

Mr Hui King Ho,  
Fisheries Manager,  
Victorian Fisheries Authority,  
Level 19, 1 Spring Street,  
Melbourne. 3000.

Mrs Carol M Taylor,  
215 North South Rd,  
Timboon. Vic. 3268.  
Eel Access Licence EA18.  
Owner PFN 12185

12/04/2021.

Dear Hui,

I am writing to you on behalf of myself and my son Zachary Taylor. I am the owner of Eel Access Licence EA18 and Zac is the operator. Here is our submission to the VFA in relation to Eel and Pipi Electronic Tracking Notice 2021.

We do not object to the concept of a tracking device for eel fishers. We understand that the VFA need to know where eel fishing is taking place and that all regulations are being adhered to at all times and especially that each licensed eel fisher fish in their own allocated waters and that they don't fish in closed waters.

Our concerns area:

1. Zac does fish at times on local farmers properties which are private waters, and he will not use the tracking device when eel fishing on their private properties. The Farmers have stated to Zac they do not want Fisheries Officers on their farms and if they do go on their farms then Zac will not be allowed on their properties to fish for eels anymore. Eel fishing on these properties helps to supplement our income when the eels are not being caught in the river systems on our licence.
2. Zac has been using the text message system to let Fisheries Officers know where and what time he is setting his eel nets he also lets them know when he has finished fishing. He finds this system very efficient and the Fisheries Officers like it too as they know where he is and when he is fishing. Zac has been using this system since 2009 when he took over as operator on EA18 eel licence Prior to that his father James W Taylor used the texting system from around 2006. Using the text system he can let the fisheries officers know immediately if he has to pull the eel nets out unexpectedly or some unexpected emergency occurs etc.
3. Zac has concerns what would happen if the battery of the tracking device goes flat while he is out fishing all information would be lost. Where as if he was using the text system this would not happen. He has his phone on him at all times.

If possible we would like to see the tracking system revoked but if it not then we would like to ensure that Electronic Tracking Devices for eel fishing will not be used when the eel fishers are fishing in private waters on farmers' properties.

In anticipation of our request being met,  
Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carol M Taylor". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Carol M Taylor,  
Owner Eel Access Licence EA18.