



Recreational Abalone Open Days Fisheries Notice 2023/24

Statutory Consultation Plan

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Child Safe Statement

The VFA is committed to the Victorian Child Safe Standards and is focused on creating a safe environment that fosters the protection of all children to keep them safe from harm.

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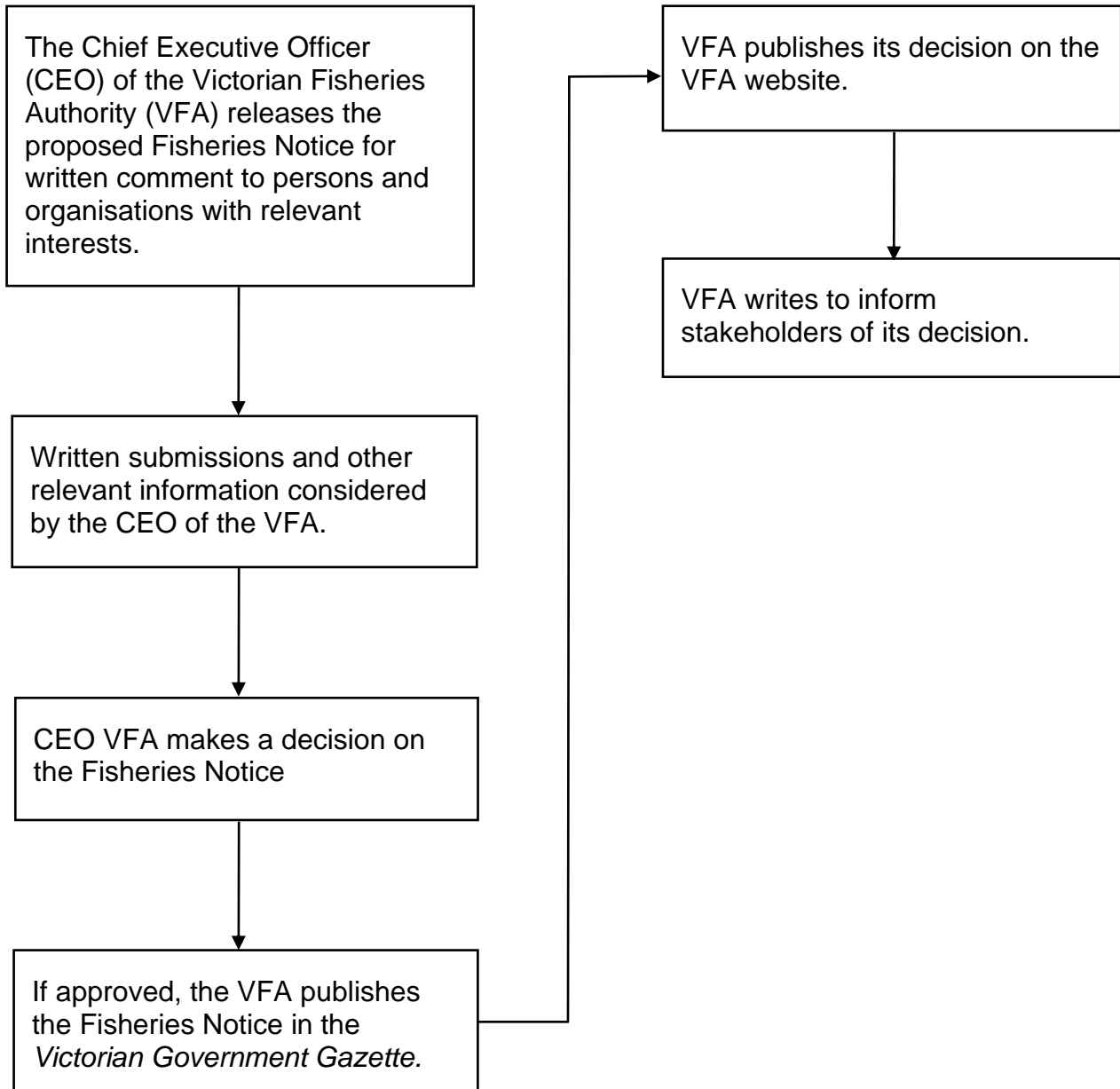
Preamble

Any submissions received in relation to the consultation conducted by the Victorian Fisheries Authority (VFA) will be published on the VFA website. In making a submission, unless the person making the submission indicates to the contrary, they will be consenting to their submission, including their name only, being published on the VFA website for 90 days from the conclusion of the consultative process.

Closing date for submissions

The closing date for the receipt of submissions for consultation on the draft *Fisheries (Recreational Abalone Open Days) Notice 2023/24* will conclude on Monday, 30 October 2023.

Consultation Flow Chart



Consultation Plan

1	Consultation Title	Fisheries (Recreational Abalone Open Days) Notice 2023/24
2	Representative group/s being consulted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 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).
3	Managing Officers	Maddison Watt and Anthony McGrath, Abalone Fishery Manager
4	Target Start Date	29 September 2023
5	Target End Date	30 October 2023
6	Background	<p>The following draft Fisheries Notice is being proposed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Fisheries (Recreational Abalone Open Days) Notice 2023/24</i> <p>The VFA, on behalf of the Victorian community, has statutory obligations to manage the State's fishery resources in a manner that is both sustainable and which ensures ongoing access to all users of the resource.</p>

		The proposed Fisheries Notice specifies open days when recreational fishing for abalone is permitted in central Victorian waters in the 2023/24 financial year.
7	Relevant statutory provision	Statutory consultation with stakeholders under Section 3A of the <i>Fisheries Act 1995</i> is required prior to the Minister or delegate making decisions related to Fisheries Notices.
8	Purpose	To seek comment on the draft Fisheries Notice.
9	Method	Statutory consultation on the draft Fisheries Notice is conducted via letters to persons/groups noted in Section 2 of this consultation plan and the VFA website.
10	Communication plan	<p>Decisions regarding the Fisheries Notice will be communicated through notices published in the Victoria Government Gazette and the VFA website.</p> <p>Letters informing stakeholders of decisions regarding the Fisheries Notice will be sent to all identified stakeholder groups listed in Section 2.</p> <p>If required, any changes to recreational fishing arrangements will be included in the online version of the Victorian Recreational Fishing Guide.</p>
11	Information provision	Stakeholders will be provided with a copy of the draft Fisheries Notice.
12	Resources/advice (incl. purchase of advice)	Internal resources of VFA.
14	Output (documentation / implementation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The <i>Fisheries (Recreational Abalone Open Days) Notice 2023/24</i>; • Letters to stakeholders; • Publication in the Victoria Government Gazette; • Updates to the VFA website and the Victorian Public Notices website; and • Social media posts and media releases (if required).

15	Publication of results of consultation	<i>Any submissions received in relation to the consultation being conducted by VFA will be published on the VFA website. In making a submission, unless the person making the submission indicates to the contrary, they will be consenting to their submission, including their name only, being published on the VFA website for 90 days from the conclusion of the consultative process.</i>
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Consultation Plan prepared by:

Approved by:

Maddison Watt
Abalone Fishery Manager
Victorian Fisheries Authority
Date: 8 / 09 / 2023



Travis Dowling
Chief Executive Officer
Victorian Fisheries Authority
Date: 25 / 09 / 2023



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