

Communique

The Aquaculture and Wild Catch Industry Reference Committee (IRC) held their second meeting of the year on 21 May 2020 via Zoom conferencing.

This meeting was to discuss the SFI Case for Endorsement and provisional sign-off by the Chair for submission to the Australian Industry and Skills Committee (AISC).

Diver Skill Sets

The IRC discussed the four Diver Skills Sets to be included with the SFI Case for Endorsement. IRC requested an additional week to double check with particular stakeholders but agreed in principal.

SFI Case for Endorsement

Skills Impact project team gave a comprehensive report on the Fishtech and Aquabotics and Work with Crocodiles projects included in the Case for Endorsement. The IRC discussed at length, the details of both projects, covering industry consultation and project challenges in the face of drought, bushfires, and COVID19. The projects adapted in each circumstance with additional online consultation taking place in response to the various challenges.

The development of a new qualification in the Work with Crocodiles project had industry and RTO evidence supporting the qualification at Certificate III level. Indigenous participation and cultural sensitivity was critical to the success of the project and details were outlined and discussed.

Industry provided a number of support letters since the development of the draft documents and these will be included in the final submission to the department. The IRC noted and thanked Skills Impact for the comprehensive project work and unanimously supported the Case for Endorsement of:

Fishtech and Aquabotics

- 9 new units of competency
- 24 revised units of competency
- 3 new skill sets

Work with Crocodiles

- 1 new qualification
- 11 new units of competency
- 8 new skill sets
- 2 units of competency proposed for deletion

Sign-off

The IRC confirmed in principal sign-off for the Chair for the SFI Case for Endorsement as presented.

Ag Workforce Strategy

The IRC discussed the current discussion paper released by the Agricultural Labour Advisory Committee and encouraged to complete the survey open online to 1 June 2020.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Aquaculture and Wild Catch IRC is yet to be confirmed.