



Our reference: A6808802

23 June 2025

**FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE**

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**NOTICE TO LAKES AND COORONG FISHERY LICENCE HOLDERS****Information on the implementation of arrangements for electronic reporting of catch and effort (periodic returns) in the Lakes and Coorong Fishery**

Dear Licence holder

I write to provide an update on the implementation of electronic reporting for the Lakes and Coorong Fishery that will replace the current paper-based system.

A third-party electronic reporting system has now been developed which will enable commercial fishers to access and record their catch and effort (C&E) data (periodic returns) in the Lakes and Coorong Fishery electronically. This will improve the integrity and reliability of reporting, and result in more effective and efficient management of the Lakes and Coorong Fishery.

To facilitate the accurate transition to the new electronic C&E log reports for submitting periodic returns, licence holders will, for a period, be required to continue to report their catch and effort using paper-based returns, as well as the new electronic format. This period of dual reporting is required to allow for comparison of electronic logbook returns against the paper-based reports to ensure the accuracy of the electronic data entries. Dual reporting of periodic returns will continue until licence holders are advised individually in writing by the Department that paper-based C&E returns are no longer required.

As of 1 July 2025, you will be required to submit C&E data electronically through a third party application and paper logs. Licence holders may also choose to access eCatch through the myPIRSA portal and directly report.

Particulars about electronic catch and effort reporting have been detailed within the 'Lakes and Coorong Fishery – Electronic Reporting Reference Guide' which will be provided to all licence holders.

Please ensure that you notify all registered masters endorsed on your licence of this reporting change.

A new Ministerial Determination has been made to reflect the new reporting requirements for the purposes of regulation 20 of the Fisheries Management (Lakes and Coorong Fishery) Regulations 2024, you will need to familiarise yourself with.

As noted in the determination licence holders will be required to submit their electronic C&E logs within 72 hours of landing. This may be subject to change when dual reporting is ceased and the fishery is transitioned to electronic reporting only.

The Determination for regulation 16 of the Fisheries Management (Lakes and Coorong Fishery) Regulations 2024 has also been made to update the legislative references in the existing determinations following the remaking of the Fisheries Management (Lakes and Coorong Fishery) Regulations 2024. There are no reporting changes being implemented under this determination. The determination for regulation 19 will be updated separately.

The new Determinations revoke and replace the former determinations and has been published on the Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) website and can be viewed at

[https://www.pir.sa.gov.au/primary\\_industry/commercial\\_fishing/management/determinations](https://www.pir.sa.gov.au/primary_industry/commercial_fishing/management/determinations)

If you have any queries regarding C&E Logs, please contact PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture, Information Services on 8207 5412 or email [pirsa.fisheriesinformationservices@sa.gov.au](mailto:pirsa.fisheriesinformationservices@sa.gov.au).

For any enquires relating to eCatch or myPIRSA please contact Leasing and Licensing on 8207 5332 or email [pirsa.fisherieslicensing@sa.com.au](mailto:pirsa.fisherieslicensing@sa.com.au).

Yours sincerely



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