



**FISHERIES AND
AQUACULTURE**

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**NOTICE TO NORTHERN ZONE ROCK LOBSTER
FISHERY LICENCE HOLDERS**

Dear licence holder

Determination of the 2022/23 rock lobster unit values and setting the Total Allowable Commercial Catches (TACCs), determination of the over-catch arrangements for the 2022/23 quota period and fishing in the Inner Region ‘closed season’

Total Allowable Commercial Catches for the 2022/23 quota period

I write to advise that, as delegate of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development under the *Fisheries Management (Rock Lobster Fisheries) Regulations 2017*, I have determined the rock lobster unit value for the 2022/23 quota period to be **4.27 kilograms** for the Inner Region and **0.79 kilograms** for the Outer Region.

Determining the rock lobster unit values at 4.27 kilograms for the Inner Region and 0.79 kilograms for the Outer Region sets the 2022/23 TACCs at **250 tonnes** in the Inner Region and **46 tonnes** in the Outer Region. These are the same values of rock lobster units and TACCs determined in 2021/22.

When determining the rock lobster unit values and setting the TACCs for the Inner Region and Outer Region of the NZRLF for the 2022/23 quota period I have considered:

1. The objects of the *Fisheries Management Act 2007*.
2. The recommendation of the Rock Lobster Fishery Management Advisory Committee (RLFMAC) to set the TACCs at 250 tonnes for the Inner Region and 46 tonnes for the Outer Region for the 2022/23 quota period.
3. Advice from SARDI on the provisional status report for the 2021/22 quota period.
4. Industry advice on overseas market disruption, which has impacted catch, effort and Catch Per Unit Effort (CPUE) outputs for the 2021/22 season.
5. The harvest strategy decision rules for the Inner Region and Outer Region in the *Management Plan for the South Australian Commercial Northern Zone Rock Lobster*.

Fishing in the Inner Region during the ‘closed season’

As the delegate of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, I have determined pursuant to Regulations 12 (1) and (2) of the *Fisheries Management (Rock Lobster Fisheries) Regulations 2017* that the take of rock lobster and the use of rock lobster pots shall be permitted in the closed season of the Northern Zone Inner Region for the period commencing at 1800 hours on 31 May 2023 and ending at 1200 hours on 1 November 2023.

Over-catch of quota entitlements in the 2022/23 season

In regard to the provision of over-catch of quota entitlements, as the delegate of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, I have determined that if the total catch of rock lobster taken by the holder of a licence during the 2022/23 quota period, in either the Inner or Outer Region of the fishery, exceeds the rock lobster quota entitlement under the licence for that quota period:

- By up to 5% of the quota entitlements held on a licence, the conditions of the licence will be varied so as to decrease the quota entitlement for the following quota period by 1 kilogram of rock lobster for each kilogram taken in excess of the quota entitlement; or
- By more than 5% of the quota entitlements held on a licence, the conditions of the licence will be varied so as to decrease the quota entitlement for the following quota period by 2 kilogram of rock lobster for each kilogram taken in excess of the quota entitlement.

With regard to the carry-over provisions, I intend to make adjustments to licences to carry-over uncaught NZRLF quota entitlements for the respective zones on individual licences from the 2021/22 quota period to the 2022/23 quota period up to a maximum of 10% of quota entitlements. The carry-over of quota entitlements will be undertaken following the completion of the NZRLF quota period on 30 October 2022. Please be advised that carried over quota entitlements are not able to be transferred and can only be used in the quota period to which they are carried over to.

Giant Crab Access

The normal fishing closure for Giant Crab will remain in place and any Giant Crab incidentally caught in rock lobster pots in the period between 1800 hours on 31 May to 1200 hours on 1 November must be released as soon as practicable.

Please find enclosed your quota entitlements extract for the 2022/23 quota period.

If you have any queries in relation to licensing matters please contact Leasing and Licensing on (08) 8207 5332 or via email at PIRSA.FisheriesLicensing@sa.gov.au.

Should you have any queries concerning management of the fishery please contact Steve Shanks, A/ Program Leader, Community Based Fisheries on (08) 8429 0197 or via email at steve.shanks@sa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Prof Gavin Begg
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE
Delegate of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development