



The purpose of SafeFish is to:

- provide technical/scientific expertise to enable rapid response to sustain free and fair access to key markets, and
- underpin the safety and hygiene of seafood sold commercially in Australia





- National partnership of industry, government and researchers
- Providing the evidence base to respond to market access issues and underpin the safety and hygiene of seafood sold commercially in Australia
 - Research and technical reports into priority issues e.g. to re-open the EU market for abalone following closure due to marine biotoxin management
 - Supporting Australian delegations to Codex Alimentarius Commission e.g. to avoid an international requirement for mandatory testing of biotoxins in abalone
 - National risk assessments e.g. parasites in fish, *Vibrios* in prawns, mercury in seafood
- Building capability and expertise in seafood safety in Australia
 - Laboratory services, industry and regulator training, technical networks, researcher capability



- Partnership members
 - Independent Chair of SafeFish,
 - Department of Agriculture and Water Resources
 - Food Standards Australia and New Zealand (FSANZ)
 - Fisheries Research and Development Corporation (FRDC)
 - Australian Shellfish Quality Assurance Advisory Committee (ASQAAC)
 - Seafood Trade Advisory Group
 - Seafood Importers Association of Australia
 - Sydney Fish Market
 - Simplot
 - Seafood New Zealand (observers)
- Co-funders: SRL, OA, SFM, ACA



- 2016 Issue identification process
 - OzFoodNet – Epidemiological data
 - FSANZ – Food recall data
 - EFSA – Emerging Risks Exchange Network reports
 - Codex Alimentarius Commission
 - DAWR – NRS data, trade detects/recalls & Import Testing program
 - SafeFish – Stakeholders issues

		Risk Categories						Likelihood					
		Trade and Market Access	Public Health	Regulatory Issues	Economic Impacts	Reputational Impacts	Environmental /Sustainability Issues	Commonly occurs	Known to occur or it has happened in the past	Could occur or I have heard of it happening (published information)	Not likely to occur	Practically impossible	
								A	B	C	D	E	
Consequences	High 1	Immediate and final cessation of trade (Global Impact)	Fatalities	Under consideration at Codex/DAWR/FS ANZ with potential implication for Australian Trade	Broad impact across seafood industry ≥\$100 Million	Serious media/ministerial interest/public outcry (International coverage)	Effects national food security	1	2	4	7	11	
	2	Partial Cessation (either from one country/product)	Serious illness/injury or large outbreak (i.e. ≥50 people)	Under consideration with State regulators with potential impact for Australian Trade	\$10 Million to <\$100 Million	Significant adverse national media (major bulletins)	Emerging/growing issue caused by changing environments; new risk management strategies needed	2	3	5	8	12	16
	3	Recall	Long term minor illness or small outbreak (i.e. Gastro <50 people)	Emerging issue likely to need/bring on new regulatory change	\$1 Million to <\$10 Million	Heightened media/concern by local community	Change to sustainable/management practices (National)	3	6	9	13	17	20
	4	Warning/advice of non-conformance	Product recall/rejection or customer complaint	Additional training will resolve issue	\$100,000 to <\$1 Million	Minor/local coverage (one-offs)	Emerging and growing local issue	4	10	14	18	21	23
	Low 5	No trade impact	Not significant	No regulatory issue	<\$100,000	No impact	Not related to environmental/sustainability issues	5	15	19	22	24	25



Issue	Rating	SafeFish Role
Export restriction for canned abalone into China based on Chinese sulphite regulations	High	Provide technical advice
Harmful algal blooms (HABs) and their impact on seafood	High	Current and continuing
Arsenic in <i>Amusium</i> scallops in WA and QLD	High	On-going communication with QLD and WA
Ciguatera	High	Look for opportunities
Food fraud and food authenticity	High	Look for opportunities
Vibrios in bivalve shellfish	High	Liaise with DAWR and Industry
Off label chemical use in Australia	Moderate	Watching brief
Per and poly fluoroalkyl substances (PFASs) – formally known as perfluorinated compounds (PFC)	Moderate	Watching brief with FSANZ
Parasites in finfish	Moderate	Provide information/education
Water retention chemicals	Low	No action currently
Potentially high levels of mercury in crustaceans	Low	Risk communication/mentoring
Validation and use of rapid test kits for marine biotoxin testing	----	



Thank you

<http://SafeFish.com.au>