

Management of the reef fishery is currently proceeding through a number of regulations on minimum size and amateur sales of fish under Queensland legislation and zoning plans under Great Barrier Reef Marine Park zoning plans involving closed areas.

Before new measures are introduced, it is necessary that there be

- . a clear statement of management objectives
- . consideration of possible options to achieve those objectives
- . evaluation of the options
- . design of a program to evaluate the chosen option.

At this stage, introduction of additional biological management measures seems premature; until more information is available on the history of reef fish, prosecution of an evaluated clearly gazetted and formulated education program seems the most cost-effective option to consider.