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FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE

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NOTICE TO ROCK LOBSTER FISHERIES LICENCE HOLDERS REPORTING AND CATCH AND DISPOSAL REQUIREMENTS WHEN IN POSSESSION OF SNAPPER IN CLOSED AREAS

Dear licence holder,

I am writing to provide notice of new reporting and catch and disposal arrangements for the possession of Snapper in areas closed to Snapper fishing.

The Snapper fishing closure that has been applied to the waters in the West Coast, Gulf St Vincent and Kangaroo Island, and Spencer Gulf Fishing Zones from 1 November 2019 is now applied under regulation 23C of the *Fisheries Management (General) Regulations 2017*.

This regulation outlines that a person must not take Snapper in the Gulf St Vincent and Kangaroo Island Fishing Zone, the Spencer Gulf Fishing Zone, or the West Coast Fishing Zone (“the closed area”) but does not prohibit the possession of Snapper in that area. Snapper may be lawfully taken from within the South East Fishing Zone (SEFZ) and transported into and through the closed area.

To support robust monitoring and ongoing compliance with the prohibition of Snapper fishing in the closed area, I have implemented new reporting, and catch and disposal requirements in cases where fishers are in possession of Snapper and wish to enter or transit through the Snapper closed area.

As the delegate for the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, I have made Ministerial determinations under regulations 21A and 25A *Fisheries Management (Rock Lobster Fisheries) Regulations 2017* which require that prior to entering and transiting through the Snapper closed area when in possession of Snapper, the holder of the licence or registered master must ensure that all Snapper are sealed in a receptacle(s) with a tag(s) issued by the Department; and notify the Department via the Commercial Fishing SA App or FISHWATCH on 1800 065 522 of key details, including the number of Snapper on board.

The full determinations are enclosed for your reference and are also available on the PIRSA website at: pir.sa.gov.au/fishing-determinations

If you will be transiting through the closed area with Snapper lawfully taken in the SEFZ onboard please contact PIRSA Leasing and Licencing on (08) 8207 5332 to request approved tags for sealing receptacles to be sent to you. Alternatively, you can obtain tags in person from PIRSA at 2 Hamra Ave, West Beach 5024. Please note, the tags issued by the Department for this purpose may also be used for the landing requirements under the existing interim compliance arrangements for MSF

quota species, whereby one of the landing options is to secure fish in receptacles with a tag issued by the Department i.e. there is no need to add additional tags upon landing if receptacles have already been tagged in order to transit the closed area.

If you have any queries regarding these arrangements, you can contact Sam Stone, Marine Scalefish Fishery Manager, on phone (08) 8429 2101 or email sam.stone@sa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Prof Gavin Begg

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE**

Delegate of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development

Enclosed: Ministerial Determinations under regulations 21A and 25A *Fisheries Management (Rock Lobster Fisheries) Regulations 2017* – reporting and catch and disposal requirements – Snapper possession in closed area