



Our Ref: A7184643

3 December 2025

**FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE**

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## **NOTICE TO WESTERN ZONE ABALONE FISHERY LICENCE HOLDERS**

### **Western Zone Abalone Fishery – 2026 TACC and carry-over / over-catch determinations**

Dear licence holder

I write in relation to management arrangements for the 2026 quota period.

#### ***Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC)***

As delegate for the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, I have made the following determinations for the Western Zone Abalone Fishery (WZAF) for the 2026 quota period (1 January 2026 to 31 December 2026).

In determining the TACCs for Greenlip Abalone and Blacklip Abalone in the WZAF, I have considered:

- The objects of the *Fisheries Management Act 2007*
- The latest fishery information presented by the South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI) and advice provided at the meetings of WZAF licence holders convened by the Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) on 19 September 2025 and 16 October 2025 in Port Lincoln
- Advice provided by the Abalone Industry Association of South Australia (AIASA).

As delegate for the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, I have made the following determinations for the WZAF 2026 quota period (1 January 2026 to 31 December 2026):

- Greenlip Abalone TACC of **78,000 kilograms** meat weight with a unit value of **64.10 kilograms**
- Blacklip Abalone TACC of **50,840 kilograms** meat weight with a unit value of **45.96 kilograms**
- Conversion value of **0.3333**.

I acknowledge the AIASA voluntary initiatives to:

1. Adopt a voluntary withholding arrangement of 33,750 kilograms of Greenlip Abalone and 12,115 kilograms of Blacklip Abalone
2. Set a total season closure for harvesting both Greenlip Abalone and Blacklip Abalone from 1 August to 31 October 2026
3. Set a cap on Greenlip Abalone harvesting of no more than 10%, 10%, 10% of each licence's entitlement to the end of January, February and March, which is accumulative up to 30% by the end of March.
4. Set a cap on Greenlip Abalone harvesting of no more than 10% of each licence's entitlement from 1 November to 31 December 2026.
5. Set a voluntary cap on Blacklip Abalone harvesting of no more than 25% of each licence's entitlement from 1 November to 31 December 2026.

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6. Open the area 'Anxious Bay' for harvesting Greenlip Abalone and Blacklip Abalone from 1 April to 31 July 2026.
7. Open the area 'St Francis Island' for harvesting Greenlip Abalone and Blacklip Abalone from 1 April to 31 July 2026.
8. Open the area 'Waterloo Bay' for harvesting under the 1-day access arrangement
9. 'The Gap' having 18 licences opted in to catch 160 kg of Greenlip with up to 2 days of fishing only with no Blacklip fishing outside of those 2 days.
10. 'Anxious Bay' having 14 licences opted in to catch 100 kg of Greenlip for 1 day of fishing only.

In regard to provisions for carry-over and over-catch of quota entitlements on individual licences, I advise that as delegate of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, and in consideration of the request from AIASA, I have put the following administrative arrangements in place:

1. Where the total catch of a class of abalone taken by a licence holder is less than the abalone quota entitlement under the licence in respect of that class of abalone for the 2026 quota period, the abalone quota entitlement in respect of that class of abalone for the following quota period (2027) may be increased by 1 kilogram of abalone meat for each kilogram by which the catch fell short of the abalone quota entitlement up to 10% of the quota entitlement on an individual licence.
2. Where the total catch of a class of abalone taken by the holder of a WZAF licence during the 2026 quota period exceeds the abalone quota entitlement under the licence for that class of abalone for that quota period by not more than 1% of the quota entitlement on a licence the conditions of the licence may be varied so as to decrease the quota entitlement by 1 kilogram for each kilogram in excess of the quota entitlement for the following quota period (2027); and
3. If the catch of a class of abalone taken by a licence holder exceeds the quota entitlement on a licence by more than 1% of the quota entitlement, the conditions of the licence may be varied so as to decrease the quota entitlement for the following quota period (2027) by 2 kilograms of abalone for each kilogram taken in excess of the quota entitlement.

If you have any other queries in relation to the Western Zone Abalone Fishery please contact Steve Shanks, Manager – Commercial Fisheries, on (08) 8429 0197 or 0477 396 367.

Yours sincerely



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