

South Australian Commercial Northern Zone Rock Lobster Fishery Electronic Daily/Catch and Effort Logs

Instructions for use

Under the current fisheries legislation, all licence holders with access to the Northern Zone Rock Lobster Fishery must fill in details of their fishing operations during each trip.

The reports have been designed to assist researchers in assessing the state of the fishery for management purposes. The information on individuals is treated as confidential to the Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA).

Reference material can be found at the following link: [Rock lobster fishery - PIRSA](#)

If you have any queries or require assistance please call on (08) 8207 5412 or email pirsa.fisheriesinformationservices@sa.gov.au.

Explanatory Notes

Mandatory fields are marked with ‘*’

Trip ID*: The Trip ID number is your licence number, followed by the date as YYMMDD (year, month, day) and then a letter indicating the trips undertaken that day – e.g. the Trip ID number N002230426A is made up of the licence number N002, the date is 26 April 2023 and the letter A indicates it was the first trip fished that day.

Date*: The date fishing activity was undertaken, cannot select future dates.

Area Code*: The main area of fishing as indicated in the relevant map.

Depth Units*: Either metres or fathoms.

Depth*: Record the average depth that best represents where most of the fishing took place for the day fished.

Soak Days*: Record the number of days pots have been soaked e.g. pots set one day and pulled the next is one soak day.

RL Taken*: Record the amount of Rock Lobsters taken each day.

RL into Corf*: Record the amount of Rock Lobsters placed into corf.

Mortalities on Board/in Corf*: Record the amount of Rock Lobsters dead on board or in corf.

Pot Lifts on Day*: Record the number of pots set for Lobsters. The number of pots lifted are the actual number of pots lifted to obtain the catch, not just the vessel allocation. Please make sure that you count your double pulled pots as well. For example, if you have 40 pots and you used all of them on a particular fishing day and double-pulled 20 of them, then the total number of pots lifted is 60.

Number Undersize Returned*: Record any Lobsters smaller than 105mm carapace length, that is not carrying spawn and is not dead.

Mortalities in Pot *: Record any Lobsters that are dead regardless of size or presence of eggs.

Number Spawning Returned *: record any female Lobsters that are carrying spawn unless they are dead.

Legal Returns (Size) (kg) *: Record the estimated weight in kilos of any legal Lobsters returned to the sea that may have been larger or smaller than desired.

Number Legal Returns (Quality) *: Record the number of any legal Lobsters returned to the sea which were returned due to an injury to the Lobster e.g. missing legs.

Number of Octopus*: Record the number of Octopus by-catch retained for each day.

Est. kg Octopus*: Record the estimated kg of Octopus by-catch retained for each day.

Did you retain other bycatch? *: Yes or No selection.

Species: Record the species name of other scale fish taken from your Lobster pots only. Do not report any other catch taken with other gear. Please submit a Marine Scalefish catch and effort log to report catch taken with gear other than your Lobster pot. Only mandatory if you are recording bycatch.

Form: Record whether the condition of the scale fish was used as bait, released or landed whole, landed headed and gutted or landed gutted. Only mandatory if you are recording bycatch.

Number: Record the number of all scale fish species regardless if it was used as bait or landed. Only mandatory if you are recording bycatch.

Were there any discard species? *: Yes or No selection.

Discard Species: Record species that have been discarded. Only mandatory if you are recording a discard species.

Discard Number: Record the exact whole number of discarded species. Only mandatory if you are recording a discard species.

Wildlife Interaction*: Record yes or no to whether a wildlife interaction has occurred. Please refer to **Appendix A**.

Nil returns are no longer required to be submitted as C&E log reporting is on a trip by trip basis.

Records of the by-catch of Marine Scalefish are important for demonstrating the fishery is maintaining a watch on all species of fish that are exposed to fishing mortality through Lobster fishing. This is part of monitoring ecological sustainability in fisheries. It is important for the Rock Lobster Fisheries to demonstrate its sustainability in terms of other species of fish as well as Rock Lobster.

Dated: 25 November 2024



Prof Gavin Begg

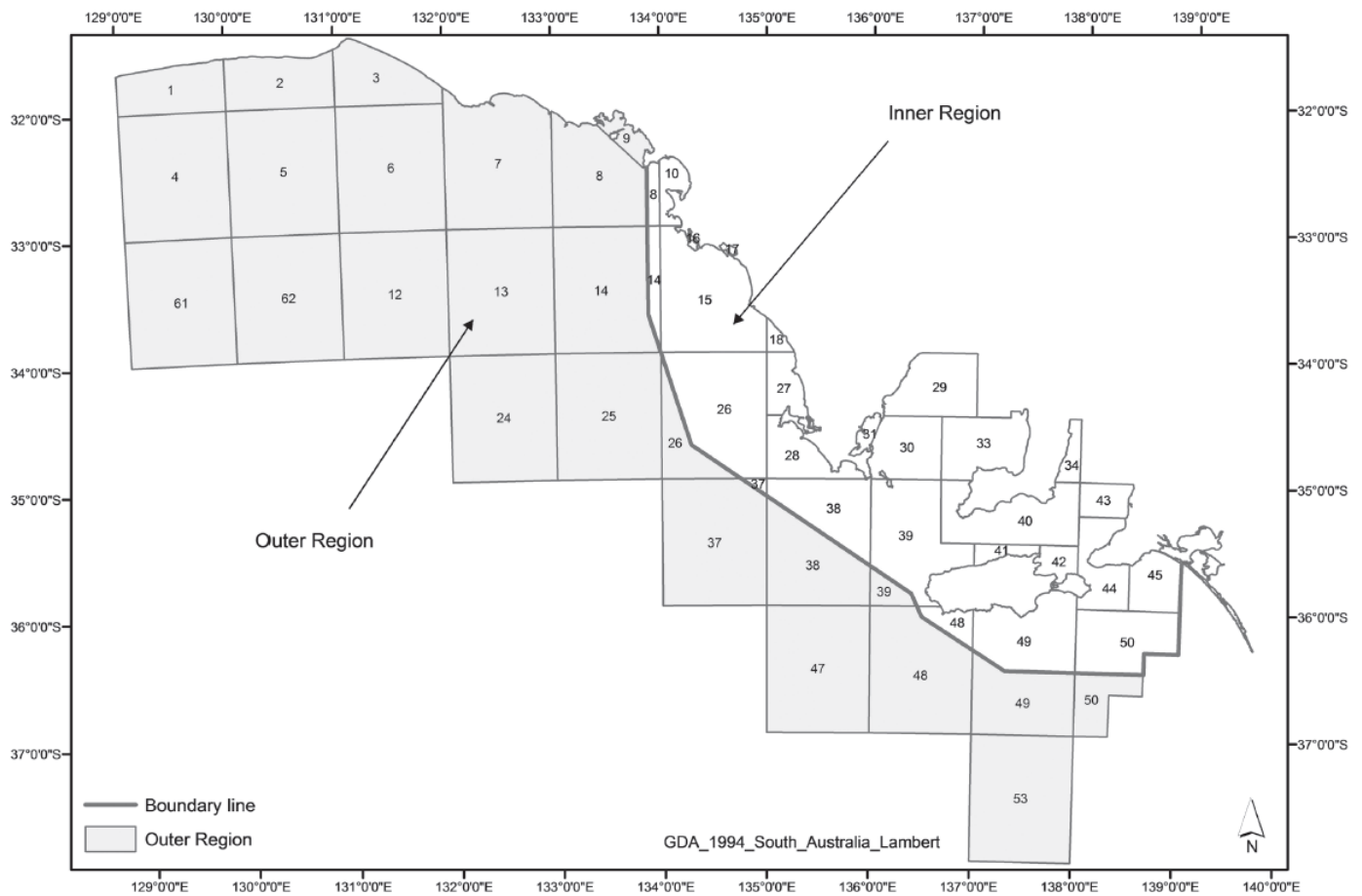
Executive Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture

As delegate of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development



Government of South Australia

Department of Primary Industries
and Regions



Appendix A

**Wildlife Interaction
Instructions for use**

All wildlife, including threatened, endangered and protected species (TEPS) provide an integral part of the ecosystems that support commercial fisheries. Activities within these ecosystems, which include commercial fisheries, need to be managed to support all aquatic species.

The relevant legislation concerning wildlife interactions are the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth) (EPBC Act)*, *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972 (SA)*, *Fisheries Management Act 2007 (SA)* and *Animal Welfare Act 1985 (SA)*. In order to meet these requirements, skippers of vessels are required to record wildlife interactions, in particular interactions with Threatened, Endangered and Protected Species (TEPS).

Wildlife interaction reporting has been integrated with the electronic Catch and Effort (C&E) Log for each fishery. C&E logs are required to be submitted through eCatch, the Commercial Fishing SA App or via a third party provider, in respect of fishing activities undertaken. As part of these reports, fishers are required to declare whether they have or have not had a wildlife interaction every time they submit a C&E log.

What is a wildlife interaction?

An “interaction” is any physical contact a fisher, boat or fishing gear has with wildlife and protected species. This includes any collision or capture (hooked, netted or entangled) of individuals of a species. All interactions that occur off the vessel (e.g. a collision with a whale) as well as those that relate to a species actually being landed onboard a vessel during a fishing operation must also be reported.

Why should wildlife interactions be reported?

All interactions between commercial fishers and wildlife must be reported in order to:

- Gain a better understanding of the nature and extent of wildlife interactions in commercial fishing activity.
- Help industry develop effective measures and management policies to reduce or avoid interactions.
- Ensure that industry meets the data collection and reporting standards required under the EPBC Act.
- Assist in improving the perceptions of the community relating to this issue. It is in the interest of all SA managed fisheries that the general public are made aware that the industry is concerned and is addressing issues related to wildlife interactions.

What needs to be reported?

Following is a list of currently protected species likely to be encountered by commercial marine and inland waters fishers. If you have an interaction with any of these species it must be reported:

- All species of seabirds
- All species of marine and freshwater reptiles (turtles)
- All species of seals and sea lions
- All species of cetaceans (dolphins and whales)
- Marine fish species Great White Shark, Whale Shark, and all Syngnathids (Pipefish, Sea Horses and Sea Dragons).

The wildlife reporting is enabled in the electronic C&E log with a drop down list of species. If any wildlife interaction is declared, at least one species from the drop down list will need to be selected.

The accurate identification of different wildlife species is very important to effectively understand and quantify the interactions with TEPS.

Abalone divers should report all sightings of White Sharks while under and above the water.

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Observer on Board*: Select Yes or No. If on board, a scientific observer may assist you in identifying the protected species and collecting valuable biological information.

Gear Code*: The gear listed in the drop down will be determined by the gear endorsed on your licence. Record the gear code that you were using when the interaction occurred.

Activity / Shot Number: For all trawl and net fisheries, record the shot number for that activity. For the Charter Boat fishery, record your activity code. For all other fisheries, record the pot, line, trap etc number.

Time (24 hour)*: The time when the interaction occurred.

Latitude and Longitude: The latitude and longitude where the interaction occurred. If details of latitude and longitude are not available, please record the area code where the interaction occurred. Please note it is mandatory to report either Lat and Log or Area code.

Area Code: Where latitude and longitude are not available, record the area code where the interaction occurred based on the zone fished.

Species*: See the species list and identification guide in the Wildlife Interaction Identification Guide.

Number of Animals*: Record the number of animals of that species that were involved in the interaction.

Nature of Interaction*: Select one of the 4 boxes in this section:

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- **Caught:** If the wildlife species was caught in your fishing gear e.g. hooked, caught/encircled in net, trapped in a pot etc.
- **Entanglement:** This relates to any part of the body of the protected species e.g. flipper, tail, fins, wings or trunk becoming entangled in fishing gear.
- **Impact / Collision:** The protected species may collide with the hull of the vessel, or a seabird may collide with the above-deck structures. A simple landing on the deck by a seabird is not regarded as a Wildlife Interaction that requires reporting.
- **Other:** Please tick if there was product loss due to the interaction e.g. loss of Snapper on the lines from Great White Shark or Killer Whale 'bite-off's.'

Status*: Select one of the 4 boxes in this section: Alive, Dead, Injured or Unknown

Fate*: Select one of the 4 boxes in this section:

- **Released:** Alive when let go.
- **Discarded:** Dead when returned to the water.
- **Kept/Retained:** If yes, record in the comments section the planned destination e.g. SA Museum, SARDI, Local Processor etc.
- **Other:** Provide comment e.g. not seen

Band / Tag Number: Protected wildlife may have bands or tags e.g. leg-bands on seabirds, flipper-tags on seals, streamer-tags on fish. Please check for these and if present record number here and details in comments (e.g. may say 'please inform CSIRO Hobart').

Comments: Record additional details e.g. size or sex, distinctive features (e.g. scaring), factors contributing to the interaction such as poor weather/visibility, delay to equipment recovery .

Add Species: If more than one species.