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FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE

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NOTICE TO MARINE SCALEFISH FISHERY LICENCE HOLDERS

Dear licence holder,

Further to the information provided to licence holders in the Marine Scalefish Fishery (MSF) reform Stage 3 Information pack (dated 1 July 2021) regarding free quota transfers and free registration as a Restricted Fish Processor for 12 months, I write to update you on these fees and changes to the quota trading platform from 1 July 2022.

Quota trading

As part of the reform and the related quota allocation process, it was recognised there was an important need for licence holders to consider their allocations and to make adjustments to their business operations and make resultant permanent quota trades. In support of this, quota trades were made free for 12 months and a dedicated online quota trading platform was developed for MSF licence holders.

In acknowledgement that many businesses are still adjusting to the reforms to the MSF and that processes related to the allocation of quota on the basis of exceptional circumstances are ongoing, the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development has chosen to continue with a zero fee for quota transfers of Snapper, Southern Calamari, Southern Garfish and King George Whiting for the 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 quota period.

The MSF quota trading platform has been heavily used since 1 July 2021 to make permanent quota trades. Feedback provided by industry indicated a preference for temporary trades to be included on the platform as well, and I can advise that as part of various digital upgrades for the MSF, both permanent and temporary trades will be available on the quota trading platform from 1 July 2022.

Please be aware that the online trading platform will not be available to make trades from 24 June through 30 June 2022. This is to allow for various upgrades to be implemented. During this time, it will still be possible to apply for quota trades using an online or hardcopy form. As part of the upgrade process, all quota advertisements on the site will be archived and new advertisements will need to be made from 1 July 2022. If not already, I would encourage licence holders to register and log in to MyPIRSA, where quota entitlements can be monitored by generating a quota balance statement.

The MSF quota trading platform and other quota trading options are available at:
https://pir.sa.gov.au/fishing/commercial_fishing/fisheries/marine_scalefish_fishery/reform/marine_scalefish_quota_trading

Quota trading and other services through MyPIRSA are available at:
<https://mypirsa.pir.sa.gov.au/>


Restricted Fish Processor Registration

As part of measures to reduce red tape in the MSF, changes to the conditions of a Restricted Fish Processor registration were made on 1 July 2021 to enable Restricted Fish Processors who were also holders of an MSF licence to sell their catch to any person, instead of just restaurants, pubs and clubs. I can advise that these changes are being maintained.

MSF licence holders were also exempted from paying the registration / annual fees for a Restricted Fish Processor registration for the 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 period. The normal registration / annual fee for a Restricted Fish Processor registration from 1 July 2022 will be \$214 and, noting the end of the exempted period, I can advise that this fee will resume for MSF licence holders, pursuant to the *Fisheries Management Act 2007*.

Should you have queries on how to trade quota or registration as a Restricted Fish Processor, you can telephone PIRSA Leasing and Licensing on (08) 8207 5332 or email pirsa.fisherieslicensing@sa.gov.au. For further queries regarding the MSF, you can contact Sam Stone, Fisheries Manager on (08) 8429 2101 or email sam.stone@sa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G Begg', with a stylized, cursive script.

Prof Gavin Begg
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE