August 2018

NOTICE TO LAKES AND COORONG FISHERY LICENCE HOLDERS

Dear licence holders

Management arrangements for Black Bream in the Coorong estuary.

The 2014-15 Black Bream Stock Assessment Report for Black Bream produced by the South Australian Research Development Institute (SARDI) Aquatic Sciences classified the stock in the Coorong estuary as 'overfished'. In response, PIRSA developed management options to recover the stock, and submitted these options for consideration by the Lakes and Coorong Consultative Committee and Lakes and Coorong Fishery Management Advisory Committee (LCFMAC).

Following feedback from the LCFMAC, the commercial industry and RecFish SA, the management options were revised and re-submitted to the LCFMAC meeting on 1 June 2018. The LCFMAC has written to PIRSA endorsing temporary management arrangements to be implemented for Black Bream to assist with the recovery of the stock.

As delegate of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, I have implemented the following temporary management arrangements on commercial and recreational fishing to protect Black Bream and promote recovery of the stock:

1. For the period from 1 September 2018 to 30 November 2018:
   - A closure prohibiting the use of mesh nets (commercial and recreational) within 300 m of all barrages located in the Coorong (Area 1);
   - A prohibition on the take or possession of Black Bream by both the commercial and recreational fishing sectors within the Lakes and Coorong;

In making this decision, I have considered the advice provided by the LCFMAC and RecFish SA, the most recent scientific evidence related to Black Bream stocks in the Coorong estuary, and the objects of the Fisheries Management Act.

I acknowledge the considerable effort and the co-management approach taken by the Lakes and Coorong Fishery in responding to this matter, and the support for implementing management arrangements to achieve the recovery of Black Bream stocks in the Coorong estuary.
For further questions, please contact Rebecca Atkins, Lakes and Coorong Fishery Manager on 8429 0241 or Rebecca.Atkins@sa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Sean Sloan
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