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FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE

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## NOTICE TO CHARTER BOAT FISHERY LICENCE HOLDERS

### Updated streamlined registration and setting of recreational rock lobster pots for use during charter boat fishing services

Dear licence holder,

I write in relation to updates to the new streamlined registration process and management arrangements for the use of recreational rock lobster pots on charter boats communicated on 16 January 2026.

Following dissemination of the arrangements, further discussions with the Charter Boat Association of South Australia (CBASA) have led to refinements in the application and reporting processes to improve practical application.

Specifically, as delegate of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, I have approved:

- An updated application form for the registration of recreational short term rock lobster pots to be completed and submitted by the charter boat customer/s
- Revoked ME9903404 and issued a new Ministerial exemption (ME9903416) to provide for:
  - The words 'short term' to be removed from Schedule 1 – resulting in the ability for Charter Boat Fishery (CBF) licence holders, or a person endorsed on the licence as a registered master, to set both recreational short term rock lobster pots, and recreational rock lobster pots registered for the full registration period on behalf of customers
  - Removal of the requirement to report prior to setting the pot(s)
  - Amending the time at which the landing report is required from an hour prior to landing to half an hour prior to landing
  - Requiring the tag(s) be destroyed and retained by the CBF licence holder/master at the end of their registration period to enable Fisheries Compliance Officers to check they are not used beyond the term of the registration period, rather than just destruction of the tag(s).

While there is no longer a requirement to report prior to setting the pots, the trip dates and the period in which the tags are valid as specified on the registration certificate given to Fisheries Officers will provide an opportunity to plan compliance activities.

These arrangements have been implemented on a temporary basis and will continue to allow for monitoring, and if necessary, variation, of the activity while longer-term arrangements are considered.

Updated instructions for the use of recreational short term rock lobster pot tags are attached.

As per previous communications, CBF operators who wish to offer use of recreational short term rock lobster pots as part of their charter fishing services, should email [pirsa.fisherieslicensing@sa.gov.au](mailto:pirsa.fisherieslicensing@sa.gov.au) and request a number of recreational short term rock lobster pot tags to be sent to them. These unassigned rock lobster pot tags will then be provided to the CBF operator to be held (and not used) until they are issued to a registered person. The attached instructions for the use of recreational short term rock lobster pot tags should then be followed.

Please note, under the streamlined registration process, application forms must be submitted at least two business days prior to the date on which the pots are intended to be set. Customers should therefore be advised of the date in which you plan to set the pot(s) and that applications must be submitted at least 2 business days prior to this date.

CBF operators must receive confirmation that the tag(s) have been registered, by receiving a copy of the registration certificate(s) prior to affixing the tag(s) to pot(s) and setting the pot(s).

When engaging in fishing using registered rock lobster pots during your charter operations, please be aware of all other requirements and limits under the Fisheries Management (General) Regulations 2017 including:

- A passenger limit of 2 Rock Lobster per person actively fishing – noting this means that only clients using a registered recreational short term Rock Lobster pot in their name can lawfully retain any Rock Lobster taken from the registered rock lobster pot.
- The requirement to mark the middle tail fan of retained Rock Lobster before they are brought ashore or landed by cutting it in half horizontally or punching a hole (no less than 10 mm in diameter) in the distal end.

I thank you for your time and efforts in working through this strategic priority. Should you have any queries on this matter, please contact Jordan Lear – Charter Boat Fisheries Manager on 0401 121 955 or at or email: [jordan.lear@sa.gov.au](mailto:jordan.lear@sa.gov.au)

Yours sincerely



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

Attachments:

- A. Application form
- B. Ministerial exemption
- C. Instructions for the use of tags