

Fisheries Act 1995**FISHERIES NOTICE 2025**

I, Travis Dowling, Chief Executive Officer of the Victorian Fisheries Authority, as delegate of the Minister for Outdoor Recreation, having undertaken consultation in accordance with section 3A of the **Fisheries Act 1995** (the Act), make the following Fisheries Notice under sections 67, 68A, 114 and 152 of the Act:

Dated 6 June 2025

TRAVIS DOWLING
Chief Executive Officer
Victorian Fisheries Authority

FISHERIES (CENTRAL ABALONE ZONE) NOTICE 2025**1. Title**

This Notice may be cited as the Fisheries (Central Abalone Zone) Notice 2025.

2. Objectives

The objective of this Notice is to:

- a. fix minimum size limits for blacklip abalone and greenlip abalone taken under an Abalone Fishery Access Licence in the Central Abalone Zone.
- b. address sustainability concerns for Victorian Central Abalone Zone abalone stocks and related management issues by closing specified marine waters to commercial abalone harvest.

3. Authorising provision

This Notice is made under sections 67, 68A, 114 and 152 of the Act.

4. Commencement

This Notice comes into operation on 1 July 2025.

5. Definitions

In this fisheries notice –

‘**AFAL**’ means an Abalone Fishery (Central Zone) Access Licence;

‘**central abalone zone**’ means all Victorian waters between longitude 142° 31’ East and longitude 148° East;

‘**CEO**’ means the Chief Executive Officer of the VFA;

‘**closed waters**’ means any marine waters within a spatial management unit for which the upper limit has been reached or exceeded as specified in Column 3 of Schedule 3;

‘**fisheries notification service**’ has the same meaning as in the Fisheries Regulations 2019;

‘**fishing trip**’ has the same meaning as in the Fisheries Regulations 2019;

‘**nominated operator**’ means –

- (a) a licence holder permitted under section 39(1) of the Act; or
- (b) a person listed on an access licence for the purposes of section 39(2) of the Act;

‘**size zone**’ means each area of Victorian marine waters between the coordinates specified in Column 2 of Schedule 1 for blacklip abalone and Column 1 of Schedule 2 for greenlip abalone;

‘**spatial management unit**’ means each area of Victorian marine waters specified in Column 1 of Schedule 3;

‘**the Act**’ means the **Fisheries Act 1995**;

‘**upper limit**’ for any spatial management unit specified in Column 1 of Schedule 3, the corresponding amount of abalone specified in Column 3 of Schedule 3;

‘**VFA**’ means the Victorian Fisheries Authority.

6. Minimum sizes for abalone taken from the central abalone zone

- (1) For the purposes of the Act, the minimum size with respect to the taking of blacklip abalone under an AFAL from the waters specified in Columns 1 and 2 of Schedule 1 is the size specified for those waters in Column 3 of Schedule 1.
- (2) For the purposes of the Act, the minimum size with respect to the taking of greenlip abalone under an AFAL from the waters specified in Column 1 of Schedule 2 is the size specified for those waters in Column 2 of Schedule 2.

Notes: There are offences in sections 68A and 68B of the Act relating to taking or possessing fish of a species that are less than the minimum size specified for that species of fish in this Notice. Various penalties apply.

Under section 152(3), of the Act, if a provision of this Notice is inconsistent with any regulations, the Fisheries Notice prevails to the extent of the inconsistency. The general size limits specified in the Fisheries Regulations 2019 will continue to apply in circumstances where the size limits specified in clause 6 do not apply.

7. Abalone not to be taken from more than one size zone

For the purposes of section 67 of the Act –

- (a) the taking of abalone under an AFAL from more than one size zone on any fishing trip; or
- (b) the possession of abalone taken from more than one size zone on-board any boat being used under an AFAL; or
- (c) the landing of abalone taken under an AFAL from more than one size zone; is prohibited.

Note: It is an offence under section 67(3) of the Act to fail to comply with a prohibition.

8. Spatial management unit upper limit exceeded

Marine waters within a spatial management unit (SMU) are immediately closed ('closed waters') to commercial abalone harvest when the upper limit specified in Column 3 of Schedule 3 has been reached or exceeded.

9. Closed waters

- (1) For the purposes of section 67 of the Act –
 - (a) the taking of abalone from closed waters; or
 - (b) the possession of abalone in or on closed waters –

by the holder of an access licence, or a person acting or purporting to act under an access licence, is prohibited.

- (2) Sub-clause (1)(b) does not apply to a person possessing abalone on-board a boat under way and travelling by the most direct route to reach a point of landing or specified open waters for the purpose of commercial abalone diving.

Note: Failure to comply with this prohibition is an offence under section 67 of the **Fisheries Act 1995**. A maximum penalty of 100 penalty units and/or six months imprisonment applies.

10. E-catch trip to be started before commencing a fishing trip

The holder of an Access Licence and the licence operator in relation to the licence must ensure that before commencing a fishing trip under the licence, they:

- (a) setup the trip on the Fisheries notification service (Vic E-Catch) by submitting the following details –
 - (i) the boat registration;
 - (ii) the crew members; and
 - (iii) the licence details; and
- (b) check the current catch levels at spatial management units and reef codes that will be fished by viewing the SMU report.

Penalty: 50 penalty units

11. Catch limit when quota balance is zero

- (1) For the purposes of the Act, the catch limit with respect to the possession of abalone taken under an AFAL in excess of the specified amount is 0 kilograms of fish.

Note: There are offences in section 37 and 68A relating to taking or possessing abalone in excess of the catch limit in this fisheries notice. Various penalties apply.

- (2) For the purposes of sub-clause (1), *specified amount* means the amount of fish in kilograms permitted to be taken under the individual quota units specified on the Abalone Fishery Access Licence.

12. Application to fisheries reserves

This Notice applies to a Fisheries Reserve, as declared under section 88 of the Act, to the extent that fishing is permitted in the Fisheries Reserve.

13. Revocation

Unless sooner revoked, this Notice will be revoked on 30 June 2026.

SCHEDULES**SCHEDULE 1**

Column 1 Size zone name	Column 2 Coordinates bordering size zone	Column 3 Minimum size (Millimetres)
Shipwreck Coast spatial management unit that includes: a. Reef Code 4.01 Lake Gilllear b. Reef Code 4.02 Antares c. Reef Code 5.01 Peterborough d. Reef Code 5.02 Point Hesse e. Reef Code 5.03 Port Campbell	1. 38°24'14"S 142°31'00"E 2. 38°26'29"S 142°31'00"E 3. 38°39'19"S 143°03'00"E 4. 38°38'52"S 143°03'18"E	130
Cape Otway spatial management unit that includes: a. Reef Code 6.01 Moonlight Head b. Reef Code 6.02 Milanesia Beach c. Reef Code 6.03 Rotten Point d. Reef Code 7.03 East Otway e. Reef Code 7.04 Blanket Bay f. Reef Code 7.05 Apollo Bay g. Reef Code 7.06 Skenes Creek h. Reef Code 7.07 Franklin – Parker i. Reef Code 7.08 Parker River West Outside j. Reef Code 8.01 Kennett and Wye	1. 38°44'01"S 143°11'08"E 2. 38°44'46"S 143°09'58"E 3. 38°38'06"S 143°55'30"E 4. 38°38'06"S 143°53'29"E	125

Column 1 Size zone name	Column 2 Coordinates bordering size zone	Column 3 Minimum size (Millimetres)
Surf Coast spatial management unit that includes: a. Reef Code 8.02 Cumberland b. Reef Code 8.03 Eastern View c. Reef Code 9.01 Anglesea d. Reef Code 9.02 Jan Juc e. Reef Code 10.01 Point Impossible f. Reef Code 10.02 Thirteenth Beach g. Reef Code 10.03 Ocean Grove h. Reef Code 10.04 Lonsdale Back Beach i. Reef Code 10.05 The Anchor	1. 38°38'06"S 143°53'29"E 2. 38°38'06"S 143°55'30"E 3. 38°18'32"S 144°36'17"E 4. 38°18'00"S 144°37'11"E 5. 38°16'29"S 144°42'55"E 6. 38°10'27"S 144°43'08"E	110
Port Phillip Bay spatial management unit that includes: a. Reef Code 11.01 Indented Head b. Reef Code 11.02 Bellarine c. Reef Code 11.03 Point Wilson d. Reef Code 11.04 Kirks Point e. Reef Code 11.05 Werribee f. Reef Code 11.06 Sheoak g. Reef Code 11.07 Point Cook h. Reef Code 11.08 Altona Bay i. Reef Code 11.09 Sticks Reef j. Reef Code 11.10 Williamstown k. Reef Code 11.11 St Kilda l. Reef Code 11.12 Brighton m. Reef Code 11.13 Black Rock n. Reef Code 11.14 Mordialloc o. Reef Code 11.15 Frankston p. Reef Code 11.16 Canadian Bay q. Reef Code 11.17 Mount Martha r. Reef Code 11.18 Portsea Bayside	1. 38°10'14"S 144°43'08"E 2. 38°10'14"S 144°44'27"E 3. 38°18'44"S 144°42'50"E 4. 38°19'07"S 144°42'50"E	105
Back Beaches spatial management unit that includes: a. Reef Code 12.01 Nepean Bay b. Reef code 12.02 Portsea Ocean Beach c. Reef Code 12.03 Sorrento Ocean Beach d. Reef Code 12.04 Rye Ocean Beach e. Reef Code 12.05 Gunnamatta	1. 38°19'07"S 144°42'50"E 2. 38°18'44"S 144°42'50"E 3. 38°19'28"S 144°38'58"E 4. 38°21'41"S 144°38'49"E 5. 38°28'45"S 144°51'09"E 6. 38°28'45"S 144°53'09"E	119

Column 1 Size zone name	Column 2 Coordinates bordering size zone	Column 3 Minimum size (Millimetres)
Flinders spatial management unit that includes: a. Reef Code 12.06 Cape Schanck b. Reef Code 13.01 Bushrangers Bay c. Reef Code 13.02 Symmonds Bay West d. Reef Code 13.03 Symmonds Bay East e. Reef Code 13.04 Cairns Bay f. Reef Code 13.05 Flinders g. Reef Code 13.06 Western Port West h. Reef Code 13.07 West Head Tide	1. 38°28'45"S 144°53'09"E 2. 38°28'45"S 144°51'09"E 3. 38°30'23"S 145°00'32"E 4. 38°31'11"S 145°06'19"E 5. 38°27'38"S 145°09'39"E 6. 38°24'01"S 145°08'43"E 7. 38°23'27"S 145°07'42"E	114
Phillip Island spatial management unit that includes: a. Reef Code 14.01 Ventnor – Flynns b. Reef Code 14.02 Cat Bay c. Reef Code 14.03 Seal Rocks d. Reef Code 14.04 Penguin Reserve e. Reef Code 14.05 Summerlands – Berry f. Reef Code 14.06 Pyramid Rock West g. Reef Code 14.07 Pyramid Rock East h. Reef Code 14.08 Sunderland Bay i. Reef Code 14.09 Cape Woolamai West j. Reef Code 14.10 Cape Woolamai East k. Reef Code 14.11 Summerlands	1. 38°27'55"S 145°09'55"E 2. 38°27'38"S 145°09'39"E 3. 38°31'11"S 145°06'19"E 4. 38°32'33"S 145°06'38"E 5. 38°33'55"S 145°23'03"E 6. 38°31'27"S 145°21'06"E 7. 38°31'06"S 145°21'50"E 8. 38°31'00"S 145°21'42"E	112
Kilcunda spatial management unit that includes: a. Reef Code 15.01 San Remo b. Reef Code 15.02 Powlett River	1. 38°31'12"S 145°22'02"E 2. 38°31'06"S 145°21'50"E 3. 38°31'27"S 145°21'06"E 4. 38°33'55"S 145°23'03"E 5. 38°40'28"S 145°32'24"E 6. 38°39'03"S 145°33'38"E	115
Kilcunda spatial management unit that includes: c. Reef Code 15.03 Harmers Haven d. Reef Code 15.04 Cape Patterson e. Reef Code 15.05 Inverloch	1. 38°39'03"S 145°33'38"E 2. 38°40'28"S 145°32'24"E 3. 38°41'43"S 145°43'43"E 4. 38°38'33"S 145°43'43"E 5. 38°38'21"S 145°43'30"E	110

Column 1 Size zone name	Column 2 Coordinates bordering size zone	Column 3 Minimum size (Millimetres)
Cape Liptrap spatial management unit that includes: a. Reef Code 16.01 Venus Bay b. Reef Code 16.02 Morgans Beach c. Reef Code 16.03 Cape Liptrap West d. Reef Code 16.04 Cape Liptrap East e. Reef Code 16.05 Walkerville f. Reef Code 16.06 Waratah Reef	1. 38°38'33"S 145°43'43"E 2. 38°41'43"S 145°43'43"E 3. 38°53'14"S 146°02'24"E 4. 38°48'41"S 146°02'24"E	110
Prom Westside spatial management unit includes: a. Reef Code 16.07 Cotters Beach b. Reef Code 17.02 Tongue Point c. Reef Code 17.04 Leonard Point d. Reef Code 17.05 Pillar Point	1. 146°02'25"E to a straight line connecting coordinates longitude 146°19'35"E, latitude 39°02'28"S and longitude 146°13'48"E, latitude 39°04'08"S (the north-western boundary of the Wilsons Promontory Marine National Park).	115

Column 1 Size zone name	Column 2 Coordinates bordering size zone	Column 3 Minimum size (Millimetres)
Prom Westside spatial management unit that includes: a. Reef Code 17.01 Shellback Island b. Reef Code 17.03 Norman Island c. Reef Code 17.10 Great Glennie Island d. Reef Code 17.11 Dannevig Island e. Reef Code 17.12 Citadel Island f. Reef Code 17.13 McHugh Island	1. The area between longitudes 146°13'02"E and 146°14'22"E and between latitudes 38°57'39"S and 38°58'27"S (Shellback Island), the waters around Norman Island extending to a maximum depth of 30 metres, and the area bounded on the east by waters within 300 metres of the Low Water Marks on McHugh, Dannevig and Great Glennie Islands (the western boundary of the Wilsons Promontory Marine National Park), on the south by latitude 39°07'10"S, on the north by latitude 39°03'48"S and on the west by a straight line connecting coordinates longitude 146°13'12"E, latitude 39°03'48"S, longitude 146°13'12"E, latitude 39°05'09"S, longitude 146°14'00"E, latitude 39°06'02"S and longitude 146°14'00"E, latitude 39°07'10"S (Great Glennie Island, Dannevig Island, Citadel Island and McHugh Island).	120
Prom Eastside spatial management unit that includes: a. Reef Code 18.03 Refuge Cove b. Reef Code 18.04 Five Mile Beach c. Reef Code 18.05 Monkey Point d. Reef Code 18.06 Rabbit Island and Rock e. Reef Code 18.07 Three Mile Beach f. Reef Code 18.09 Ninety Mile Beach	1. 39°03'59"S 146°28'43"E 2. 39°04'02"S 146°28'41"E 3. 38°57'34"S 146°36'36"E 4. 38°53'29"S 146°36'36"E 5. 38°53'29"S 146°44'43"E 6. 38°54'12"S 146°44'43"E 7. 37°55'45"S 148°00'00"E 8. 37°52'52"S 148°00'00"E	110

Column 1 Size zone name	Column 2 Coordinates bordering size zone	Column 3 Minimum size (Millimetres)
Cliffy Group spatial management unit that includes: a. Reef Code 18.08 Seal Island Group	1. 38°57'34"S 146°36'36"E 2. 38°53'29"S 146°36'36"E 3. 38°53'29"S 146°44'43"E 4. 38°54'12"S 146°44'43"E	110

SCHEDULE 2

Column 1 Waters taken from Victorian marine waters –	Column 2 Minimum size (Millimetres)
a) Mouth of Hopkins River to Point Nepean i.e. between longitude 142°30.498"E and longitude 144°38.88"E	145
b) Point Nepean to Lakes Entrance i.e. between longitude 144°38.88"E and longitude 148°E	150

SCHEDULE 3

Column 1 Spatial management unit name	Column 2 Coordinates bordering spatial management unit	Column 3 Upper limit
Shipwreck Coast spatial management unit that includes: a. Reef Code 4.01 Lake Gillear b. Reef Code 4.02 Antares c. Reef Code 5.01 Peterborough d. Reef Code 5.02 Point Hesse e. Reef Code 5.03 Port Campbell	1. 38°24'14"S 142°31'00"E 2. 38°26'29"S 142°31'00"E 3. 38°39'19"S 143°03'00"E 4. 38°38'52"S 143°03'18"E	32.1 tonnes
Cape Otway spatial management unit that includes: a. Reef Code 6.01 Moonlight Head b. Reef Code 6.02 Milanesia Beach c. Reef Code 6.03 Rotten Point d. Reef Code 7.03 East Otway e. Reef Code 7.04 Blanket Bay f. Reef Code 7.05 Apollo Bay g. Reef Code 7.06 Skenes Creek h. Reef Code 7.07 Franklin – Parker i. Reef Code 7.08 Parker River West Outside j. Reef Code 8.01 Kennett and Wye	1. 38°44'01"S 143°11'08"E 2. 38°44'46"S 143°09'58"E 3. 38°38'06"S 143°55'30"E 4. 38°38'06"S 143°53'29"E	53.9 tonnes

Column 1 Spatial management unit name	Column 2 Coordinates bordering spatial management unit	Column 3 Upper limit
Surf Coast spatial management unit that includes: a. Reef Code 8.02 Cumberland b. Reef Code 8.03 Eastern View c. Reef Code 9.01 Anglesea d. Reef Code 9.02 Jan Juc e. Reef Code 10.01 Point Impossible f. Reef Code 10.02 Thirteenth Beach g. Reef Code 10.03 Ocean Grove h. Reef Code 10.04 Lonsdale Back Beach i. Reef Code 10.05 The Anchor	1. 38°38'06"S 143°53'29"E 2. 38°38'06"S 143°55'30"E 3. 38°18'32"S 144°36'17"E 4. 38°18'00"S 144°37'11"E 5. 38°16'29"S 144°42'55"E 6. 38°10'27"S 144°43'08"E	5.0 tonnes
Port Phillip Bay spatial management unit that includes: a. Reef Code 11.01 Indented Head b. Reef Code 11.02 Bellarine c. Reef Code 11.03 Point Wilson d. Reef Code 11.04 Kirks Point e. Reef Code 11.05 Werribee f. Reef Code 11.06 Sheoak g. Reef Code 11.07 Point Cook h. Reef Code 11.08 Altona Bay i. Reef Code 11.09 Sticks Reef j. Reef Code 11.10 Williamstown k. Reef Code 11.11 St Kilda l. Reef Code 11.12 Brighton m. Reef Code 11.13 Black Rock n. Reef Code 11.14 Mordialloc o. Reef Code 11.15 Frankston p. Reef Code 11.16 Canadian Bay q. Reef Code 11.17 Mount Martha r. Reef Code 11.18 Portsea Bayside	1. 38°10'14"S 144°43'08"E 2. 38°10'14"S 144°44'27"E 3. 38°18'44"S 144°42'50"E 4. 38°19'07"S 144°42'50"E	5.0 tonnes
Back Beaches spatial management unit that includes: a. Reef Code 12.01 Nepean Bay b. Reef code 12.02 Portsea Ocean Beach c. Reef Code 12.03 Sorrento Ocean Beach d. Reef Code 12.04 Rye Ocean Beach e. Reef Code 12.05 Gunnamatta	1. 38°19'07"S 144°42'50"E 2. 38°18'44"S 144°42'50"E 3. 38°19'28"S 144°38'58"E 4. 38°21'41"S 144°38'49"E 5. 38°28'45"S 144°51'09"E 6. 38°28'45"S 144°53'09"E	44.6 tonnes

Column 1 Spatial management unit name	Column 2 Coordinates bordering spatial management unit	Column 3 Upper limit
Flinders spatial management unit that includes: a. Reef Code 12.06 Cape Schanck b. Reef code 13.01 Bushrangers Bay c. Reef Code 13.02 Symmonds Bay West d. Reef Code 13.03 Symmonds Bay East e. Reef Code 13.04 Cairns Bay f. Reef Code 13.05 Flinders g. Reef Code 13.06 Western Port West h. Reef Code 13.07 West Head Tide	1. 38°28'45"S 144°53'09"E 2. 38°28'45"S 144°51'09"E 3. 38°30'23"S 145°00'32"E 4. 38°31'11"S 145°06'19"E 5. 38°27'38"S 145°09'39"E 6. 38°24'01"S 145°08'43"E 7. 38°23'27"S 145°07'42"E	22.6 tonnes
Phillip Island spatial management unit that includes: a. Reef Code 14.01 Ventnor – Flynn's b. Reef Code 14.02 Cat Bay c. Reef Code 14.03 Seal Rocks d. Reef Code 14.04 Penguin Reserve e. Reef Code 14.05 Summerlands – Berry f. Reef Code 14.06 Pyramid Rock West g. Reef Code 14.07 Pyramid Rock East h. Reef Code 14.08 Sunderland Bay i. Reef Code 14.09 Cape Woolamai West j. Reef Code 14.10 Cape Woolamai East k. Reef Code 14.11 Summerlands	1. 38°27'55"S 145°09'55"E 2. 38°27'38"S 145°09'39"E 3. 38°31'11"S 145°06'19"E 4. 38°32'33"S 145°06'38"E 5. 38°33'55"S 145°23'03"E 6. 38°31'27"S 145°21'06"E 7. 38°31'06"S 145°21'50"E 8. 38°31'00"S 145°21'42"E	35.7 tonnes
Kilcunda spatial management unit that includes: a. Reef Code 15.01 San Remo b. Reef Code 15.02 Powlett c. Reef Code 15.03 Harmers Haven d. Reef Code 15.04 Cape Patterson e. Reef Code 15.05 Inverloch	1. 38°31'12"S 145°22'02"E 2. 38°31'06"S 145°21'50"E 3. 38°31'27"S 145°21'06"E 4. 38°33'55"S 145°23'03"E 5. 38°41'43"S 145°43'43"E 6. 38°38'33"S 145°43'43"E 7. 38°38'21"S 145°43'30"E	10.2 tonnes
Cape Liptrap spatial management unit that includes: a. Reef code 16.01 Venus Bay b. Reef Code 16.02 Morgans Beach c. Reef Code 16.03 Cape Liptrap West d. Reef Code 16.04 Cape Liptrap East e. Reef Code 16.05 Walkerville f. Reef Code 16.06 Waratah Reef	1. 38°38'33"S 145°43'43"E 2. 38°41'43"S 145°43'43"E 3. 38°53'14"S 146°02'24"E 4. 38°48'41"S 146°02'24"E	13.3 tonnes

Column 1 Spatial management unit name	Column 2 Coordinates bordering spatial management unit	Column 3 Upper limit
Prom Westside spatial management unit that includes: a. Reef Code 16.07 Cotters Beach b. Reef Code 17.01 Shellback Island c. Reef Code 17.02 Tongue Point d. Reef Code 17.03 Norman Island e. Reef Code 17.04 Leonard Point f. Reef Code 17.05 Pillar Point g. Reef Code 17.10 Great Glennie Island h. Reef Code 17.11 Dannevig Island i. Reef Code 17.12 Citadel Island j. Reef Code 17.13 McHugh Island	1. 38°48'41"S 146°02'24"E 2. 38°53'14"S 146°02'24"E 3. 39°02'59"S 146°17'47"E 4. 39°02'28"S 146°19'34"E 5. Between the High Water Mark of Norman Island and a maximum depth of 30 m 6. 39°03'48"S 146°13'11"E 7. 39°05'09"S 146°13'11"E 8. 39°06'01"S 146°14'00"E 9. 39°07'10"S 146°14'00"E 10. Within 300 m of the High Water Marks of Great Glennie, Dannevig and McHugh Islands	23.1 tonnes
Prom Eastside spatial management unit that includes: a. Reef Code 18.03 Refuge Cove b. Reef Code 18.04 Five Mile Beach c. Reef Code 18.05 Monkey Point d. Reef Code 18.06 Rabbit Island & Rock e. Reef Code 18.07 Three Mile Beach f. Reef Code 18.09 Ninety Mile Beach	1. 39°03'59"S 146°28'43"E 2. 39°04'02"S 146°28'41"E 3. 38°57'34"S 146°36'36"E 4. 38°53'29"S 146°36'36"E 5. 38°53'29"S 146°44'43"E 6. 38°54'12"S 146°44'43"E 7. 37°55'45"S 148°00'00"E 8. 37°52'52"S 148°00'00"E	5.3 tonnes
Clifly Group spatial management unit that includes: a. Reef Code 18.08 Seal Island Group	1. 38°57'34"S 146°36'36"E 2. 38°53'29"S 146°36'36"E 3. 38°53'29"S 146°44'43"E 4. 38°54'12"S 146°44'43"E	5.2 tonnes