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FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE

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NOTICE TO SPENCER GULF, GULF ST VINCENT AND WEST COAST PRAWN FISHERY LICENCE HOLDERS

Dear licence holder

I write to inform you of recent legislative amendments to maximum vessel length and horsepower ratings described in the *Fisheries Management (Prawn Fisheries) Regulations 2017* that apply to vessels in the Spencer Gulf, Gulf St Vincent and West Coast Prawn Fisheries from 1 July 2021.

On request from industry, the *Fisheries Management (Prawn Fisheries)*Regulations 2017 has been amended to increase the maximum vessel length for a prawn fishing vessel from 22 to 24 metres and the maximum continuous brake power rating of the main engine power rating to 340 kw (455 hp).

The marginal increase to the legislated horsepower limit from 450 to 455 is considered to bring the limit into line with newer model vessel engines, while the increase in legislated length of vessels will aid vessel stability, increase processing and storage capacity, as well as improving safety for fishers.

The Gulf St Vincent Prawn Fishery Management Advisory Committee (GSVPFMAC) and the Spencer Gulf and West Coast Prawn Fishermen's Association have been consulted on these arrangements and supported these amendments.

The two relevant legislative amendments were published in the South Australian Government Gazette on 1 July 2021 and came into effect on that day. The maximum overall length of a vessel operating in the Spencer Gulf, Gulf St Vincent and West Coast Prawn Fisheries is now 24 metres and the maximum continuous brake power rating of the main engine is now 340 kw.

If you have any queries regarding these changes or would like a copy of the amended regulations referred to above, you can contact Yolande Markey, Prawn Fisheries Manager, on mobile 0427 979 085 or email yolande.markey@sa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Prof Gavin Begg

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
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