

From: craig star

Sent on: Tuesday, October 29, 2024, 9:13:45 PM

To: Antony McGrath (VFA)

Subject: Submissions to Fisheries (Recreational Abalone Open Days) Notice 2024/25

Hello Anthony McGrath

VFA Abalone Fishery Manager

Any submissions received in relation to the consultation conducted by the Victorian Fisheries Authority (VFA) will be published on the VFA website

This is my personal submission to the Recreational Abalone Open Days Fisheries Notice.

In my opinion there's no surprise the recreational stakeholder is only allowed 60 days access, it's not fair nor reasonable

We should have 7 days a week access, it's really a management issue that treats the Central zone differently to the WZ & EZ

Is it the opinion of the VFA that the CZ Biomass has been over fished, it's imperative that a rebuild to MEY is the highest priority & is in every bodies best interest

In my opinion the fishery requires a more conservative approach as it maybe at risk of environmental events.

How & when did we get to a Legal Minimum Length of 110 in the CZ & 100mm in PPB is beyond me

The small LML has allowed access to a bigger portion of the stock, just compare the LML in Victoria to the other jurisdictions listed below

NSW LML 117mm

<https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/recreational/fishing-rules-and-regs/saltwater-bag-and-size-limits>

Tasmania LML blacklip in the north 120mm

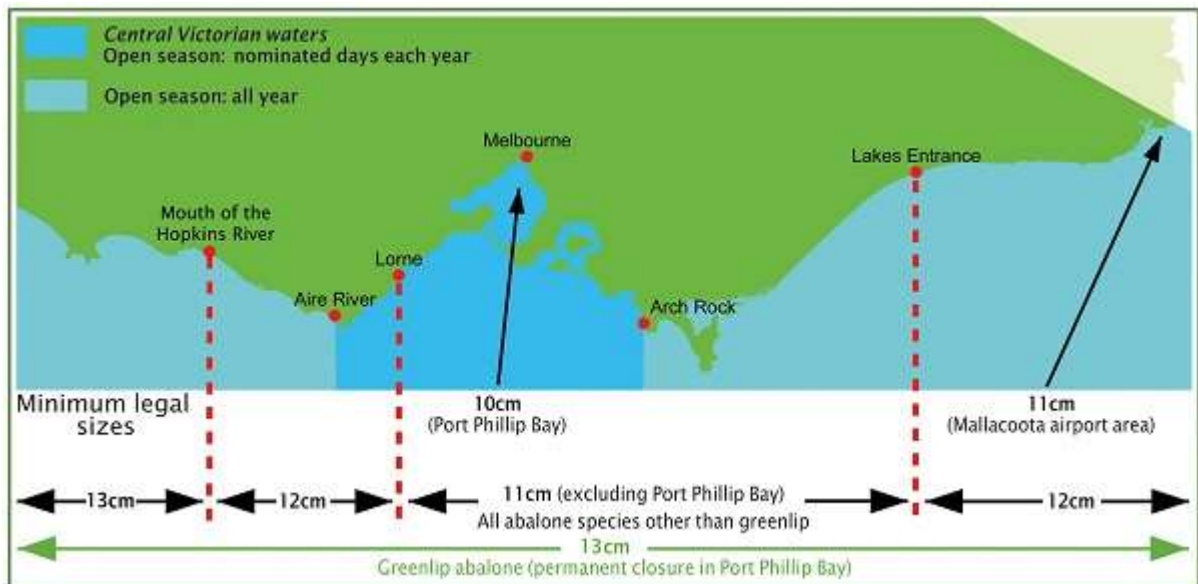
<https://fishing.tas.gov.au/recreational-fishing/fishing-by-species/abalone/abalone-fishing>

South Australia Blacklip LML 130mm

https://www.pir.sa.gov.au/recreational_fishing/rules/species_limits/species_profile/abalone

Victoria LML 100-130mm

<https://vfa.vic.gov.au/recreational-fishing/recreational-fishing-guide/catch-limits-and-closed-seasons/types-of-fish/shellfish/abalone-all-species>



Interesting is the representative groups being consulted over a recreational restriction
Item 2 of the Consultation Plan

Representative group/s being consulted,

- } Commercial wild catch (quota and licence holders, commercial divers, Abalone Victoria Central Zone, Abalone Council Victoria and Seafood Industry Victoria)
- } Recreational fishing (VRFish, Scuba Divers Federation of Victoria)
- } Aboriginal communities (The Federation of Victorian Traditional Owner Corporations, Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation, Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation, Eastern Maar Aboriginal Corporation and Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation)
- } Conservation interests (Environment Victoria, Victorian National Parks Association and Australian Marine Conservation Society).

Kind Regards without prejudice

Craig Starritt

