

Public submissions sent to the VFA re: proposed Fisheries (Further Corner Inlet Fishery) Notice 2021

1. Submission not made public.
2. Submission not made public.
3. I fully support the continuation of the Notice to prohibit the operation of more than two seine net shots under each Corner Inlet Fishery Access Licence in any given 24 hour period (midnight to midnight) and also to prohibit the use of more than one type of fishing gear on each licence at any given time. I would also support these rules being implemented into the Regulations eventually as I believe they are a valuable effort management tool to ensure sustainability of the Corner Inlet Fishery.

However I do not support the allowance of any operator or licence holder to use the same boat when operating more than one licence. Whilst I have no issue with any operator or licence holder conducting fishing operations on more than one licence, the issue relates to perception of how much effort is being applied per boat, particularly from the recreational sector and general public. The majority of Corner Inlet Fishery licence holders have worked hard to create a positive "social license" where the recreational sector and local community accept we only conduct two seine net shots per day, as they see the boats return after this amount of effort. The sighting of any boat heading out again and conducting a further two seine net shots on another licence will create a bad image and potentially damage our "social license" which we can ill afford.

Neville Clarke

4. I would to get the 2 lots of gear in the water back even if it is a restricted amount of mesh nets! Preferably the 1650meters! I also see no reason why hoop nets and long lines are not allowed when seine netting! The 2 seine shots a day is fine! I also don't believe crew should be restricted to only being able to work on the one license or operation in anyone day!

James Casement

5. I am very happy with the Draft Fisheries (Further Corner Inlet Fishery)2021.For sustainability and long term future this is excellent. I do think there could be a problem with the 2 Licences on one boat , because we have fought hard for these regulations for sustainability and support from amateurs. It would not look good having 4 shots from one boat.

Brett Cripps

6. In regards to the draft fisheries notice 2021 I am happy with the way things are for the sustainability and the harmony it has brought between the commercial and amateur fisherman. Things have never been so good.

Kallan Cripps

7. As per the proposed notice, I am in agreement for (1) the continuation of the Notice to prohibit the operation of more than 2 seine shots under each Corner Inlet Fishery Licence in any given 24 hour period.

I also agree with (2) prohibiting the use of more than 1 type of fishing gear at any given time. I believe serious consideration should be given to these rules becoming a permanent part of the Fisheries Regulations.

(3) I am in favor of prohibiting the use of fishing gear under more than 1 Corner Inlet Access Licence by a licence holder in any given 24 hour period. If an operator owns &/or leases a 2nd licence, it is my opinion that each licence needs to be attached to a separate vessel & a different crew.

A lot of effort has been put in by the majority of Corner Inlet Licence holders over many, many years, to ensure our industry is sustainable & to also ensure our "image" is a positive one in the eyes of the general public & particularly the recreational fishing sector, which has grown significantly over the past decade.

For a single vessel to be able to use 2 licences & therefore double a single operators catch & effort (by having up to 4 shots in any 24 hour period) is not a "Good Look" for our industry. It may seem OK for the operator to return to Port, unload the catch & complete the catch & effort record, before returning to complete a 2nd fishing operation on the next tide, but if an operator is using the same vessel & the same crew, I would argue that this gives the impression to the public & recreational sectors, that this operator is fishing outside of the Regulations & in their minds, overfishing. This has the real risk of causing friction & disharmony and a poor perception in the eyes of others, of our important fishery.

Gary Cripps

8. I have been fishing commercially in Corner Inlet since 1967, as such I have a good knowledge of what has happened over the past 50 odd years in our fishery. It has been a common practice for 2 licence holders to team fish, in fact most fishing teams historically held 2 licences. Even though there were 2 licences involved, it has always been recognised that it is one crew and as such they are only entitled to 2 shots a day as per the Code of Practice we all adhered to. I still feel most strongly that any crew should be restricted to 2 shots per day no matter how many licences they hold. The fact that the traditional fishermen stuck to the Voluntary Code of Practice so rigidly is the reason that we still have a viable, sustainable fishery in Corner Inlet.

Don Cripps