

The Seafood Police

A Seafood Career for Me:
ALife Fact Sheet No. 3

Sounds Cool! The Fish Police!

Fisheries Officers, sometimes called Fisheries Compliance Officers, are responsible for the proper management, conservation and preservation of the fishing resources in each State/Territory of Australia, by ensuring they are not endangered or over-exploited.

The duties of Fisheries Officers vary greatly across the States. The type of work that they do often depends on the size and type of commercial fishing and aquaculture industries in their district. These officers may also serve as fisheries observers on naval patrol boats or they may be responsible for wildlife protection.

In some States, these officers are also responsible for enforcing the laws relating to boating in marine parks and protected zones.

What Tasks Do Compliance Officers Perform?

- * Patrol and investigate waterways for unlawful fishing activities and/or the removal of protected marine life, and to enforce relevant laws and regulations.
- * Inspect fishing vessels, fishing gear and processing enterprises to ensure compliance.
- * Liaise with industry on fishing regulations and licence renewals.
- * Check that fish are sold through legal markets and that fish markets do not sell undersize fish.
- * Investigate and report on alleged breaches of legislation and provide evidence in court.
- * Promote and provide education on fisheries resource management programs & policies.

More senior fisheries officers, such as supervising or district fisheries officers and fisheries managers, will also be responsible for supervising and coaching other staff and representing their organisation at public and government events and activities.

Qualifications

Vocational qualifications in fisheries compliance are available from Certificate III to Diploma. Some states and territories may have traineeships in fisheries compliance.

For more details, jump on to the Seafood CRC's website at www.seafoodcrc.com and hit the link called "Seafood Training and Qualifications" in the ALife tab or contact a Seafood CRC Participant or your local Industry Training Advisory Body.



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