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NOTICE TO MARINE SCALEFISH FISHERY AND ROCK LOBSTER FISHERIES (OPTION C) LICENCE HOLDERS

2026-27 Quota unit values and TACCs for Snapper, King George Whiting, Southern Garfish and Southern Calamari

Dear licence holder,

I write in relation to the setting of the unit values of quota units for the Management Tier 1 stocks in the Marine Scalefish Fishery (MSF) for Snapper, King George Whiting, Southern Garfish and Southern Calamari – for the 2026-27 quota period and related arrangements.

As delegate of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, for the purposes of regulations 14(4), 17(4), 17A(4) and 17B(4) of the Fisheries Management (Marine Scalefish Fishery) Regulations 2017 and regulations 17A(4), 17B(4), 17C(4) and 17D(4) of the Fisheries Management (Rock Lobster Fisheries) Regulations 2017, I have determined the kilogram value of quota units for each species in each fishing zone for the 2026-27 quota period as provided in Table 1, effectively setting total allowable commercial catches (TACCs) provided in Table 2.

Table 1: Kilogram value of a unit for MSF Management Tier 1 stocks for the 2026-2027

Fishing Zone	King George Whiting	Snapper	Southern Calamari	Southern Garfish
West Coast		0		
Spencer Gulf	55.5	0	0	50.00
Gulf St Vincent/ Kangaroo Island	0	0	0	0
South East		45.57		

Table 2: TACCs in kilograms for MSF Tier 1 stocks for the 2026-27 quota period.

Fishing Zone	King George Whiting	Snapper	Southern Calamari	Southern Garfish
West Coast	183,000*	0		
Spencer Gulf	116,963	0	0	103,451
Gulf St Vincent/ Kangaroo Island	0	0	0	0
South East		90,750**		

*Implemented as a commercial catch cap.

**Total Allowable Catch (TAC) of 121,000 kg: TACC of 90,750 kg, Total Allowable Recreational Catch (TARC) of 29,040 kg and Aboriginal Traditional portion of 1,210 kg, with the recreational charter portion being 5,445 kg and the recreational non charter portion being 23,595 kg.

In determining the kilogram unit values, I have considered the following:

- Objects of the *Fisheries Management Act 2007*

- Recommendations from the [Marine Scalefish Fishery Management Advisory Committee \(MSFMAC\) and related SARDI stock summaries](#)
- The status of stocks as published in the 'Assessment of the South Australian Marine Scalefish Fishery in 2023-24' report provided SARDI
- The *Management Plan for the South Australian Commercial Marine Scalefish Fishery* (the MSF Management Plan)
- [Implementation Plan for the Marine Scalefish Fishery Harvest Strategy](#).

In considering the unit values I have noted:

- Algal bloom temporary closures in place for all fishing by MSF and Northern Zone Rock Lobster (Option C) Fishery (for MSF species only) in the Gulf St Vincent and Kangaroo Island Fishing Zone (GSV/KIFZ) and temporary closure of the take of Southern Calamari in the Spencer Gulf Fishing Zone (SGFZ).
- Extension of the Snapper closure in the GSV/KIFZ, SGFZ and West Coast Fishing Zone (WCFZ) to 30 June 2027.
- Continued work to develop new stock assessment models to support application of the new harvest strategy under the MSF Management Plan.

West Coast King George Whiting

King George Whiting in the WCFZ will continue to be managed under a commercial catch cap of 183,000 kg. In the event that the commercial take exceeds 183,000 kg during 2026-27 closing fishing for the species in that zone will be considered.

Carry-over and over-catch arrangements

Regulations 14(5), 17(5), 17A(5) and 17B(5) of the Fisheries Management (Marine Scalefish Fishery) Regulations 2017 and 17A(5), 17B(5), 17C(5) and 17D(5) of the Fisheries Management (Rock Lobster Fisheries) Regulations 2017 provide for carry-over of uncaught quota remaining on an individual licence by up to 10% of the quota entitlements held on that licence, unless a lesser amount is determined by the Minister. The regulations also provide for an over-catch of quota, whereby over-catch amounts up to 10% of the quota entitlement on that licence, or a lesser amount determined by the Minister, may be deducted from the quota entitlements of a subsequent quota period by 1 kilogram for each kilogram taken in excess of the quota entitlement.

Consistent with the policy paper *Managing Under-catch and Over-catch in South Australian Fisheries* and considering recommendations from the MSFMAC, I can advise that the default carry-over and over-catch values of up to 10% will be implemented in the 2026-27 quota period for stocks where a TACC is set above zero in 2026-27. Where the TACC for a stock has been set to zero, I have determined a zero carry-over or over-catch in 2026-27 as delegate of the Minister.

Please note that where an over-catch amount exceeds 10% of the quota entitlements held on a licence for the 2026-27 quota period, the quota entitlement on that licence in the subsequent quota period may be decreased by 2 kilograms for each kilogram taken in excess of the quota entitlement.

Any adjustments to quota entitlements as a result of implementation of carry-over and over-catch will be considered and applied to licences as soon as practicable following commencement of the subsequent quota period. Licence holders will be advised of the changes at the time the adjustments are made in quota statements.

Should you have any queries regarding the MSF, please contact Yolande Markey, Fisheries Manager on 0427 979 085 or email yolande.markey@sa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gavin Begg', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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