

# Assoc Prof Tim Ward - Wild Fisheries

## SARDI AQUATIC SCIENCES

### Areas of expertise

Pelagic and benthic ecosystems; ecological effects of fishing; fisheries biology and stock assessment; project management and provision of policy advice.

### Overview of experience and qualifications

A/Prof Tim Ward has a long and diverse involvement in marine science, especially the fishing industry, and has worked as a commercial fisher, Australian Fishing Zone Observer, scientific consultant to the film industry, university lecturer and fisheries manager, as well as a research scientist.

In his current position as Leader of SARDI Aquatic Sciences' Wild Fisheries Science Program Area, A/Prof Ward manages research on all of South Australia's fisheries.

A/Prof Ward is recognised nationally and internationally for his research on pelagic fish, especially stock assessment of sardine using the daily egg production method. In 2007, he delivered the focus presentation at the Tri-national Sardine Forum in San Deigo, California, where he spoke about his work on the biology, ecology and stock assessment of pelagic fishes in southern Australia. In 2008, A/Prof Ward completed a large (total budget \$3.14M) national project that developed an egg-based stock assessment method for blue mackerel and provided the basis for the new Harvest Strategy for the Commonwealth Small Pelagic Fishery.

A/Prof Ward has a long history of conducting research to support the ecologically sustainable management of fisheries, especially measuring and mitigating effects on by-catch species and community structure. A/Prof Ward's doctoral thesis was on the impacts of demersal trawlers on the sea snakes of northern Australia. Several of A/Prof Ward's doctoral students have conducted projects to measure and minimise bycatch and interactions with protected species. A/Prof Ward is currently leading a large multi-disciplinary study to develop ecological performance indicators for the South Australian Sardine Fishery.

A/Prof Ward also has a strong research interest in the Great Australian Bight (GAB) and has published several papers on the importance

of upwelling in enhancing productivity and development of a performance assessment strategy for the GAB Marine Park.

A/Prof Ward has published over 32 scientific papers and over 80 peer reviewed reports. He has extensive experience as a research scientist, research manager, and policy advisor.

A/Prof Ward is affiliated with both the University of Adelaide and Flinders University of South Australia has supervised more than 12 honours and doctoral students in disciplines, including fisheries oceanography, biology and ecology of fishes and interactions of fisheries with protected species.

### Recent Professional appointments

**Current:** Program Leader, Wild Fisheries  
SARDI Aquatic Sciences

#### November 2004 - October 2006

A/Chief Scientist, SARDI Aquatic Sciences

#### July 2004 – October 2004

Program Leader, Wild Fisheries  
SARDI Aquatic Sciences

#### July 2001 – June 2004

Program Leader, GAB and Shelf Seas Program  
SARDI Aquatic Sciences

#### August 2000 – November 2000

A/Principal Fisheries Manager  
PIRSA Fisheries Policy Group

#### January 1998 – June 2001

Senior Research Scientist, Pilchards  
SARDI Aquatic Sciences

#### 1997 Fisheries Biologist

Queensland Department of Primary Industries

### Contact

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