



Our ref: CORP F2025/000289
Receipt No: 22142562

CORPORATE SERVICES
Level 20
11 Waymouth Street
Adelaide SA 5000
GPO Box 1671
Adelaide SA 5001
DX 667
Tel 8429 0422
www.pir.sa.gov.au

17 October 2025

Removed from Disclosure Log

Dear Removed from Disclosure Log

Determination under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991*

I refer to your application made under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* which was received by the Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) on 10 September 2025, seeking access to the following:

"Documents held by PIRSA and/or the South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI) in relation to the analysis referred to in correspondence from Professor Gavin Begg, Executive Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture, dated 26 November 2021. Specifically, I request access to:

- 1. All datasets, reports, working papers, briefing notes, or internal memoranda prepared by SARDI regarding periodic catch return results in marine fishing areas overlapping with Australian Marine Parks (AMPs).*
- 2. Any documents (including emails, file notes or correspondence) provided to PIRSA by SARDI in support of the conclusion that the Central Zone Abalone Fishery is "within scope" for consideration of a Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) requirement.*
- 3. Any documents recording the criteria, assumptions, or parameters applied in assessing the overlap between the Central Zone Abalone Fishery and Australian Marine Parks.*
- 4. Copies of any advice, recommendations, or briefings provided by PIRSA to Parks Australia in relation to this proposed VMS requirement."*

Timeframe: 1/01/2021 to 1/12/2021

On 10 September 2025, you were contacted by PIRSA's Records Management and FOI Support Officer requesting payment of the application fee before PIRSA could begin processing your application. Subsequently, you lodged your application through the online system where payment was made and your request became valid.

Accordingly, the following determination has been finalised.

I have located four documents that are captured within the scope of your request.

Determination 1

I have determined that access to the following documents is **granted in full**:

Doc No.	Description of document	No. of Pages
1	Email thread between Executive Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture, PIRSA and Manager, Information Services, SARDI, PIRSA dated 13/10/2021 to 15/10/2021 re Electronic Vessel Monitoring Systems Assistance Program – Catch and effort data for each fishery intersecting Australian Marine Parks	9
2	Email thread between Executive Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture, PIRSA and Team Leader, Leasing and Licensing, Fisheries and Aquaculture, PIRSA dated 11/11/2021 re basis for VMS proposal	2

The information removed from Document 1 is outside of the scope of your request.

Determination 2

I have determined that access to the following document is **granted in part**:

Doc No.	Description of document	No. of Pages
3	Emails between Parks Australia and A/Director Operations, Fisheries and Aquaculture, PIRSA dated 25/11/2021 re application for the Electronic and Vessel Monitoring Systems Assistance Program	2

The information removed from the above document is pursuant to Clause 6(1) of Schedule 1 of the Freedom of Information Act which states:

“6 - Documents affecting personal affairs

(1) A document is an exempt document if it contains matter the disclosure of which would involve the unreasonable disclosure of information concerning the personal affairs of any person (living or dead).”

The information removed consists of the following:

- Names of Departmental officers from another jurisdiction
- Mobile and land telephone numbers of a Departmental officer from another jurisdiction

The term ‘personal affairs’ has been held to involve ‘matters of private concern to an individual’ and the ‘composite collection of activities personal to the individual concerned’.

Consent has not been provided to disclose the names of the staff members and, accordingly, there would be an expectation that their personal information would not be released in this way.

As a mobile telephone number allows a person, including an officer of an agency, to be contacted outside of business hours and is information that is not ordinarily available to the public, the information is taken to concern the personal affairs of an individual. In addition, releasing this information would identify the individual concerned.

Accordingly, it is considered that disclosure of this information would be an unreasonable intrusion into the privacy rights of the individuals concerned.

Determination 4

I have determined that access to the following document is **refused**:

Doc No.	Description of document	No. of Pages
4	Spreadsheet containing raw data re South Australian fisheries intersecting with Australian Marine Parks – Central Zone Abalone Fishery	26

Access to the above document is refused pursuant to Clause 12(1) of Schedule 1 of the Freedom of Information Act and Section 124(1) of the *Fisheries Management Act 2007*. The document also contains information which is outside of the scope of your request.

Clause 12(1) states:

“12—Documents the subject of secrecy provisions

- (1) *A document is an exempt document if it contains matter the disclosure of which would constitute an offence against an Act.”*

Section 124(1) states:

“124—Confidentiality

- (1) *A person engaged or formerly engaged in the administration of this Act or the repealed Act must not divulge or communicate information obtained (whether by that person or otherwise) in the course of official duties except—*
- (a) *as required or authorised by or under this Act or any other Act or law; or*
 - (b) *with the consent of the person to whom the information relates; or*
 - (c) *in connection with the administration of this Act, the repealed Act or a corresponding law; or*
 - (d) *to a law enforcement, prosecution or administrative authority of any Australian jurisdiction, where the information is required for the proper administration or enforcement of an Act or law of such a jurisdiction; or*
 - (e) *for the purposes of any legal proceedings arising out of the administration of this Act, the repealed Act or a corresponding law.*
- Maximum penalty: \$10 000.”*

OFFICIAL

The information was obtained and prepared by officers engaged in the administration of the Fisheries Management Act in the course of their official duties.

Given the small number of commercial fishery licences in the Central Zone Abalone Fishery, the release of these details would enable the identification of the information relating to the licence holders.

Accordingly, pursuant to Clause 12(1) of Schedule 1 of the Freedom of Information Act, the release of this information would constitute an offence against an Act and attract a penalty of up to \$10,000.

If you are dissatisfied with this determination, you are entitled to exercise your right of review and appeal as outlined in the attached documentation Making a Freedom of Information Application | State Records of South Australia (archives.sa.gov.au), by completing the "FOI Application Form for Internal Review of a Determination" and returning the completed form to:

Freedom of Information Principal Officer
Department of Primary Industries and Regions
GPO Box 1671
ADELAIDE SA 5001

or via email PIRSA.FOI@sa.gov.au

In accordance with the requirements of Premier and Cabinet Circular PC045, details of your application, and the documents to which you are given access, will be published in PIRSA's disclosure log. A copy of PC045 can be found at http://dpc.sa.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0019/20818/PC045-Disclosure-Log-Policy.pdf

If you disagree with publication, please advise the undersigned in writing within fourteen calendar days from the date of this determination.

Should you require further information or clarification with respect to this matter, please contact Ms Lisa Farley, Senior Freedom of Information Advisor on 8429 0422 or email PIRSA.FOI@sa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Michelle Griffiths
Accredited Freedom of Information Officer
DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND REGIONS

Farley, Lisa (PIRSA)

From: Tsolos, Angelo (PIRSA-SARDI)
Sent: Friday, 15 October 2021 12:21 PM
To: Begg, Gavin (PIRSA)
Cc: Lambert, Sebastian (PIRSA)
Subject: RE: 20211015 RE: 20211013 RE: For Information: Opening of Electronic VMS Assistance Program - Parks Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Thanks Gavin – some percentages, by fishery, may be over inflated.

For example, our MFA 58 where there's a high catch of RL is included but I wouldn't expect much activity in the s/w end of that MFA (in the Nelson Marine Park).



From: Begg, Gavin (PIRSA)

Sent: Friday, 15 October 2021 12:06 PM

To: Tsolos, Angelo (PIRSA-SARDI) ; Lambert, Sebastian (PIRSA)

Subject: RE: 20211015 RE: 20211013 RE: For Information: Opening of Electronic VMS Assistance Program - Parks Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Thanks Angelo – this is great

Seb – opportunity for several fisheries.

From: Tsolos, Angelo (PIRSA-SARDI) <Angelo.Tsolos@sa.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, 15 October 2021 12:03 PM

To: Begg, Gavin (PIRSA) <Gavin.Begg@sa.gov.au>

Subject: 20211015 RE: 20211013 RE: For Information: Opening of Electronic VMS Assistance Program - Parks Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hi Gavin

Please see below a table with percentages of catch and effort for each fishery intersecting Australian Marine Parks.

I have removed the Lakes and Coorong Fishery as I don't believe there's any fishing activity within a park.

If any questions, please let me know.

Kind regards

Angelo

South Australian Fisheries intersecting with Australian Marine Parks (South-west and South-east Networks)

<u>Fishery</u>	<u>% of State catch - based on 5yr average</u>	<u>% of State effort - based on 5yr average</u>	<u>Effort measure</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Abalone - Central Zone	14%	15%	Dive hours	
Abalone - Western Zone	13%	12%	Dive hours	
Charter Boat	6%	7%	No. of trips	Catch metric used is number of fish
Giant Crab	96%	n/a	n/a	
Marine Scale fish	9%	3%	Boat days	
Prawn - West Coast only	CH2(1), S124(1)	CH2(1), S124(1)	Trawl hours	CONFIDENTIAL
Rock Lobster (NZ and SZ combined)	38%	44%	Pot lifts	
Sardine	20%	20%	Net sets	
Rec Fishing	n/a	n/a	n/a	

From: Begg, Gavin (PIRSA) <Gavin.Begg@sa.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2021 11:17 AM
To: Tsolos, Angelo (PIRSA-SARDI) <Angelo.Tsolos@sa.gov.au>
Subject: RE: 20211013 RE: For Information: Opening of Electronic VMS Assistance Program - Parks Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Thanks Angelo – yes this is useful

From: Tsolos, Angelo (PIRSA-SARDI) <Angelo.Tsolos@sa.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 14 October 2021 11:16 AM
To: Begg, Gavin (PIRSA) <Gavin.Begg@sa.gov.au>
Subject: RE: 20211013 RE: For Information: Opening of Electronic VMS Assistance Program - Parks Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Good morning Gavin

I have just queried the MSF fishery for the past 5 financial years and on average, 7% of the State catch and 3% of the State effort (boat days) comes from MFAs intersecting with the Marine Parks.

If this is useful I can proceed and provide estimates on the other fisheries.

Kind regards
Angelo

From: Begg, Gavin (PIRSA) <Gavin.Begg@sa.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 13 October 2021 5:58 PM
To: Tsolos, Angelo (PIRSA-SARDI) <Angelo.Tsolos@sa.gov.au>
Subject: RE: 20211013 RE: For Information: Opening of Electronic VMS Assistance Program - Parks Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hi Angelo – I am in a meeting, so can catch up tomorrow if that is ok

From: Tsolos, Angelo (PIRSA-SARDI) <Angelo.Tsolos@sa.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 13 October 2021 5:49 PM
To: Begg, Gavin (PIRSA) <Gavin.Begg@sa.gov.au>
Subject: RE: 20211013 RE: For Information: Opening of Electronic VMS Assistance Program - Parks Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hi again Gavin, if you have a minute can you please call as I have a quick question? Thanks

From: Begg, Gavin (PIRSA) <Gavin.Begg@sa.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 13 October 2021 5:35 PM
To: Tsolos, Angelo (PIRSA-SARDI) <Angelo.Tsolos@sa.gov.au>
Subject: RE: 20211013 RE: For Information: Opening of Electronic VMS Assistance Program - Parks Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Thanks Angelo - that's great

From: Tsolos, Angelo (PIRSA-SARDI) <Angelo.Tsolos@sa.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 13 October 2021 5:30 PM
To: Begg, Gavin (PIRSA) <Gavin.Begg@sa.gov.au>
Subject: RE: 20211013 RE: For Information: Opening of Electronic VMS Assistance Program - Parks Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hi Gavin, sure I can have a go with the last 5 years of total catch and effort data by overlapping/intersecting MFA/block for each fishery. It may take me a bit of time if that's ok.

Kind regards

Angelo

From: Begg, Gavin (PIRSA) <Gavin.Begg@sa.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 13 October 2021 4:55 PM
To: Tsolos, Angelo (PIRSA-SARDI) <Angelo.Tsolos@sa.gov.au>

Cc: Lambert, Sebastian (PIRSA) <Sebastian.Lambert@sa.gov.au>

Subject: RE: 20211013 RE: For Information: Opening of Electronic VMS Assistance Program - Parks Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Great – thanks Angelo. Can you please overlay commercial fisheries with marine parks; it will also be good to get an idea of the proportion of catch/effort where overlap occurs.

From: Tsolos, Angelo (PIRSA-SARDI) <Angelo.Tsolos@sa.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 13 October 2021 4:52 PM

To: Begg, Gavin (PIRSA) <Gavin.Begg@sa.gov.au>

Cc: Lambert, Sebastian (PIRSA) <Sebastian.Lambert@sa.gov.au>

Subject: 20211013 RE: For Information: Opening of Electronic VMS Assistance Program - Parks Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hi Gavin

A list of fisheries that intersect with Marine Parks off SA is as follows:

- Abalone (Western and Central Zones)
- Charter Boat
- Giant Crab
- Lakes and Coorong – shows a small overlap
- Marine Scalefish
- Prawn (West Coast)
- Rock Lobster (SZ and NZ)
- Sardine
- Rec Fishing

I have loaded the shape files into ArcGIS and happy present via Teams the overlaps.

Kind regards

Angelo

Angelo Tsolos | Manager, Information Services

South Australian Research and Development Institute - SARDI | **Department of Primary Industries and Regions**

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From: Begg, Gavin (PIRSA) <Gavin.Begg@sa.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 13 October 2021 11:36 AM

To: Tsolos, Angelo (PIRSA-SARDI) <Angelo.Tsolos@sa.gov.au>

Cc: Lambert, Sebastian (PIRSA) <Sebastian.Lambert@sa.gov.au>

Subject: FW: For Information: Opening of Electronic VMS Assistance Program - Parks Australia [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hi Angelo – can you please provide a summary of our fisheries that intersect with Marine Parks off SA.

Thanks

Gavin

Out of scope

Out of scope



Out of scope



4

8

4



From: [Begg, Gavin \(PIRSA\)](#)
To: [Gracey, Annalise \(PIRSA\)](#)
Cc: [Lambert, Sebastian \(PIRSA\)](#)
Subject: RE: Fisheries information
Date: Thursday, 11 November 2021 7:41:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
[image002.jpg](#)
[image003.jpg](#)
[image004.jpg](#)
[image005.jpg](#)
[image006.jpg](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[image010.png](#)
[image011.png](#)
[image012.png](#)

OFFICIAL

Great – thanks Annalise
 Seb – basis for VMS proposal

From: Gracey, Annalise (PIRSA) <Annalise.Gracey@sa.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 11 November 2021 2:40 PM
To: Begg, Gavin (PIRSA) <Gavin.Begg@sa.gov.au>
Cc: Lambert, Sebastian (PIRSA) <Sebastian.Lambert@sa.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Fisheries information

OFFICIAL

Hi Gavin,
 Please see numbers filled in below. Note that Pipi licences are included in the L&C and MSF numbers, so haven't been counted in the total.
 Boats also reflects any 'active' boats registered to a licence, regardless of whether they might be in use or not.

Regards
Annalise Gracey | Team Leader, Leasing & Licensing
 Fisheries and Aquaculture | **Department of Primary Industries and Regions**
 Government of South Australia | 2 Hamra Avenue, West Beach SA 5024
 GPO Box 1625 Adelaide SA 5001
P: (08) 8207 5321 | **F:** (08) 8207 5331
pir.sa.gov.au



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From: Begg, Gavin (PIRSA) <Gavin.Begg@sa.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 11 November 2021 7:16 AM
To: Gracey, Annalise (PIRSA) <Annalise.Gracey@sa.gov.au>
Cc: Lambert, Sebastian (PIRSA) <Sebastian.Lambert@sa.gov.au>
Subject: Fisheries information

OFFICIAL

Hi Annalise

Can you please provide the following:

Fishery	No. Licenses	No. Vessels	Defined fishing area intersects with Comm. Marine Park	Currently has VMS
Abalone – western	22	44	Yes	No
Abalone – central	6	13	Yes	No
Abalone – southern	6	7	???	Yes
MSF	210	599	Yes	No
Vongole	12	36	No	No
Sardine	14	32	Yes	Yes
SGPF	39	38	No	No
GSVPF	10	9	No	No
WCPF	3	2	Yes	No
SZRLF	180	178	Yes	No
NZRLF	63	47	Yes	Yes
Blue Crab	9	16	No	No
LCF	36	88	No	No
Pipi (in LCF)	11	N/A	No	No
Pipi (in MSF)	2	N/A		
Charter	79	85	Yes	No
TOTAL	689	1194		

Thanks

Gavin

Prof Gavin Begg | Executive Director Fisheries and Aquaculture

Primary Industries and Regions SA - PIRSA | Government of South Australia

P: +61 8 429 0960 | **W:** pir.sa.gov.au



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From: [Lambert, Sebastian \(PIRSA\)](#)
To: [Clause 6\(1\) - Email to Parks Australia](#)
Cc: [Clause 6\(1\)](#); [Begg, Gavin \(PIRSA\)](#)
Subject: RE: FOR ACTION: EVMS Assistance Program - Request for further information [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Thursday, 25 November 2021 1:47:02 PM
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
[image002.jpg](#)
[image003.jpg](#)
[image004.jpg](#)

OFFICIAL

[Clause 6\(1\)](#)

Each licence generally has one vessel that is a larger vessel and used all the time; only one vessel may be used at a time. The Marine Scalefish Fishery have hundreds of vessels that are interchangeable and registered against the licence. They are generally smaller craft used for different fishing purposes and as such would not be suited to a fixed VMS unit. This could be managed by mandating a prior reporting arrangement to advise the VMS unit is on another vessel.

Successful eMonitoring is likely to be determined by validating Threatened Endangered Protected Species (TEPS) interactions against observer coverage in the first instance. A post operational review of any solution implemented would be required to evaluate if the configuration achieved the objectives of a number of agencies.

Sebastian

From: [Clause 6\(1\)](#)
Sent: Thursday, 25 November 2021 1:07 PM
To: Lambert, Sebastian (PIRSA)
Cc: [Clause 6\(1\)](#)
Subject: FOR ACTION: EVMS Assistance Program - Request for further information [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Importance: High

Hi Sebastian

Thank you for submitting an application for the Electronic and Vessel Monitoring Systems (EVMS) Assistance Program.

To assist in our preliminary assessment of your application, could you please answer the following questions:

1. How many vessels will be fitted with VMS (your costs seem to be calculated on licences)?
2. In relation to the Iridium Edge Solar units on small trailable crafts, it is our understanding that the VMS system does not always respond well to units being moved between vessels. How will PIRSA manage the VMS issues if fishers are moving their units?
3. What constitutes a successful trial of e-monitoring?

Please note that this request is purely to clarify details, so a short and simple response is fine. We would appreciate your response by return email **before 12pm on Monday, 29 November 2021**.

Kind regards

[Clause 6\(1\)](#)

[Clause 6\(1\)](#) | Policy and Planning Section
 Marine and Island Parks Branch | Parks Australia

p. [Clause 6\(1\)](#) | [Clause 6\(1\)](#)
 e. [Clause 6\(1\)](#) [@awe.gov.au](mailto:Clause 6(1)@awe.gov.au)

www.parksaustralia.gov.au/marine

Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment

Edgar Waite Building | 203 Channel Highway | Kingston | Tasmania | 7050

Parks Australia and Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment acknowledge the traditional owners of country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures and to their elders both past and present.

Follow Australian Marine Parks on social media for all our latest news or use #AustralianMarineParks to tag us in your post.

