

21<sup>st</sup> January 2025

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**RE: VFA Spider Crab Bag Notice 2025**

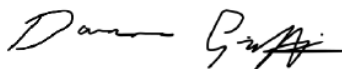
To Ewan Flanagan,

I am writing on behalf of Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation (BLCAC) in regards to the Spider Crab (*Majidae*) family bag limits proposed by Victorian Fisheries Authority (VFA). We appreciate the VFA reaching out to us for feedback on this matter.

The annual aggregation of Spiders Crabs happens on Bunurong Country and considering there is little to no long term data on this families populations, distribution, and biology, and limited VFA Officer resources, the current bag limit of 15 crabs per person per day is excessive and should be reduced until further information is obtained to make an informed assessment on a sustainable bag limit. The Spider Crabs are particularly vulnerable while they are moulting in Port Phillip Bay from May - July and this time should be a no take period while they are aggregating.

I would also like to bring to your attention that BLCAC has a new CEO in Jody Irwin, she can be contact via [ceo@bunuronglc.org.au](mailto:ceo@bunuronglc.org.au) . I look forward to your further correspondence on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact us to discuss this further. We hope to see positive outcomes for Spider Crabs, Sea Country, and the community at large.

Yours Sincerely,



Damien Griffiths  
Strong Country Team Leader



Jody Irwin  
BLCAC CEO