



1 July 2020

FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE

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NOTICE TO LICENCE HOLDERS

To licence holders with hauling net endorsements in the following fisheries: Marine Scalefish Fishery, Northern Zone Rock Lobster Fishery, Southern Zone Rock Lobster Fishery and Lakes and Coorong Fishery

Dear Licence holder

I write to inform you of the Garfish management arrangements for the 2020/21 fishing season to address the continued concerns with the stock status of Garfish.

I have considered the following information:

- The most recent stock assessment report prepared by the South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI) classified the regional Southern Garfish stocks as follows:
 - Northern Gulf St Vincent stock is classified as 'depleted'.
 - Northern Spencer Gulf stock is classified as 'recovering'.
 - Southern Spencer Gulf, southern Gulf St Vincent, South East and West Coast stocks are classified as 'sustainable'.
- The objects of the *Fisheries Management Act 2007*
- The operational objectives of the Southern Garfish harvest strategy in the *Management Plan for the South Australian Commercial Marine Scalefish Fishery* to rebuild stocks
- Industry advice provided by the MFA and the Marine Scale Net Fishers Association.
- The Marine Scalefish Fishery reform.

Having taken all the information available into account, as delegate of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, I have implemented the following management arrangements for 2020/21:

- **A Garfish minimum length of 25 cm for commercial fishers continues to apply until 30 June 2021.**
- **All hauling nets continue to be required to have a pocket made of knotted mesh not less than 36 mm until 2359 hours on 30 June 2021.**
- **A closure is in place for the commercial take, possession or landing of Garfish for a period of 60 days commencing at 1201 hours on 7 August 2020 until 1159 hours on 6 October 2020 for Spencer Gulf.** Note this seasonal closure applies to all commercial Garfish fishing.
- **A closure is in place for the commercial take, possession or landing of Garfish for a period of 80 days commencing at 1201 hours on 18 July 2020 until 1159 hours on 6 October 2020 for Gulf St Vincent.** Note this seasonal closure applies to all commercial Garfish fishing.
- **During the closure, a commercial licence holder must not use a hauling net in Gulf St Vincent other than a hauling net that has a pocket made of knotted mesh not less than 36 mm, has a maximum bunt length of 60 m, a minimum mesh size of 30 mm for panels immediately adjacent to the pocket, a 50 mm minimum mesh size in the remainder of the hauling net and a maximum hauling net length of 600 m.**

Copies of the notices issued under section 79 of the *Fisheries Management Act 2007* to implement the changes are enclosed.

Licence holders have the opportunity to have their hauling net checked by Fisheries Officers to ensure they comply with the new requirements before fishing is undertaken. Hauling nets will continue to be inspected on the water by Fisheries Officers through random and intelligence-driven inspections. If you require your hauling net to be measured prior to fishing with the increased mesh size, please contact your local Fisheries Officer:

Pt. Clinton to Adelaide - Pat Tripodi Ph 0429 000 282

Pt. Hughes to Port Pirie - Ben Bansemer Ph 0428 114 050

Cowell to Whyalla - Michael Cresshull Ph 0429 677 771

West Coast - Trevor Puckridge Ph 0428 228 579

Kangaroo Island - Pat Tripodi Ph 0429 000 282

If you have other questions about the measuring of the hauling nets please contact Pat Tripodi, Fisheries Compliance, Marine Scalefish Fishery coordinator on telephone 0429 000 282.

For any queries relating to Garfish management arrangements, please contact Jonathan McPhail on telephone (08) 8429 0508 or email jonathan.mcphail@sa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Prof Gavin Begg
A/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE

cc: Marine Fishers Association (MFA)
South Australian Northern Zone Rock Lobster Fishermen's Association (SANZRLFA)
South East Professional Fishermen's Association (SEPFA)
Southern Fishermen's Association (SFA)
Goolwa Pipi Harvesters Association (GPHA)