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FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE

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NOTICE TO FISHERS

To Marine Scalefish Fishery licence holders with a Sardine net entitlement

I am writing in relation to the total allowable commercial catch (TACC) and quota unit value determinations and other management arrangements for the 2021 season of the South Australian Sardine Fishery (SASF).

Total Allowable Commercial Catches

In determining the TACCs and quota unit values for the 2021 quota period I have considered the following:

1. The objectives of the *Fisheries Management Act 2007*.
2. Regulation 17 of the *Fisheries Management (Marine Scalefish Fisheries) Regulations 2017*.
3. The harvest strategy decision rules in the 'Management Plan for the Commercial Marine Scalefish Fishery Part B – Management arrangements for the taking of Sardines'.
4. Outcomes from the PIRSA meeting with the South Australian Sardine Industry Association Inc. (SASIA) on 22 October 2020 regarding the setting of TACCs for the 2021 season.
5. The advice from SASIA dated 23 October 2020 confirming their recommendations on the 2021 TACCs.
6. The temporary increase of the number of quota unit entitlements allocated to licences during the 2020 quota period to mitigate the impacts of COVID-19 on the shortage of imported tuna feed.

As a delegate of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, I have determined that, for the purposes of regulation 17(3) of the *Fisheries Management (Marine Scalefish Fisheries) Regulations 2017*, and following deduction of the temporary increase of quota unit entitlements during the 2020 quota period, the TACC for Sardines in the Gulfs Zone for 2021 is **24,600 tonnes**, and the TACC for Sardines in the Outside Zone for 2021 is **9,600 tonnes** (as shown in the table below).

Zone	Harvest strategy derived TACC (tonnes)	Additional 2020 quota to be deducted (tonnes)	Final 2021 TACC (tonnes)
Sardine – Gulfs Zone	30,000	5,400	24,600
Sardine – Outside Zone	12,750	3,150	9,600
Total	42,750	8,550	34,200

These TACCs correspond to quota unit values of **1,757.14 kg/unit** for the Gulfs Zone and **685.71 kg/unit** for the Outside Zone (as shown in the table below).

I have also determined the TACC for Anchovy for the 2021 quota period is **1,000 t**, which equates to a quota unit value of **2,380.95 kg/unit**.

Quota	Final 2021 TACC (tonnes)	Total units	Unit value (kg/unit)
Sardine – Gulfs Zone	24,600	14,000	1,757.14
Sardine – Outside Zone	9,600	14,000	685.71
Anchovy	1,000	420	2,380.95

Please note that the Government is considering amendments to the *Fisheries Management (Marine Scalefish Fishery) Regulations 2017* to allow for uncaught quota entitlements on SASF licences from the 2020 quota period to be carried over to the 2021 quota period. If this COVID mitigation response is approved, this would allow for individual licence holders to fish their uncaught quota, including any additional quota set in that year, to be fished in 2021.

Quota unit transfers

If a licence holder wishes to transfer quota units to another licence, application forms can be obtained from the PIRSA website www.pir.sa.gov.au/fisheries or by contacting PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture Licensing on (08) 8204 1370.

Should you have any questions in relation to these matters, please contact Dr Craig Noell, A/Fisheries Manager, on (08) 8429 0500.

Yours sincerely



Prof Gavin Begg
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