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**MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES**

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The primary objective in relation to the reef fishery is to be sure that there continues to be sufficient table fish available to enable

- i a viable commercial fishery to be sustained
- ii recreational fishermen to be able to catch one or two fishes if they wish without great difficulty
- iii recreational divers to be able to see reasonable number and variety of fish when diving.
- iv some areas to be set aside to provide unfished "reference areas".

Objective iv can be (and is being) achieved through zoning in which some areas are zoned so that no fishing is allowed. It is assumed that such unfished areas will provide spin-off benefits to other fished reefs and thereby contribute to objectives i, ii and iii. The achievement of the first objective may be related to the total size of the recreational catch. The achievement of objectives ii and iii is partially related to the total size of the recreational catch vis a vis the commercial catch, but it is primarily related to matters of allocation of the catch.

A strategy therefore for assisting in achieving such objectives is to limit, in some way, the individual catches of recreational fishermen to several fishes per person per trip or day. As there is little evidence regarding the population dynamics or biological status of the reef fish stocks, management strategies based on assumed biology and population dynamics may be unsuccessful and/or counter-productive.