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Fisheries (Portland Bay Commercial Fishery) Notice 2023

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

I have decided to implement the Fisheries (Portland Bay Commercial Fishery) Notice 2023 after undertaking consultation in accordance with Section 3A of the *Fisheries Act 1995*.

The **Fisheries** (**Portland Bay Commercial Fishery**) **Notice 2023** prohibits the use of mesh nets, trawl nets, seine nets and 200 hook long lines in specified waters of Portland Bay at all times and prohibits the take of yellowtail kingfish in specified waters of Portland Bay by specified commercial fishers to prevent targeting of this species.

Hook and line fishing methods, including a 50-hook long line, can continue to be used by licenced commercial fishers in the specified area. Recreational and cultural fishing, as well as other non-net commercial fishing, including abalone, rocklobster, wrasse and pipi fishing are not impacted by this notice.

The new arrangement will help to resolve conflict between commercial netters and recreational fishers in the highly valued Portland Bay area.

Travis Dowling

Chief Executive Officer Victorian Fisheries Authority

12 / 10 / 2023