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FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE

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NOTICE TO FISHERS SNAPPER MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

To licence holders of the Marine Scalefish Fishery, Southern Zone Rock Lobster Fishery, Northern Zone Rock Lobster Fishery and Lakes and Coorong Fishery with Marine Scalefish access. I write to advise you of the temporary Snapper fishery management arrangements for the South East Snapper fishing season commencing on 1 February 2021 to 30 June 2021.

The Snapper Management Advisory Committee (the Committee) was established in November 2019 to provide advice to the Minister on Snapper science and management programs for the commercial Marine Scalefish, Charter Boat, Recreational and Aboriginal traditional fisheries.

Following the completion of the third meeting of the Committee on 11 August 2020, it was recommended that the Total Allowable Catch (TAC) for the 2021 South East Snapper fishing season be set at 26,666 tonnes from 1 February 2021 to 30 June 2021.

I can now advise that the TAC for the South East Snapper season has been determined at 26,666 kg for the period of 1 February 2021 to 30 June 2021 and based on the allocated shares contained in the *Management Plan for the South Australian Commercial Marine Scalefish Fishery*, the Committee agreed to:

- A Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC) of 21,600 kg (based on 81% share of the resource) and;
- A Total Allowable Recreational Catch (TARC) of 4,800 kg (based on 18% share of the resource).
- A nominal allocation of 266kg (based on 1% share of the resource) to Aboriginal traditional fishing.

The following provisions apply to commercial licence holders;

- A minimum size limit of 38 cm for Snapper will continue to apply
- A maximum of 400 hooks are permitted in the water at any one time.
- Commercial fisheries licence holders may apply for an exemption if they intend to transit through a Snapper closed area with Snapper on board their vessel.

Specific management arrangements, implemented by a notice in the Gazette pursuant to section 79 of the *Fisheries Management Act 2007* will apply restrictions to the commercial fishing sector for the taking of Snapper in waters of the South East region and prescribes the following:

- A 350 kg daily commercial trip limit and a possession limit of 1050 kg with no limits to the days fished.
- No transfer of Snapper onto other vessels will be permitted whilst at sea.

- The reporting system and a catch and disposal record system will be required as follows;
 - If the licence holder is in the act of taking and or being in possession of Snapper in waters of the South East, they are required to report to PIRSA Fishwatch (1800 065 522) at least 1 hour before leaving port, at least 1 hour before midnight for every day of fishing and at least 1 hour before returning port.
 - Snapper Catch and Disposal Record (CDR) must be completed accurately before the point of landing and within 50 meters of the high water mark.
 - The white Snapper CDR form has to be forwarded by post, fax or scanned copy by electronic means to the PIRSA within 48 hours of returning to port.
 - The blue Snapper CDR form to be present with Snapper consigned to a processor and retained by the processor
 - If the licence holder is in the act of storing Snapper taken in the waters of the South East on a vessel overnight in port and not unloading, they are required to report to PIRSA Fishwatch (1800 065 522) no less than 1 hour before landing to port.

If the TACC of 21,600 kg for Snapper is reached prior to 30 June 2021, access to Snapper will be prohibited once the TACC is reached.

I have enclosed a copy of the Notice published pursuant to section 79 of the *Fisheries Management Act 2007* for your reference. If you would like to target Snapper you can obtain a Snapper CDR book from the following locations:

- PIRSA Head Office, 2 Hamra Avenue WEST BEACH SA 5024, phone 8207 5333
- PIRSA Mount Gambier, 9 Krummel Street MOUNT GAMBIER SA 5290, phone 08 8735 1300.
- Wildcatch Fisheries SA, Fishing Industry House Dockside, PORT ADELAIDE 5015, phone 08 7221 1960.

Should you have any further queries in relation to this matter please contact Keith Rowling, Program Leader, Community Based Fisheries on (08) 8429 0513.

Yours sincerely



Belinda McGrath-Steer
A/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE