

# Help rebuild our Abalone fishery.

Our oceans are full of wonderfully diverse life. But, marine pests and diseases can cause harm to Victoria's bays and oceans, and the animals that live there.

A Fisheries Notice is in place to help increase the number of abalone in Portland, after a disease outbreak.

**In the restricted areas (refer to the red shaded areas in the map below) you cannot:**

- take abalone.
- possess abalone.
- use any equipment made to take abalone including an abalone tool.

**Also, remember that you cannot:**

- remove abalone meat from its shell until you get home.
- return any part of the abalone, including the shell and gut, to the ocean. Please use your rubbish bin to get rid of this waste.
- use abalone, including abalone gut, as bait anywhere in Victoria.

**Please also:**

- **Check** [vfa.vic.gov.au](http://vfa.vic.gov.au) for information on current outbreaks to avoid those areas.  
  
If you find a fish that you think is sick, please take it and leave the water immediately. Call the 24-hour Emergency Animal Disease Watch Hotline on 1800 675 888.
- **Clean** all your equipment including boats, trailers, fishing and diving gear with fresh soapy water.
- **Dry** all boating, fishing and diving equipment completely before getting in the water again.

For further information, please visit [vfa.vic.gov.au/abalonedisease](http://vfa.vic.gov.au/abalonedisease)

