



Mr Toby Jeavons
Manager – Marine and Estuarine Fisheries
Victorian Fisheries Authority
2A Bellarine Highway, Queenscliff Vic 3225

Dear Toby

Re: Eastrock comments on 2022/23 eastern zone rock lobster TACC

Thank you for providing Eastrock with an opportunity to comment on the proposed 2022/23 eastern zone rock lobster total allowable commercial catch (TACC).

Members discussed the proposed TACC at their recent annual meeting and would like to provide the following comments:

- Eastrock agrees that the 32t TACC meets with the provisions of the current Harvest Strategy and in that context supports the proposed TACC.
- However, Eastrock would like to express on-going concerns that although there are some small signs of stock recovery that stock rebuilding is still a major worry and noting this Eastrock supports further reductions in TACC to achieve a rebuild.
- Eastrock recognises the hard work and outcomes (so far) from the Rock Lobster Management Plan Review Committee and will continue to support this process, especially in developing a stock rebuilding program for the eastern stock.
- Eastrock has committed to developing a suite of options to assist members in developing management arrangements that members can implement to promote eastern zone stock rebuilding.

Eastrock looks forward to continuing to work with the VFA on improving the future of this fishery.

Yours sincerely

Anthony Ciconte

Chair - Eastrock