



FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE

2 Hamra Avenue
West Beach SA
GPO Box 1625
Adelaide SA 5001
Tel (08) 8226 0900
www.pir.sa.gov.au

28 September 2021

NOTICE TO FISHERS - SOUTHERN ZONE ABALONE FISHERY

INTERIM MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS FOR FISHING AREA 11A

I write in relation to interim management arrangements for an area within Fishing Area 11 (Middle Point) as requested by the Southern Zone Abalone Management Inc (SZAM).

In response to a request from the Independent Chair of the SZAM, the Hon Rory McEwan, the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development has requested the Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) seek the necessary legislative amendments to the boundaries of Fishing Areas (FAs) in the SZAF to enable the creation of a new FA in the area of FA11 to be implemented by the beginning of the 2021/22 fishing season on 1 October 2021.

The boundaries of each FA are described in the *Fisheries Management (Abalone Fishery) Regulations 2017*. Therefore, implementation of a new FA and changing the boundaries of FA11 require amendments to this legislation. PIRSA is currently seeking the necessary legislative amendments to implement these arrangements, however this process has not been finalised at this time.

To implement the proposed Minimum Legal Length (MLL) of 110 mm for Blacklip Abalone harvested from the new FA within FA11, herein termed FA11A, as delegate of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, I have issued a Ministerial Exemption to licence holders and their Registered Masters in the SZAF allowing for Blacklip Abalone of the proposed size limit or larger to be harvested in the area defined in that notice. This exemption also requires the regular completion of Part A of a CDR and sealing of bins containing Blacklip Abalone prior to leaving FA11A to fish in another area of the fishery.

All other MLLs described in the notice Clause 5(2)(a) of Part 2 of Schedule 2 of the *Fisheries Management (General) Regulations 2017* dated 10 September 2021 and published in the South Australian Government Gazette on 16 September 2021 apply.

The provision of this Ministerial Exemption is considered an interim arrangement while the process required to consider the proposed regulation amendments is finalised. It is noted the provision of this exemption does not infer in anyway the outcome of consideration of these regulation amendments.

If you have any other queries in relation to the SZAF please contact Dr Annabel Jones on Annabel.Jones@sa.gov.au or (08) 8429 0165.

Yours sincerely



Prof Gavin Begg
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE
Delegate of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ACT 2007: SECTION 115

Ministerial Exemption ME9903188

TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to section 115 of the *Fisheries Management Act 2007*, the holder of a Southern Zone Abalone Fishery licence or their registered master (hereinafter referred to as the “exemption holder”), are exempt from regulation 3(1), Clause 5(2)(a) of Part 2, Schedule 2 of the *Fisheries Management (General) Regulations 2017*, but only insofar as the exemption holders are permitted to harvest Blacklip Abalone (*Haliotis rubra*), in the waters within abalone fishing area 11 specified in Schedule 1, subject to the conditions specified in Schedule 2 from 1 October 2021 until 30 September 2022, unless varied or revoked earlier.

SCHEDULE 1

Waters of the Southern Zone Abalone Fishery contained within and bounded by a line commencing at 38°02'49"South, 140°27'27" East, then north-easterly to the line of Mean High Water Springs closest to 37°59'23.62" South, 140°31'01.72" East, then beginning south-easterly along the line of Mean High Water Springs to the location closest to 38°01'14.85" South, 140°34'08.04" East, then south-westerly to 38°04'23.35" South, 140°31'52.47"East, then north-westerly to the point of commencement. (GDA94).

For the purposes of this exemption, this area will be referred to as “Fishing Area 11A”.

SCHEDULE 2

1. The exemption holder must ensure all Blacklip Abalone harvested and retained pursuant to this exemption must have a shell length measured at its greatest dimension equal to or greater than 110 mm.
2. Where fishing has occurred in Fishing Area 11 the exemption holder must complete Part A of Abalone Catch and Disposal (CDR1) record prior to departing Fishing Area 11A defined in Schedule 1 and within 50 metres of landing.
3. The exemption holder must ensure all Blacklip Abalone taken from Fishing Area 11A are placed within sealed fish bins before departing Fishing Area 11A.

This notice does not purport to override the provisions or operation of any other Act including but not limited to the *Marine Parks Act 2007*.



Dated: 28 September 2021

Prof Gavin Begg
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE
Delegate of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development