with accounting policies described in the Notes to the Accounts, the financial position of The Aquaculture Council of Western Australia Inc as at 30 June 2009 and the results of its operations for the year then ended.

Dated the _____ day of October 2009 in Osborne Park, Western Australia
AMW (AUDIT) PTY LTD

ANDERSON MUNRO & WYLLIE
Chartered Accountants

BILLY-JOE THOMAS
Director
Registered Company Auditor

THE AQUACULTURE COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC

STATEMENT BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I hereby certify that:

1. The attached Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Statement for the year ended 30 June 2009 is accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief and have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies in Note 1 to the accounts.
2. All receipts due to The Aquaculture Council of Western Australia Inc during the year ended 30 June 2009 have been deposited to the nominated Bank West account.
3. All payments made by The Aquaculture Council of Western Australia Inc for the year ended 30 June 2009 have been made for approved business.
4. Nothing has come to my attention that would indicate that the financial statements are inaccurate, inappropriate or otherwise misleading.
5. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Aquaculture Council of Western Australia Inc will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.



Maxwell Ball
Chairperson

Date: 26 October 2009

ACWA
BALANCE SHEET
As of June 30, 2009

	Jun 30, 09
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
3000 Cash at Bank ACWA	38,597.47
Total Chequing/Savings	38,597.47
Accounts Receivable	
1200 Accounts Receivable	15,459.96
Provision for Doubtful Debts	-
Total Accounts Receivable	15,459.96
Other Current Assets	
1300 Reimbursement Clearing Account	-
1499 Undeposited Funds	-
Total Other Current Assets	-
Total Current Assets	54,057.43
Fixed Assets	
Website Development	9,538.00
Accumulated Depreciation - Website Development	- 580.82
Computer Equipment	4,453.33
Accumulated Depreciation - Computer Equipment	- 549.71
744 Motor Vehicles	27,416.00
745 Less Accumulated Depreciation	- 3,198.53
746 Plant & Equipment	3,994.00
747 Less Accumulated Depreciation	- 3,994.00
Total Fixed Assets	37,078.27
TOTAL ASSETS	91,135.70
LIABILITIES	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
2000 Accounts Payable	-
Total Accounts Payable	-
Credit Cards	
Bankwest Business Visa	828.23
Total Credit Cards	828.23
Other Current Liabilities	
Provision for Annual Leave	5,940.80
Accrued Expenses	8,591.80
Esanda Finance	4,479.12
Unexpired HP charges - Current	- 1,929.09
2401 FBT Clearing Account	-
FBT - Other	1,557.00
2201 GST Collected	15,197.90
1999 GST Paid - Other	- 13,905.95
2100 PAYG Dan Machin	10,963.83
2301 PAYG D Machin	- 6,930.67

ACWA
BALANCE SHEET
As of June 30, 2009

	<u>Jun 30, 09</u>
2302 PAYG Administration	1,383.85
2600 Super Clearing Account	4,886.36
1500 Deferred Income	-
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>30,234.95</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>31,063.18</u>
Non-Current Liabilities	
Esanda Finance - Non-Current	19,345.42
Unexpired HP charges - Non-Current	- 2,248.17
Total Non-Current Liabilities	<u>17,097.25</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>48,160.43</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>42,975.27</u>
EQUITY	
Suspense	-
3002 Opening Bal Equity	2,185.84
3900 Retained Earnings	47,657.80
Net Income	- 6,868.37
	<u>42,975.27</u>

ACWA
Profit & Loss
July 2007 through June 2008

	Jul '08 - Jun 09
Income	
IDU Project 07005	13,900.00
191 Project	
19100 Project Income (EA)	703.84
19108 Sundry Projects	409.38
19111 Project - Other	3,800.00
19112 ACWA Website	974.24
19113 Leadership Training Program	860.00
19118 Farmbis SII project	5,007.91
19119 Organic & Ecolabelling project	22,500.00
19194 National Residue Survey Levy	3,207.60
19196 Aqua Dive Course	- 580.00
191 Project - Other	10,000.00
Total 191 Project	46,882.97
192 Interest	3,196.27
196 Membership Subscriptions	
1961 Corporate	11,054.82
1962 Individual	150.00
1963 Associate	763.64
196 Membership Subscriptions - Other	150.00
Total 196 Membership Subscriptions	12,118.46
199 Secretarial Services	7,500.00
207 Dev. & Better Interest Fund	147,000.00
208 Sundry Income	279.69
Gain on disposals of fixed assets	2,710.51
Liabilities written off	87.89
Doubtful Debts written back	2,439.00
Total Income	236,114.79
Gross Profit	236,114.79
Expense	
Bookkeeping Fees	4,438.75
Casual Wages	100.00
Miscellaneous	329.88
Stamp Duty	25.00
300 Accounting	3,265.21
301 Bank Fees	419.74
302 Meeting Expenses	
3021 Board Meeting	949.18
3022 AGM Costs	751.80
3026 Meals	376.78
Total 302 Meeting Expenses	2,077.76
303 Postage & Delivery costs	105.59
304 Insurance	
3041 Association & Public Liability	2,846.47

ACWA
Profit & Loss
July 2007 through June 2008

		Jul '08 - Jun 09
	3042 Workers Compensation	477.72
	3044 Office Equipment	219.93
	304 Insurance - Other	237.25
	Total 304 Insurance	3,781.37
	305 Fringe Benefit Tax	6,193.30
	306 Office Rent	13,153.05
	307 Stationery/Office Supplies	1,529.40
	308 Subscriptions	3,492.23
	309 Telephone	4,241.44
	310 Vehicle	
	3101 Fuel & Oil	2,773.41
	3102 Insurance & Reg'n	3,701.57
	3103 Repairs & Maintenance	529.34
	Total 310 Vehicle	7,004.32
	311 Office Equipment	
	3112 Office Equipment - Maintenance	807.85
	311 Office Equipment - Other	135.45
	Total 311 Office Equipment	943.30
	318 Printing	649.23
	319 Salaries & Wages	
	Annual Leave	5,940.80
	31901 Executive	86,153.93
	31902 Administration	16,449.50
	Total 319 Salaries & Wages	108,544.23
	319021 Advertising	518.36
	320 Travel	
	3201 Airfares	1,146.91
	3202 Accomodation	3,198.25
	3203 Meals	1,299.44
	3205 Parking & Taxis	832.43
	Total 320 Travel	6,477.03
	321 Superannuation	
	32101 Executive	7,454.84
	32102 Administration	2,075.02
	Total 321 Superannuation	9,529.86
	323 Chair Honorarium	20,000.00
	326 Website Costs	
	3261 Design	109.09
	3262 Management & Promotion	600.00
	3263 Site hosting	1,195.96
	326 Website Costs - Other	458.87
	Total 326 Website Costs	2,363.92
	327 Consultants	
	3273 Lawyers	5,009.97
	3279 Training	409.09

ACWA
Profit & Loss
July 2007 through June 2008

		<u>Jul '08 - Jun 09</u>
3280	Pearl Disease Workshop 2007	5,700.00
3282	National Residue Survey	1,600.00
3283	Dive Training	11,670.00
327	Consultants - Other	<u>2,491.00</u>
Total 327	Consultants	26,880.06
328	Industry Promotion	9,154.52
	Reimbursement and Undeposited Funds written off	2,227.38
	Depreciation	4,329.06
	HP charges	<u>1,209.17</u>
Total Expense		<u>242,983.16</u>
Net Income		<u>- 6,868.37</u>

Attachment 1

APPENDIX 1: Summary of ACWA's key submissions and letters

Letters for Appreciation

Marine Produce Australia, Challenger TAFE, Indian Ocean Fresh, Western Kingfish Limited and WA Abalone Ltd for generously provided their produce for use at ACWA events.

ACWA Submissions

- May 2009 [Red Tape Reduction Working Group](#)
- May 2009 EIA approval process system pilot scheme
- March 2009 [Aquaculture Law Reform - Part II](#)
- March 2009 [Aquaculture Law Reform - Part I](#)
- March 2009 [Aquaculture Coral, Live Rock and Associated Products](#) - The Aquaculture of Coral, Live Rocks and Associated Products - [Fisheries Management Paper No. 227](#)
- December 2008 [Need for Aquaculture Law Reform](#)

Correspondence for 2008/09

Ministers and Department's Other than the Department of Fisheries

- July 2008 Minister of Fisheries – Update on the Aquaculture Bill Task Force
- October 2008 - Hon Len Roberts-Smith, QC Commissioner Corruption and Crime Commission
- November 2008 Minister for Fisheries – ACWA Annual Report
- November 2008 Minister for Fisheries – Aquaculture Development Council membership
- November 2008 Minister for the Environment – environmental approvals
- December 2008 Minister for Fisheries – Aquaculture laws
- December 2008 Ken Baston MLC, Charles Blaney MLA, Brendon Grylls MLA, Colin Holt MLC & Grant Woodhams MLA – aquaculture law reforms.
- December 2008 Minister for Fisheries – Aquaculture conference
- December 2008 Chair, Environmental protection Agency – Aquaculture laws
- April 2009 – Director General, Dept. of Agriculture and Food – sensitive crops
- April 2009 – Chair, Marine Parks and Reserve Authority – need for marine parks aquaculture policy.
- June 2009 Chair, Environmental protection Agency – Aquaculture Policy Guidelines

Department of Fisheries

- October 2008 Request for formal monthly reporting from the Aquaculture Sub-Program
- October 2008 Conflict of interest policy.
- December 2008 – reply to Stuart Smith on Aquaculture Act process.
- December 2008 – Russel Barnett, ADC Chair-ADC and ACWA communications
- December 2008 – Fiona vom Berg – thank your for the Marine Finfish ESD Management Report workshop.
- May 2009 – Amwing Pearls aquaculture licences conditions
- May 2009 – Suspension of the Lease Policy.
- June 2009 – CEO, Dept of Fisheries – the Department's Aquaculture Budget and priorities for 2009/10.

Letter of Support for funding application

- Dr Suresh Job, Kimberley College of TAFE
- Occoculture Pty Ltd
- Marine Produce Australia Pty Ltd
- Batavia Coast Maritime Institute
- Ngalang Boodja Enterprises Pty Ltd
- Abrolhos Pearls WA Pty Ltd
- Fish Health Section, Department of Fisheries
- M. Klunzinger, PhD Candidate, Murdoch University.
- Aquatic Resources Management Pty Ltd

Comment of Aquaculture Licences –Ministerial Policy Guideline No. 8

ACWA provided comment on all of the MPG application received over the year that had the potential to impact member's interests.

Attachment 2

APPENDIX 2: List of ACWA's Members

Full members

Amwing Pearl Producers Association Inc
Aquacarotene Ltd
Aquafarms Research development Pty Ltd
Aquatic Resource Management
Australian Coral Farm Pty Ltd
Batavia Coast Maritime Centre
Blue Lagoon Mussels Pty Ltd
Bouveries Nominees Pty Ltd
Capesea Frams Pty Ltd
Challenger TAFE
Chapman Valley Aquaculture
Curtin University
Joe Rinkens
Kimberley College of TAFE
Kimberley Prawn Farm Pty Ltd
Latitude Fisheries Pty Ltd
Le Mer Marketing Pty Ltd
Marine Finfish Association Inc.
Marine Produce Australia Pty Ltd
Marron Growers Association Inc.
MG Kailis Group
Mulataga Aquaculture Pty Ltd
Occoculture Pty Ltd
Oceanarium Pty Ltd
Pemberton Aquaculture Producers
Southseas Abalone Pty Ltd
Summermor Pty Ltd
Sun Kissed Yabbies Pty Ltd
The Saltwater Trout Alliance Inc
Tohzai King Pty Ltd
WA Abalone Ltd
WA Mussel Producers Association Inc
Warren Moore
Western Kingfish Ltd
Yabby Producers Association Inc

Associate Members

Barry Hall
Ratatouile Enterprises - Don Hancye & Peter Manifis
Dr Crystal Cree

Attachment 3

APPENDIX 1: Summary of ACWA media for 2008/09

- **September 2008 Australasian Aquaculture –Great Potential in mine lakes aquaculture**
- **25 November 2008 – ABC Rural Radio - WA kingfish stock hit by disease**
- **Marron Growers Bulletin – Does WA need new aquaculture laws?**
- **February 2008**
 - **26th Collie Mail**
 - **24th GWN News**
 - **24th WIN News**
 - **27th ABC TV Stateline- Reporter Leonie Harris**
 - **23rd ABC radio - Reporter Kath Sullivan**
 - **23rd ABC radio – Reporter Kath Sullivan**
 - **23rd South West WA ABC Radio – SW Breakfast with Glynn Greensmith**