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**Prawn
Farmers**
ASSOCIATION

6th April 2017.

MEDIA RELEASE

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The Australian Prawn Farmers Association (APFA) welcomed the Coalition Government news delivering \$20 million to assist prawn farmers.

The assistance package announced by the Acting Prime Minister and Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, Barnaby Joyce, will help the prawn farming industry start the long recovery process.

The package will cover owner reimbursement costs for the affected farmers during the outbreak as well as allow the farms to stand down for a season which will help to drive down the prevalence of the disease.

Whilst in all probability the cause of this outbreak can be linked back to failure at the border and an extremely high percentage of white spot positive prawns in retail markets pre the outbreak – industry is eager to move on and start to rebuild.

Matt West, President of the Association said "APFA thanks the minister and his department for swiftly coming to a resolution. This arrangement shows a commitment to support Australian farmers who have been affected. It is also a commitment to help eradicate this disease and once again return Australia to a white spot free status"

Industry agreed to a \$4 million repayment structure which is consistent with other levy type arrangements and we look forward to working out all the details with the Ministers department so the funds can get to the farms as quickly as possible.

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