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FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE

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## NOTICE TO LAKES AND COORONG FISHERY LICENCE HOLDERS RE MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS TO PROTECT SPAWNING BLACK BREAM

Dear Licence Holders,

I am writing in relation to the management arrangements to protect spawning black bream (*Acanthopagrus butcheri*) in the Lakes and Coorong Fishery over the spawning period.

The May 2022 SARDI report '*Assessment of the South Australian Lakes and Coorong Fishery in 2020/21*' classified the black bream stock in the Lakes and Coorong as 'depleted'.

In order to protect spawning black bream in the Lakes and Coorong Fishery it is necessary to prohibit the take and possession of the species, as well as the use of mesh nets within 300 m of barrages over the spawning period 1 August 2022 to 31 January 2023.

In making this decision, I have considered the advice provided by stakeholders, including RecFish SA and the Southern Fishermen's Association, as well as the most recent SARDI scientific advice and the objectives of the *Fisheries Management Act 2007*.

As delegate of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, under section 79 of the *Fisheries Management Act 2007*, I have implemented the following management arrangements, which apply to both the commercial and recreational sectors:

- A prohibition on the use of mesh nets within 300 m of all barrages located in the Coorong (Area 1) from 1 August 2022 to 31 January 2023
- A prohibition on the take and possession of black bream within the Lakes and Coorong from 1 August 2022 to 31 January 2023.

I have enclosed a copy of the section 79 closure notice for your information.

The Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) will also be working with the Lakes and Coorong Fishery Management Advisory Committee (LCFMAC), to develop a recovery strategy for black bream. The purpose of the recovery strategy will be to transition the stock from a 'depleted' stock status classification to sustainable. It is intended the recovery strategy will enable permanent management arrangements for black bream to be implemented.

Should you have any questions concerning the management arrangements for black bream, please contact Elisha Lovell on Phone (08) 8429 3629 or via email at [elisha.lovell@sa.gov.au](mailto:elisha.lovell@sa.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

**Prof Gavin Begg**  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
**FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE**