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FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE

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NOTICE TO CHARTER BOAT FISHERY, MARINE SCALEFISH FISHERY, and ROCK LOBSTER FISHERY LICENCE HOLDERS

Shark and Ray Management Arrangements

Dear licence holder,

I write in relation to the ongoing implementation of management arrangements for sharks and rays.

There are currently in place temporary state-wide management arrangements made in December 2024 under section 79 of the *Fisheries Management Act 2007* restricting bag limits and introducing size limits for certain shark and ray species.

On 31 October 2025, you were provided with a letter, detailing a suite of temporary fishing arrangements put in place in response to impacts of the algal bloom, inclusive of –

- a prohibition of commercial fishing for marine scalefish species including Blue Swimmer Crab in the Gulf St Vincent and Kangaroo Island Fishing Zone (GSVKIFZ); and
- reduced fishing limits for recreational and charter boat fishers for all species (excluding Southern Rock Lobster) in GSVKIFZ and for four species in the Spencer Gulf Fishing Zone (SGFZ).

These temporary arrangements include restrictions on shark and ray species in GSVKIFZ.

To remove any inconsistency between the arrangements for shark and ray species within and outside of the waters of the GSVKIFZ, and to continue the size limits for specified ray species and the prohibition of mutilation of fish, I have as delegate of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development now:

- Revoked the section 79 shark and ray fishing restriction notice dated 7 December 2024;
- Approved a new section 79 notice to provide continued fishing restrictions incorporating the following:
 - fishing limits in waters other than GSVKIFZ comprising:
 - No take rules for specified endangered or critically endangered shark and ray species, applying to both the recreational and commercial fishing sectors;
 - A combined bag limit of 1 and boat limit of 3 for specified (vulnerable) shark and ray species, applying to recreational

- fishers;
 - A per passenger combined charter limit of 1 per day and 3 per trip greater than 3 days for specified vulnerable shark and ray species;
 - A combined bag limit of 2 and boat limit of 6 for other unlisted shark and ray species applying to recreational fishers; and
 - A per passenger combined charter limit of 1 per day and 3 per trip greater than 3 days for other shark and ray species applying to fishers on a charter boat.
- Size limits for 5 ray species applying to recreational fishers in all waters.
 - A prohibition on injuring or damaging non-noxious aquatic resources not being retained applying to both the recreational and commercial fishers in all waters.

These arrangements will remain in effect until 30 June 2026, consistent with the temporary arrangements for bag, boat and passenger limits in GSVKIFZ. It is still the intent to progress ongoing arrangements for shark and ray restrictions, through regulatory amendments.

A copy of the notices is attached for your information.

Should you have any further queries on the matter please contact Jordan Lear, Fisheries Manager on 0401 121 955 or at Jordan.lear@sa.gov.au

Yours sincerely,



Prof Gavin Begg
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE

Attachments:

- A. Section 79 notice