

2021/22 Total Allowable Commercial Catch for the Victorian Sea Urchin Fishery

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The framework for adjusting the sea urchin Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC) is set out in the [Sea Urchin Fishery Baseline Management Arrangements](#).

The multi-level approach to adjusting the TACC involves a progression from low cost, conservative TACC at Level 1 (baseline arrangements) to higher cost, optimum yield at Level 3.

Currently the fishery is at Level 1, where the main data collected is fishery-dependent information mandated by reporting requirements. At Level 1, the TACC may only be reviewed after an initial four years of fishing.

After six years of quota managed fishing, the fishery remains at baseline levels with annual commercial catches below the TACC set for each zone. Based on this information and current management arrangements I have decided to maintain the TACC at current levels.

The TACC for the season commencing 1 July 2021 is set at:

- 60 tonnes of unshucked white sea urchin in the Port Phillip Bay Sea Urchin Zone;
- 57 tonnes of unshucked white sea urchin in the Eastern Sea Urchin Zone; and
- 114 tonnes of unshucked black sea urchin in the Eastern Sea Urchin Zone.



Travis Dowling

Chief Executive Officer

Victorian Fisheries Authority

17 / 06 / 2021