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FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE

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NOTICE TO SPENCER GULF PRAWN FISHERY**Information on electronic reporting for the Spencer Gulf Prawn Fishery**

Dear Licence holder

I write to provide an update on the implementation of electronic reporting for the Spencer Gulf Prawn Fishery to replace the current paper-based system.

An electronic reporting system has now been developed that will enable commercial fishers to access their catch and effort for the Spencer Gulf Prawn Fishery. This will improve the integrity and reliability and result in a more effective and efficient management of the Spencer Gulf Prawn Fishery.

Fishers can now submit catch and effort electronically through a third party application. They can also choose to access eCatch through the myPIRSA portal and report their catch and effort electronically directly into the eCatch (Digital Reporting) Service.

Particulars about Catch and Effort reporting have been detailed within the 'Spencer Gulf Prawn Fishery – Electronic Reporting Reference Guide' which will be provided to all licence holders.

Fishers are to commence reporting electronically from **11 March 2024** and will be required to dual report their catch and effort until advised in writing by the Department that paper-based catch and effort returns are no longer required. Dual reporting requires fishers to report their catch and effort using paper-based returns as well as the new electronic catch and effort logbook report. This will allow for monitoring of electronic logbook returns to ensure the accuracy of the entries during the dual reporting period.

New Ministerial Determinations have been put in place to support the new reporting arrangements for the purposes of regulation 12 of the *Fisheries Management (Prawn Fisheries) Regulations 2017*. You will need to familiarise your-self with them.

The new determinations are published on the PIRSA website and can be viewed at https://www.pir.sa.gov.au/primary_industry/commercial_fishing/management/determinations

If you have any queries or you require a hard copy of the determinations, please contact PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture, eCDR team on 8207 5332 or email pirsa.ebusinessfisheries@sa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Prof Gavin Begg
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