



6 April 2022

## FISHERIES &amp; AQUACULTURE

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www.pir.sa.gov.au**NOTICE TO FISHERS****Western Zone Abalone Fishery – 2022 quota carry-over arrangements**

I am writing in regard to arrangements for the carry-over of uncaught 2020 quota entitlements on Western Zone Abalone Fishery (WZAF) licences to the 2022 quota period.

On 17 December 2020, amendments to the *Fisheries Management (Abalone Fisheries) Regulations 2017* allowing for uncaught quota entitlements on WZAF licences from the 2020 quota period to be carried over to the next three quota periods came into effect. These amendments to the regulations were implemented to assist with the market disruption related to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

These arrangements, included in regulation 12(3)(d)(iii) of the *Fisheries Management (Abalone Fisheries) Regulations 2017* state the Minister may impose or vary conditions on licences in respect of the fishery fixing abalone quota entitlements as follows:

*(iii) in addition to any increase in the quota entitlement made under subparagraph (i), if the total catch of abalone of a particular class taken during the quota period 2020 fell short of the quota entitlement for that quota period by an amount exceeding 50 kilograms of abalone meat—increase the quota entitlement in respect of that class of abalone for the quota periods 2021, 2022 and 2023 by up to 1 kilogram of abalone meat for each kilogram above 50 kilograms by which the total catch fell short of the quota entitlement for the quota period 2020*

In correspondence dated 26 May 2021, I advised you that I had carried over uncaught 2020 quota entitlement under individual licences to the 2021 quota period. In addition, I indicated that if individual licence holders were unable to harvest the total amount of quota carried over during 2021, the regulated arrangements allow for the carry-over of uncaught 2020 quota entitlements to the 2022 quota period.

I now advise you that, as delegate of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, I am exercising my discretionary powers to vary conditions on licences in respect of the fishery fixing abalone quota entitlements so as to increase quota entitlement of a particular class of abalone for the 2022 quota period by up to 1 kilogram of abalone for each kilogram by which the catch fell short of the quota entitlement under the licence for the 2020 quota period subject to regulated arrangements.

This decision carries over 100% of applicable uncaught 2020 quota entitlements on individual WZAF licences for utilisation in the 2022 quota period if those quota entitlements remained uncaught at the end of the 2021 quota period.

If individual licence holders are unable to harvest the total amount of quota carried during 2022, the regulated arrangements allow for the carry-over of any remaining uncaught 2020 quota entitlements to the 2023 quota period if required.

In making this decision to carry-over remaining uncaught 2020 quota entitlements to the 2022 quota period I have considered:

- The Objects of the Fisheries Management Act 2007.
- The latest stock status classifications for Abalone in the WZAF
- The amount of uncaught 2020 quota entitlements on individual licences
- The amount of uncaught 2021 quota entitlements on individual licences
- The request from AIASA to carry-over remaining uncaught 2020 quota entitlements on individual licences at the conclusion of 2021 into the 2022 quota period
- Advice from SARDI in regard to the risk of carry-over of quota in the WZAF.

If you have any queries regarding the carry-over arrangements please contact Dr Annabel Jones, A/General Manager Fisheries, on (08) 8429 0165.



Prof Gavin Begg  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
**FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE**