



A GPO Box 4509
Melbourne Victoria 3001

T 136 186

Fisheries (Victorian Pipi) Notice 2018

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

I have decided to implement the Fisheries (Victorian Pipi) Notice for twelve months after undertaking consultation in accordance with Section 3A of the *Fisheries Act 1995*.

The Fisheries (Victorian Pipi) Notice 2018 implements a set of management arrangements for the commercial harvest of pipis in Victoria by eligible Ocean Fishery Access Licence (OFAL) holders. The arrangements provide an opportunity for commercial fishers to access the fishery in a sustainable manner until the Victorian Pipi Fishery Management Plan is finalised and implemented.

The Fisheries (Victorian Pipi) Notice 2018 includes the addition of a fourth access point in Discovery Bay (Lake Mombong), a requirement to cancel a prior-report if the fisher does not proceed with fishing activity, and changes to the total catch limits in two areas of Discovery Bay (from 20 to 10 tonne from the South Australia/Victoria border to Sutton Rocks, and from 60 to 50 tonne from Sutton Rocks to the northern border of Discovery Bay Marine National Park).

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Travis Dowling".

Travis Dowling
Chief Executive Officer
Victorian Fisheries Authority

20/09/2018



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Fisheries (Ray Protection) Notice 2018

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

I have decided to continue the Fisheries (Ray Protection) Notice 2018 for a further twelve months after undertaking consultation in accordance with Section 3A of the Fisheries Act 1995.

The Fisheries (Ray Protection) Notice 2018 will continue to set size and catch limits for rays, skates and guitarfish for recreational fishers, while prohibiting the take of those species within 400m of any pier, jetty, wharf or breakwater.

Please note a definition of carcass has been inserted, specific to rays, skates and guitarfish:

carcass (skates, rays and guitarfish) – the body of a skate, ray or guitarfish which is not cut or mutilated in any other manner than to remove the gut

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Travis Dowling
Chief Executive Officer
Victorian Fisheries Authority

20/09/ 2018



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Fisheries (Recreational Abalone Open Days) Notice 2018

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

I have decided to continue the Fisheries (Recreational Abalone Open Days) Notice 2018 for a further twelve months after undertaking consultation in accordance with Section 3A of the Fisheries Act 1995.

The *Fisheries Regulations 2009* prohibit recreational fishing for abalone in Central Victorian Waters, defined as between Arch Rock and the Aire River, except for those days that are nominated in a Fisheries Notice. This area is within the Central Abalone Zone.

Fisheries (Recreational Abalone Open Days) Notice 2018 will continue to allow recreational abalone fishing in Central Victorian Waters to occur on weekends and Victorian public holidays between 16 November 2018 to 30 April 2019 and on the weekdays between 25 December 2018 and the second Sunday in January 2019. This arrangement is unchanged from previous years and balances addressing sustainability concerns for the fishery, harvest opportunities and the allocation of compliance resources.

The VFA is committed to ensuring fair access for recreational fishers in a manner that is easy to understand and supports a sustainable fishery. Recent quota reductions in the Central Zone commercial abalone fishery are in response to sustainability concerns. We will therefore not consider increases to the recreational access until the long-term sustainability of the fishery is established.

The VFA is continuing to deliver on the actions outlined in the Victorian Wild Harvest Abalone Fishery Management Plan on a priority basis. The VFA is currently finalising a harvest strategy for the commercial sector and reviewing the monitoring approach for abalone. It is recognised that estimates of recreational catch and participation, along with illegal catch estimates, should be incorporated into stock assessments.

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Travis Dowling

Chief Executive Officer
Victorian Fisheries Authority

20/09/2018



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T 136 186

Fisheries (Commercial Snapper Catch Limit) Notice 2018

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

I have decided to continue the Fisheries (Commercial Snapper Catch Limit) Notice for a further twelve months after undertaking consultation in accordance with Section 3A of the Fisheries Act 1995.

Fisheries (Commercial Snapper Catch Limit) Notice 2018 will continue the management arrangements that limit snapper harvest by inshore trawl fishers from east and west of Wilsons Promontory to 10 and 35 tonnes, respectively. Pre- and post-landing reporting by inshore trawl fishers will also continue to be required. If either of these limits is reached, a 50 kilogram trip limit will be implemented in that area.

The boundary between the eastern and western zone has been adjusted to the line of longitude 146°20' east. This line of longitude is aligned with the western edge of grid 33 in the catch and effort reporting map and has been implemented to ensure easier and more accurate reporting for Inshore Trawl Licence holders.

My decision does not take away the ability for Victorian Inshore Trawl licence holders to fish for snapper but rather puts in place management arrangements that will help to ensure the supply of fresh snapper to the general public is sustainable.

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Travis Dowling
Chief Executive Officer
Victorian Fisheries Authority

20/09/2018