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FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE

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NOTICE TO LAKES AND COORONG FISHERY LICENCE HOLDERS USE OF NON-LETHAL SEAL DETERRENTS

Dear Licence holder

I write to you regarding management arrangements in the Lakes and Coorong Fishery relating to the use of non-lethal seal deterrents.

To assist the industry in dealing with interactions between fishing gear and Long-nosed Fur Seals, I have approved, as delegate of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, a Ministerial exemption (ME9903415) to:

- Allow holders of a Lakes and Coorong Fishery licence with a net endorsement, or their registered masters or agents, to use underwater percussion devices, where they also hold a permit from the Department for Environment and Water (DEW) to use non-lethal seal deterrents within the commercial Lakes and Coorong Fishery.

These measures are temporary management arrangements that will be in place for 12 months unless varied or revoked earlier. All other conditions of the licence and requirements of the *Fisheries Management Act 2007* and subordinate regulations continue to apply, including marking requirements, dimensions and use of the gear.

Please note that this exemption is subject to several conditions including, but not limited to, the requirement to report use of the exempted non-lethal seal deterrent and associated impacts following usage. To streamline your reporting requirements, the report which must be provided to the Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) is consistent with the report provided to DEW. It is your responsibility to ensure that you are aware of your obligations under these conditions and that you have a copy of both the exemption notice and DEW permit when undertaking the exempted activity. The *Fisheries Management Act 2007* provides that it is an offence to breach a condition of an exemption. A copy of the exemption notice is enclosed.

If you have any other queries in relation to this matter, please contact Michelle Williams, Fisheries Management Officer, on 0421 052 714 or email michelle.williams@sa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gavin Begg'.

Prof Gavin Begg
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE**

Enclosures: Ministerial exemption (ME9903415)