

**SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED DURING CONSULTATION ON THE DRAFT FISHERIES (CORNER INLET COCKLE)
NOTICE 2023 (17 October 2023 to 1 November 2023)**

#1

I believe the amount definitely needs to be reduced along with harsher penalties for those that don't abide by the limits.

Over the last 10-15 years the increased numbers of people collecting in the McLoughlins Beach area has blown up dramatically. Along with the way they are now smashing through and damaging the habitat in which they're collecting from, causing destruction to the ecosystem in the area.

Please make a change to this limit as it is vital to the future of all of Corner Inlet.

Corey Stewart

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#2

Hello Sonia ,

Allan Rogers here ,

PLEASE PLEASE register my total support in the reduction of the take limit from 5 to 2 ltrs of the cockles at MCLOUGHLINE BEACH.

I have spoken with Melissa Schubert , Ben Scullin , Katherine Gretch , and am so happy that this has finally come up for change since the draft management plan by VFA in 2021.

Can you confirm please tho... on the submission posting it said CORNER INLET ONLY ...BUT THAT DOES INCLUDE MCLOUGHLINE BEACH as it's in zone 5 now of the DMP for corner inlet ..yes ?.

And in the DMP it specifically mentions McLoughlins Bch as the collection area..

So....

As a very long time family of McLoughlins [since 1928] I have seen a massive foreshore destruction via the overtake of the cockles and almost everything else that's in the mud, sand, and [what's left] of the seaweeds..

So again without going into a long email ,, Im TOTALLY FOR THE REDUCTION

Fell free to contact me for ANYTHING you might require .

Regards

Allan Rogers

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#3

Hello Sonia. We are permanent residents of McLoughlins Beach and we are sending this email to you to endorse the VFA proposal to restrict collection of Cockles to 2 litres in the shell !! The reasons for this should be obvious one of which is decimation of the resource and another is the damage to the eco system through crowds of collectors trampling sea grass and the by catch of crabs and other bivalves and crustaceans that are only an inch or so in carapace size. Both of these features form a vital part of the food chain !! Over the years we have witnessed the take limit abused by many of the collectors who have used devious methods to obscure their take from authorities and believe a lot of the irreversible damage has been done already !! For the sake of our future local marine environment and in fairness to all persons please make the 2 litre collection take the new limit .. it is only common sense .

Regards Danny & Linda Bridle

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#4

Please can we reduce the limit to 2 litres please , need to reserve these as it is being over fished here at McLaughlin beach inlet

Kelvin Cook

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#5

Very good idea

Barry Woodall

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#6

Cockle collection.

I am concerned about the cockle collection bag limit at McLoughlins Beach inlet.

In the last ten years the seagrass around the jetty and footbridge area have been severely affected. Now the collectors are going further into the inlet and disturbing the seagrasses there. Because they have exhausted the supply of cockles around the jetty.

I would like to see restricted areas so that the natural ecosystems can be protected. I also would like to see a reduction in the bag limit of cockles.

Thanks for reading my email . Keep up the good work.

Neville Notting

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#7

Hi Sonia,

I'm in support of reducing the cockle limit to 2kg at McLoughlins Beach as people are taking far too many at present.

Thank you

John Maxwell

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#8

Att

Regarding the cockle limits

Over the last decade I have noticed a decline in the cockle in and around the Gippsland region

I believe this to be related to the number of people removing them

I personally have seen large groups of people adults and very small children removing cockles

From beachers and inlets by the bucket loads

I firmly believe the number taken should be reduced dramatically
With the suggested 2lt per person limit still to high
I would like to seen a complete ban for taking cockles
For 5 years giving then a chance to recover
After this time a 2lt or lower limit per person may be able to be reintroduced
Regards
Bruce Mongan

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#9

Cockle limit maximum 2 ltr - my support in this. I'm part of the McLoughlins Beach Angling Club. These collector's come in and take so much they are ruining the area. Please reduce the amount they can take PER FAMILY. They have their kids collecting that can barely walk thry are so young and they have multiple family members at one time collecting. This needs to stop.
Andrea Cumming

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#10

Hi Sonia,i support the reduction of the bag limit on cockles,
thank you Barry Mason.

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#11

Please .make the cockle limit down to 2 litres as the beds are being depleted
Trina Sultana

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#12

Having lived in McLoughlins Beach for over 20 years, the damage done to the coastal environment by over collection of cockles has caused immense damage, the grass banks & number of fish caught in the area has diminished by a very noticeable amount.
Although I would prefer the area closed to cockle collection so that the coastal environment could recover, restricting cockles to 2 kg would be a step in the right direction.
Regards
Ian McDonnell

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#13

Having observed the damage that over collection of cockles has caused in the McLoughlins Beach area, I fully support the lowering of the amount of cockles allowed to be collected to 2 kg, both locally & in the remainder of the Corner Inlet.

The local community have requested a reduction over many years due to the constant abuse of the current regulations & excessive cockle collection in the area, I'm pleased that our concerns are finally being given attention.

Regards

Glenda McDonnell

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#14

Hello,

My name is Cameron Stewart

I have been a resident of mcloughlins beach for 24 years and my father, and his parents many more years before me, The cockle limit needs to be reduced immediately, if not banned for so many years to allow the regrowth of the area, being cockles/pippies, and just the marine area in general that has been destroyed by people walking the flats every weekend and collecting cockles/pippies, it saddens me to see the area being destroyed, slowly but surely.

If the limit is reduced or banned, it has to help. It cannot not help. Please please please, do something about the cockle limit.

It is destroying mcloughlins beach and I'm sure it is destroying other local beaches also.

Cheers

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#15

Reduce it state wide, having different amounts only confuses the issue. The problem people will claim they don't know it was different so make it uniform for everyone including indigenous.

Fred Wright

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#16

Please reduce the cockle limit to 2 litres.

We are going to lose them all if something is not done about this.

Kind regards Lisa bullock

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#17

Hello Sonia

I am wishing to endorse the reduction in cockle limit down to 2 litres.

Is there a survey to fill out or does this email suffice

Shane Devlyn
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#18

Hi Sonia. As a long term McLaughlin's Beach holliday maker. I want to add my support to the reduction of pipi collection quota. I have seen people collecting in the easier accessible areas and as those areas have very little shell left they are expanding to further outlying areas and doing greater damage.

I fear if this area does not have a change to be protected, the environmental impact will be greatly affected.

Jeff Stewart