

Fisheries (Further Corner Inlet Fishery) Notice 2021

Consultation Plan

PREAMBLE

Any submissions received in relation to the consultation being conducted by the Victorian Fisheries Authority will be published on the Authority's website. In making a submission, unless the person making the submission indicates to the contrary, they will be consenting to their submission including their name being published on the Authority's website for 90 days or more from the conclusion of the consultative process (however personal details such as phone number or email address will not be listed).

Closing date for submissions

The closing date for the receipt of submissions relating to the draft Fisheries (Further Corner Inlet fishery) Notice 2021 will be two weeks after release of the draft notice for consultation.

Consultation documents will be published on the VFA website and letters will be sent to key stakeholders seeking any comment on the proposed Notice.

The closing date for submissions will be 5pm, 10 June 2021.

FLOW CHART OF CONSULTATION

In September 2020, the Victorian Fisheries Authority (VFA) policy group conducted a phone survey of all Corner Inlet fishery access licence holders to understand views in relation to implementation of the existing Fisheries (Corner Inlet Fishery) Notice 2020, which expires on 18 June 2021.

The draft Fisheries (Further Corner Inlet Fishery) Notice 2021 (the draft FN) has been distributed internally to Enforcement and

The CEO of the VFA will approve the release of the draft FN for public consultation

The consultation period will commence 27 May 2021 and the draft FN will be placed on the VFA website seeking comment from the public

In addition, a request for submissions on the draft FN will be sent to:

- All 18 Corner Inlet Fishery Access Licence holders
- Seafood Industry Victoria
- Futurefish
- VR Fish

The consultation period finishes 10 June 2021. Any submissions received are placed on the VFA's website (unless notified as confidential).

The Policy team provide the CEO of the VFA with recommendations based on submissions received

CEO of the VFA approves the final FN

Final Fisheries (Further Corner Inlet fishery) Notice 2021 is published in the Gazette, advertised in a local newspaper (e.g. the Age) and uploaded onto the VFA website and notification letters sent to all key stakeholders.

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CONSULTATION PLAN

| 1 | Consultation Title | Fisheries (Further Corner Inlet fishery) Notice 2021 |
|----|--|---|
| 2 | Representative group/s being consulted | Corner Inlet Fishery Access Licence holders Seafood Industry Victoria VRFish Futurefish |
| 3 | Managing Officer | Lachlan Smith (Policy Analyst) |
| 4 | Target Start Date | 27 May 2021 |
| 5 | Target End Date | 10 June 2021 |
| 6 | Background/ History | A survey of all 18 licence holders in September 2020 demonstrated that about two-thirds or more of the licence holders support each of the rules in the existing Fisheries (Corner Inlet Fishery) Notice 2020, which support the sustainable management of the Corner Inlet fishery. That notice is set to be automatically revoked on 18 June 2021. The Victorian Fisheries Authority (VFA) is proposing a Fisheries Notice that will continue to prohibit Corner Inlet Fishery Access Licence holders and operators from taking more than two seine net shots per day per licence and from using more than one type of fishing gear at any given time. Clarification is also included in this draft notice which would ensure that a licence holder or operator be allowed to operate more than one Corner Inlet licence on the same day, but only if certain conditions are met to ensure separation of fishing operations and catch (gear removal and fish landing and reporting requirements need to be completed completed before commencing fishing under a further licence). This draft Notice would replace the existing Fisheries (Corner Inlet Fishery) Notice 2020. |
| 7 | Relevant Statutory provision | Statutory consultation with stakeholders under Section 3A of the <i>Fisheries Act 1995</i> is required prior to the Minister or delegate making decisions related to Fisheries Notices. |
| 8 | Purpose/objectives/scope | To seek comment on the draft Fisheries (Further Corner Inlet fishery) Notice 2021. Objectives of the Notice are listed in the draft instrument. |
| 9 | Method | See flow chart on page 2. |
| 10 | Communication Plan | Comment will be sought as per above. The decision regarding a final Fisheries Notice will be communicated through the notice being published in the Victoria Government Gazette and published in the Age and on the VFA website. Letters informing key stakeholders of the decision regarding the Fisheries Notice will be sent to All 18 Corner Inlet Fishery Access Licence holders, Seafood Industry Victoria, Futurefish, VR Fish |
| 11 | Information provision | Stakeholders will be provided with a copy of the draft Fisheries Notice for consideration, along with a supporting letter explaining any key changes. |
| 12 | Resources/advice (inc. purchase of advice) | Internal resources of VFA. There may also be opportunity for discussion at Corner Inlet Fishery Management Plan Steering Committee meetings during the consultation period. |
| 13 | Output (documentation / implementation) | The Fisheries (Further Corner Inlet fishery) Notice 2021; letters to stakeholders; notices published in the <i>Victoria Government Gazette</i> ; the VFA website. |
| 14 | Publication of results of consultation | Any submissions received in relation to the consultation being conducted by VFA will be published on the VFA website. In making a submission, unless the person making the submission indicates to the contrary, they will be consenting to their submission, including their name, being published on the VFA website for 90 days or more from the conclusion of the consultative process. |

Consultation Plan prepared by: Approved

Lachlan Smith Dallas D'Silva

Policy Analyst Director Fisheries Management and Science

Date: 25/05/2021 Date: 25/05/2021