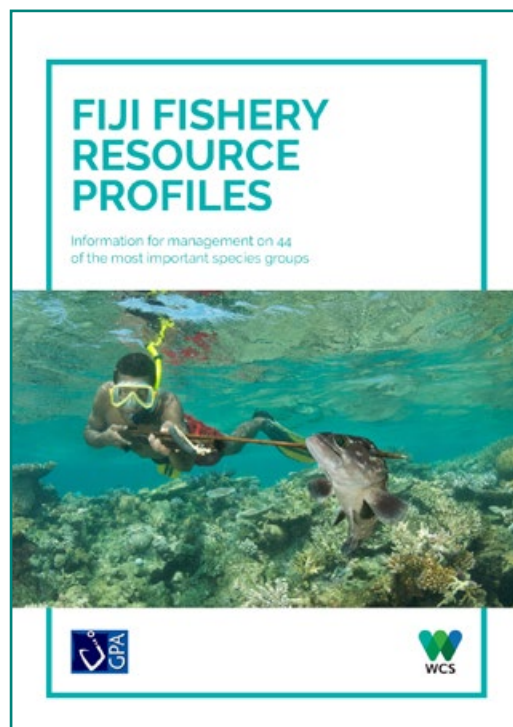


Fiji Fishery Resource Profiles: Information for management on 44 of the most important species groups

Steven Lee¹, Robert Gillett², Sangeeta Mangubhai³

Over the last three years, the David and Lucile Packard Foundation has supported a portfolio of projects specifically targeted at improving the governance of Fiji's inshore fisheries. In 2016, Gillett, Preston and Associates interviewed people from Fiji's Fisheries Department and non-governmental organisations (NGOs), as well as fisheries specialists in Fiji to determine specific problem areas that were constraining the management of inshore fisheries. Many of the people interviewed noted the lack of readily available reference material on the resources that support significant fisheries in Fiji. Accordingly, the Packard Foundation provided funds to update and enhance the 1994 Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) fishery profiles.



The 1994 FFA publication by Andrew Richards titled "Fiji Fisheries Resources Profiles"⁴ was an update of a 1985 document produced by the Fisheries Division of Fiji's Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.⁵ These publications provided summary information on different categories of marine fish, invertebrate and plant resources for staff of the Fisheries Division, NGOs, students, communities, researchers, and others. Ultimately these documents informed government policy on natural resource management for some years.

The recently updated Fiji Fishery Resource Profiles is a 240-page document summarising information on 44 of Fiji's main species groups. Where groups of species are covered in a single profile (e.g. large coastal pelagics) there is also a separate profile on one exemplar species in that group (e.g. the Spanish mackerel, *Scomberomorus commerson*).

The updated Fiji Fishery Resource Profiles was published in early 2018, under the reference:

Lee S., Lewis A., Gillett R., Fox M., Tuqiri N., Sadovy Y., Batibasaga A., Lalavanua W. and Lovell E. 2018. Fiji Fishery Resource Profiles. Gillett Preston and Associates and the Wildlife Conservation Society, Suva, Fiji. 240 p.

Each profile includes information on, if available:

- The resource
 - ⊗ species presence
 - ⊗ distribution
 - ⊗ biology and ecology
- The fishery
 - ⊗ utilisation
 - ⊗ production and marketing
- Stock status
- Management
 - ⊗ current legislation and policy
 - ⊗ recommended legislation and/or policy
- References

The full document is available online from:

- gillettprestonassociates.com/publications.shtml
- fiji.wcs.org/Resources/Reports.aspx

¹ Email: steven.d.a.lee@gmail.com, PO Box 4332, Nadi, Fiji.

² Gillett, Preston and Associates, PO Box 3344, Lami, Fiji.

³ Wildlife Conservation Society, Fiji Country Program, 11 Ma'afu Street, Suva, Fiji.

⁴ Richards A., Lagibalavu M., Sharma S. and Swamy K. 1994. Fiji Fisheries Resources Profiles. Report 94/4, Forum Fisheries Agency, Honiara, Solomon Islands. 205 p.

⁵ Lewis A. 1985. Fishery resource profiles: Information for development planning. Fisheries Division, Ministry of Primary Industries, Suva, Fiji. 90 p.