

FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE

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NOTICE TO BLUE CRAB FISHERY LICENCE HOLDERS

Dear Licence holders,

I write to inform you of temporary management changes that have been implemented for the commercial Blue Crab Fishery in Gulf St Vincent and Spencer Gulf.

As you are aware, a revised *Management Plan for the South Australian Commercial Blue Crab Fishery* was adopted in July 2020.

The new management plan includes the introduction of spatial closures for the commercial fishery in Gulf St Vincent and Spencer Gulf from 1 December to Easter Monday inclusive, as an offset to the removal of the regulated commercial fishery seasonal closure. These spatial closures include two (2) nm bubble closures in four areas in western Gulf St Vincent (Ardrossan, Black Point, Stansbury and Port Vincent), the metropolitan coastline near Adelaide and three areas in Spencer Gulf, adjacent to Wallaroo, Moonta and inside Franklin Harbor.

The Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) is currently progressing amendments to the *Fisheries Management (General) Regulations* 2017 to bring these management arrangements into regulation.

In the interim period, I have issued a notice under section 79 of the *Fisheries Management Act 2007* to ensure consistency with the spatial closures within the current management plan.

I have enclosed a copy of the notice for your information, if you have any further questions you can contact Keith Rowling, Program Leader, Community Based Fisheries on phone: 08 8429 0513 or via email: keith.rowling@sa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Prof Gavin Begg EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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