

Kylie,

Hi,

On behalf of the Members and Committee of the Waverley and District Anglers Inc we wish to pass on our thanks and acknowledgment to the Authority and the Victorian Government on your combined continued actions towards the fulfilment of the 2014 Government commitment to remove all Commercial Netting from Westernport and Port Phillip Bay by 1 April 2022.

As an Environmentally and Sustainability Responsible Club we certainly acknowledge and appreciate that even with the best of intentions and skills using longlining there will be bycatch and we certainly would not wish such bycatch to simply go to waste and be dumped dead back into the Bays thus potentially changing the ecology of the area and potentially leading to longer term sustainability issues including but not limited to greater numbers of other predators (i.e. other shark species) coming into Westernport and the Bay and further reducing the ongoing numbers of other smaller resident fish.

However, we also note that such bycatch limits do need to be in appropriate proportions to the actual annual snapper licence, originally proposed back in 2014, thus our strong objections to the originally proposed substantial increase in the proposed Snapper and Bycatch quotas as was recently reported in the media. We note with thanks from the Ministers Recent Press Release and your Latest Notice that such substantial increases are in fact not now on the table and that a more sustainable and appropriate bycatch proposal is now proposed.

We accordingly confirm that we are now in support of the latest Fisheries (Westernport/Port Phillip Bay) Notice amendment from 1 April 2022 whereby:

Each of the 8 remaining long liners will be limited to:

- **11 Tonne per licence annual snapper catch limit,**
- **2 tonne per licence annual combined catch limit for other fish caught as bycatch,**
- **1 tonne per licence annual catch limit for shark, and**
- **Zero annual catch of King George Whiting, Calamari, Kingfish and Mulloway.**

Thanking You

Yours Sincerely

Laurence