December 2016

Notice to Marine Scalefish Fishery licence holders with a Sardine net entitlement

I write in relation to the Sardine fishery quota entitlements for the 2017 quota period and to notify licence holders of the new regulation provisions.

New Regulations

On 15 December 2016 the Fisheries Management (Marine Scalefish Fishery) Regulations 2006 under the Fisheries Management Act 2007 were amended to implement regulatory reform in the South Australian Sardine Fishery. Included in these variations was the legislative amendment to vary the management arrangements to allow for the permanent transferability of Sardine quota units. This regulation change comes into effect on 1 January 2017.

Consistent with the agreed amendments two management zones for the fishery (Gulf Zone and Outside Zone) have now been established under revised regulations for the fishery. I have also determined the number of quota units on each of the 14 Sardine licences in each zone to be 1,000 units. The enclosed map shows the boundary between the two zones.

In order to ensure permanent quota transferability is implemented effectively in the fishery the area of the two zones and the number of quota units in each zone is fixed on a permanent basis. The permanent establishment of these arrangements is required to ensure that the rights associated with the number of quota units and where they can be utilised remains constant over time.

Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC) & Sardine Quota Unit Value

In determining the quota unit values for the 2017 quota period I have considered the following:

1. The objectives of the Fisheries Management Act 2007
2. The harvest strategy decision rules in the management plan
4. Recommendations from the PIRSA held meeting to consult with industry on 4 November 2016
5. Regulation 18 of the Fisheries Management (Marine Scalefish Fishery) Regulations 2006 (the Regulations)

As a delegate of the Minister for Agriculture, Food and Fisheries for the purposes of regulation 18(3) of the Regulations, I have determined that the kilogram value of a Gulf Zone Sardine quota unit for 2017 is 2,142.86 kgs and the kilogram value of an Outside Zone Sardine quota unit for 2017 is 910.71 kgs.

For the purposes of regulation 18(4)(a) of the Regulations, I have determined that each Marine Scalefish Fishery licence with a Sardine net entitlement will be allocated an equal amount of sardine units for each sardine fishing zone from 1 January 2017, being 1,000
Gulf Zone units and 1,000 Outside Zone units. Beyond 1 January 2017 no additional units will be allocated.

From 1 January 2017, Sardine fishing zone units may be permanently transferred. However, in order to operate in the fishery the regulations require your licence to have a minimum quota unit holding of 100 units for the Gulf Zone and 100 units for the Outside Zone.

These Australian Sardine quota unit values correspond to TACCs of 30,000 t for the Gulf Zone and 12,750 t for the Outside Zone for the 2017 quota period of the fishery.

The attached map shows the area of the Gulf Zone and Outside Zone.

Please note that you will receive an updated quota extract separately:
• allocating 1,000 Gulf Zone sardine units and 1,000 outside Zone sardine quota units; and
• setting the kilogram value of a Gulf Zone sardine quota unit for 2017 at 2,142.86 kgs and the kilogram value of an Outside Zone sardine quota unit for 2017 at 910.71 kgs.

**Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC) & Anchovy Quota Unit Value**

I have also determined that the kilogram value of an Australian Anchovy quota unit for 2017 is 2,380.95 kg, providing a TACC of 1,000 t for the 2017 quota period. This is the same value given to Anchovy quota units in 2016.

Please note that you will receive an updated quota extract separately setting the kilogram value of an Australian Anchovy quota unit for 2017 at 2,380.95 kgs.

**Variation to licence conditions**

The licence conditions (licence conditions 11581 and 11582) in place for the 2015 and 2016 seasons that permitted a licence holder or registered master to take up to 285 tonnes of Outside Zone quota in Part B of the Gulf Zone have been removed. These conditions have been removed as the legislative arrangements for the Sardine Catch Quota System in regulation 18 of the Regulations have now been updated and these licence conditions are no longer necessary.

Please also note the requirement to specify on each catch disposal record (CDR) form whether quota was taken from the Outside Zone or Gulf Zone.

**Quota unit transfers**

If you wish to transfer quota units to another licence, application forms can be obtained from the PIRSA website [www.pir.sa.gov.au/fisheries](http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/fisheries) or by contacting PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture Licensing on (08) 8204 1370. Please note licence holders will now need to specify whether the transfer of Sardine quota units is temporary or permanent.

Licence holders have a right under section 111 of the *Fisheries Management Act 2007* to seek review of a variation or imposition of a licence condition or refusal to issue, renew or consent to the transfer of an authority. Appeal rights also exists under sections 112 and 113.
of the *Fisheries Management Act 2007* to the District Court and the Environment, Resources and Development Court respectively.

If you have any questions in relation to the Sardine fishery, please contact Steve Shanks, Fisheries Manager, on (08) 8429 0197.

Yours sincerely

Sean Sloan  
DIRECTOR  
FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE POLICY

Map of South Australian Sardine Fishery showing Outside Zone (OZ) and Gulf Zone (GZ).