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Tony Collard has been involved with primary industries all his life. Growing up on a dairy farm near Brisbane, his family also owned and operated a saw mill and the last arrowroot flour mill in Australia. Finishing school, aged 15, he was a deckhand for 3 years, prawn trawling from Cairns to the Torres Strait before trying various land based jobs for 9 years. Tony moved to Townsville in 1994 to return to commercial fishing and in 2004 purchased FV Danny-Mac (15 metre timber prawn trawler) with wife Karen, which they upgrading in 2007 to FV Fiora (19.5 metre steel prawn trawler). In 2010, Tony became Area 6 Trawl Representative for Queensland Seafood Industry Association and is involved with the current Queensland East Coast Trawl Management Plan review.

Karen Collard became involved with the Queensland fishing industry when Tony returned to commercial fishing in 1994. Prior to starting a family in 1996 she had 12 years banking experience, culminating in the position of Metway Bank Branch Manager. She helped establish the Townsville Queensland Women's Industry Network for the Seafood Community in 1999 and arranged workshop meetings with the Australian Taxation Office and Work Cover Queensland during 2000 when the Goods and Service Tax (GST) was introduced to clarify employment terms for fishing crew.

Returning to paid employment in 2002, Karen currently works at the Queensland Country Credit Union as a Loans Assessor. Tony & Karen have been involved with the Queensland Seafood Industry Association and Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority fisheries and climate change partnership since attending a workshop in October 2009, using and promoting the Seafood Industry Emissions Calculator.