



FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE

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**NOTICE TO LICENCE HOLDERS IN THE PIPI, VONGOLE, BLUE
CRAB, GIANT CRAB AND NORTHERN ZONE ROCK LOBSTER FISHERIES RE
UNDER-CATCH/OVER-CATCH QUOTA ARRANGEMENTS**

Dear licence holder

On 16 June 2022, the legislative amendments to enact the carry-over of uncaught quota entitlements and the over-catch of quota entitlements at the individual licence holder level in the Pipi, Vongole, Blue Crab, Giant Crab and Northern Zone Rock Lobster fisheries were made by the Governor and published in the South Australian Government Gazette.

These legislative amendments vary the *Fisheries Management (Lakes and Coorong Fishery) Regulations 2009*, *Fisheries Management (Blue Crab Fishery) Regulations 2013*, *Fisheries Management (Miscellaneous Fishery) Regulations 2015*, *Fisheries Management (Vongole Fishery) Regulations 2021* and *Fisheries Management (Rock Lobster Fisheries) Regulations 2017* (the regulations) and provide standardised administrative powers for the Minister to carry-over uncaught quota entitlements and manage over-catch of quota entitlements in the above-mentioned fisheries. These new arrangements implement the provisions described in the PIRSA Policy Paper “*Managing under-catch and over-catch in South Australian Fisheries*” released in December 2021.

Carry-over

The level of carry-over of uncaught quota entitlements has been set in regulations at 10%, unless determined by the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development prior to the commencement of the subsequent quota period in which the uncaught quota entitlements will be fished.

Consistent with the PIRSA Policy Paper, PIRSA will seek advice from a relevant Management Advisory Committee or Industry Association in regard to these arrangements during normal consultation on the setting of Total Allowable Commercial Catch.

Please note that following consultation with relevant fisheries representatives about carry-over arrangements from the 2021/22 quota period to 2022/23, these arrangements will be implemented at the level of 10% of the quota entitlements held on the licence.

Consistent with the PIRSA Policy Paper, any quota entitlements carried over to the subsequent quota period must be used by the same licence in the quota period they have been carried over to and cannot be transferred.

Over-catch

In relation to over-catch arrangements, the amendments will allow the Minister to administratively manage the quota entitlements on licences where the catch has exceeded the quota entitlements held on the licence at two levels:

1. Where an over-catch amount is equal to or less than 10% of the quota entitlements held on a licence, each kilogram in excess of the quota allocation may be deducted from the quota entitlements on that licence by the Minister in the subsequent quota period at a rate of 1:1.
2. Where an over-catch amount exceeds 10% of the quota entitlements held on a licence, each kilogram in excess of the quota allocation may be deducted from the quota entitlements on that licence in the subsequent quota period at a rate of 2:1.

These new arrangements also provide the capacity to set the over-catch provisions at less than 10% of the quota entitlements held on a licence or a corresponding kilogram amount.

It should be noted that even though the former third level of administrative action has been removed from the regulations, the Minister still has the ability to commence prosecution action for significant over catch occurrences should they occur.

These new over-catch arrangements will apply to any over catch of the 2022/23 quota entitlements.

Adjustments to licences

The PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture licencing unit will assess uncaught or over-caught quota entitlements across all relevant fisheries as at the end of each quota period. Adjustments to quota entitlements would be applied to licences as soon as practicable following the beginning of the next quota period. Licence holders will be advised of the changes at the time the adjustments are made in quota statements.

Should you have any queries in relation to the legislative amendments to enact the carry-over of uncaught quota entitlements and the over-catch of quota entitlements in the Pipi, Vongole, Blue Crab, Giant Crab and Northern Zone Rock Lobster Fisheries please contact Steve Shanks, A/ Program Leader – Community Based Fisheries on (08) 8429 0197 or via email at steve.shanks@sa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Prof Gavin Begg
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
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