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FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE

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NOTICE TO FISHERS SNAPPER MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Dear Charter Boat Fishery Licence Holder

I am writing to you to provide notice of updated snapper management arrangements in the South East Fishing Zone (SEFZ) for Charter Boat Fishery licence holders.

The Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development has approved the following management arrangements for snapper fishing in the SEFZ after considering the recommendations from the Marine Scalefish Fishery Management Advisory Committee (MSFMAC):

- The take of snapper from both the recreational and Charter Boat Fishery will be managed against a total allowable recreational catch (TARC) of 12,000 kg (less 480 kg set aside for Aboriginal traditional fishing) set from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022.
- Allocations under the TARC to the recreational and Charter Boat Fishery are consistent with the shares for those sectors set out in the *Management Plan for the South Australian Commercial Marine Scalefish Fishery 2013*.
- Snapper fishing for the recreational fishery or Charter Boat Fishery will be closed if its respective share of the TARC is reached prior to 30 June 2022.

For the charter boat fishery

- 6401 kg of the TARC will be available to the Charter Boat Fishery sector, which equates to 3233 fish based on the average weight of 1.98 kg per snapper;
- The requirement to use harvest tags has been revoked, meaning harvest tags no longer need to be used;
- The daily passenger limit of 1 large (>60 cm) and 3 small (38-60 cm) snapper per person has been reinstated and must be complied with;
- Minimum size limit of 38 cm.

In order to effectively monitor snapper catches and maintain the integrity of the TARC, I have implemented the following management arrangements.

Revoking the requirement to use harvest tags

To remove the requirement to use harvest tags in the Charter Boat Fishery, as delegate of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, I have revoked the section 79 notice which, as part of the exception from the fishing prohibition, required persons fishing on charters to use tags for snapper kept.

Bag and Boat Limits

Please be advised that Ministerial exemption ME9903181, which exempts Charter Boat Fishery licence holders from the bag and boat limits for tagged snapper has now been revoked to remove the harvest tag system. I have enclosed a copy of the revocation notice for your information. The revocation of this notice means that the daily passenger limit of 1 large (>60 cm) and 3 small (38-60 cm) snapper per person, as regulated under the *Fisheries Management (General) Regulations 2017* applies once more.

Prior to landing reporting

In order to effectively monitor snapper catches by the Charter Boat Fishery and maintain the integrity of the charter share of the TARC, I have implemented a requirement to prior report landing snapper. As delegate of the Minister for Primary industries and Regional Development, I have made a determination under regulation 12 of the *Fisheries Management (Charter Boat Fishery) Regulations 2016*, requiring Charter Boat Fishery licence holders, or their masters, at least one hour prior to landing to report the number of snapper to be landed and other details. A copy of the Ministerial determination is attached.

Prior to landing reporting can be made to the Department by telephone on 1800 065 522 for the remainder of March 2022. As of 1 April 2022 reporting will also be available through the Commercial reporting app.

Transiting through the Snapper Closure Area when in possession of snapper

Charter Boat Fishery licence holders are permitted to be in possession of snapper in the Snapper Closure Area. In order to effectively monitor the possession of snapper in the Snapper Closure Area by Charter Boat Fishery licence holders, I have implemented prior reporting arrangements for transiting through the Snapper Closure Area when in possession of snapper.

As delegate of the Minister for Primary industries and Regional Development I have made a further determination under regulation 12 of the *Fisheries Management (Charter Boat Fishery) Regulations 2016*, requiring Charter Boat Fishery licence holders, or their masters to report prior to transiting through the snapper closure area when snapper taken lawfully in the South East Fishing Zone are onboard the vessel. Prior to transiting reporting can be made to the Department by telephone on 1800 065 522 or via the Commercial reporting App.

Please note the prior to landing and prior to transiting report can be made to the Department by telephone on 1800 065 522 for the remainder of March 2022. As of 1 April 2022 reporting will also be available through the Commercial reporting App. If completing a prior to transiting report, the prior to landing report can be completed at the same time, and as such only one report call/log is required.

Sealing snapper in receptacles when transiting through the Snapper Closure Area

In addition to prior reporting, to ensure integrity of the Snapper Closure Areas, as delegate of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, I have imposed the following licence condition to all licences in the Charter Boat Fishery, requiring all snapper to be placed in a sealed receptacle(s) before entering within a Snapper Closure Area.

Prior to transiting through the Gulf St Vincent/ Kangaroo Island, Spencer Gulf and West Coast Fishing Zones from the South East Fishing Zone the holder of the

licence or registered master of a boat registered under the licence, that is being used for charter boat fishing services, must where in lawful possession or control of snapper.

- a) *Secure all snapper in a receptacle on the boat until point of landing using a tag issued by the Department in a manner whereby no fish can be removed or added to the receptacle without breaking the tag; and*
- b) *Report to the Department (via FISHWATCH or the Commercial Reporting App), the tag number (s) used and the number of snapper sealed in the receptacle (s).*

If you will be transiting through the closure area with snapper lawfully taken in the South East Fishing Zone 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 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 if they are aggrieved by the decision of the Minister. Appeal rights also exist under sections 112 and 113 of the *Fisheries Management Act 2007* to the South Australian Civil and Administrative Tribunal and the Environment, Resources and Development Court, respectively.

Should you have any further queries in relation to snapper management for the CBF please contact Jordan Lear, Fisheries Management Officer at Jordan.lear@sa.gov.au or on 8429 0931.

Yours sincerely



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

Enclosed: Ministerial Determinations under regulation 12 *Fisheries Management (Charter Boat Fishery) Regulations 2016* – prior reporting