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FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE

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## NOTICE TO FISHERS

To Gulf St Vincent Prawn Fishery licence holders

### MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE 2020/21 PRESCRIBED PERIOD 2

I write to inform you of the management arrangements for prescribed period 2 (2021) (the post-Christmas fishing period for the 2020/21 fishing season), from 1 March 2021 to 31 July 2021.

In determining the management arrangements for the 2020/21 post-Christmas period, I have considered:

- The *Fisheries Management Act 2007* ('the Act');
- The *Fisheries Management (Prawn Fisheries) Regulations 2017*;
- The harvest strategy and decision rules contained in the *Management Plan for the South Australian Commercial Gulf St Vincent Prawn Fishery*;
- Advice from SARDI on the effect of sea surface temperature on the fishery-independent survey (FIS) catch rates in May 2020;
- The draft SARDI report (commissioned by industry) on the effects of different cod-end mesh sizes (57 mm v 51 mm) on the May 2020 Fishery Independent Survey (FIS) catch rates;
- 33.3 night were allocated for the 2020/21 pre-Christmas period of which 27 nights were fished leaving 6.3 nights remaining that may be fished in the 2020/21 post-Christmas period;
- The total number of fishing nights for the 2020/21 fishing season should be revised to 250 nights (from the 200 nights provisionally indicated).

In consideration of the above, particularly the outcomes of the research undertaken by SARDI, as delegate of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development under the Act, I have determined:

- The total number of nights for prescribed period 2 (Post-Christmas period) for the 2020/21 fishing season is 216.7 nights;
- The number of fishing night units required for one fishing night in prescribed period 2 of the 2020/21 fishing season is set at 4.61 Class B units for licences with unamalgamated gear or 5.76 Class B units for licences with amalgamated gear.
- The number of fishing night units required for one fishing night in prescribed period 2 of the 2020/21 fishing season is set at 6 Class A units for licences with unamalgamated gear or 7.5 Class A units for licences with amalgamated gear.

These arrangements are described in Table 1.

Table 1: Number of nights required for fishing night for Class A and Class B units in 2020/21 fishing season.

	<b>Prescribed period 1</b> Pre-Christmas (33.3 nights)	<b>Prescribed period 2</b> Post-Christmas (216.7 nights)
	<b>Unit Values</b>	
<b>Class A</b> (20 units)	6 units/night (unamalgamated) 7.5 units/night (amalgamated)	
<b>Class B</b> (100 units)	Class B units cannot be used in prescribed period 1	4.61 units/night (unamalgamated) 5.76 units/night (amalgamated)

Further, please be advised that 50% of unfished nights from prescribed period 2 (2020) (2019/20 post-Christmas period) that fit the regulated carry over arrangements will be available to be fished in prescribed period 2 (2021) (2020/21 Post-Christmas period), as indicated in my letter to you dated 29 October 2020.

In addition, any unfished nights from prescribed period 1 (2021) (2020/21 pre-Christmas period) may be fished in prescribed period 2 (2021) (2020/21 post-Christmas period).

Licence condition numbers 13923 and 13924 have been removed on all licences in the fishery and will be replaced to implement the current number of units required for a nights fishing. The new licence conditions are:

*Where the use of amalgamated gear has not been approved on this licence the number of fishing night units required to lawfully take aquatic resources under this licence on a night during prescribed period 2 (2021) is 6 Class A units or 4.61 Class B units.*

*Where the use of amalgamated gear has been approved on this licence the number of fishing night units required to lawfully take aquatic resources under this licence on a night during prescribed period 2 (2021) is 7.5 Class A units or 5.76 Class B units*

An additional licence condition has been added to your licence to incorporate the fishing nights determination under the regulations. This new licence condition states:

*For the purposes of this fishery licence reference to a quota entitlement means a fishing nights entitlement being the product of the unit entitlement under the licence and the unit value for the fishery and fishing season. The use of any class of fishing night units must be consistent with the current determination of the Minister under Regulation 9 Fisheries Management (Prawn Fisheries) Regulations 2017.*

Please note licence holders have a right under section 111 of the *Fisheries Management Act 2007* to seek a review of a variation or imposition of a licence condition or refusal to issue, renew or consent to the transfer of an authority. Appeal rights also exist under sections 112 and 113 of the *Fisheries Management Act 2007* to the District Court and the Environment, Resources and Development Court respectively.

The Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) Leasing and Licensing have now adjusted the fishing night unit entitlements on the Registrations and Entitlements Certificate for each licence. Enclosed is a copy of the updated Registrations and Entitlements Certificate for your licence.

Should you have any questions in relation to this matter, please contact Dr Annabel Jones, Prawn Fishery Manager, on (08) 8429 0165.

Yours sincerely



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