



Comment regarding Commercial snapper catch limit

Daryl Stewart

to:

Toby Jeavons/DSE/VICGOV1

28/09/2017 09:20 AM

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To VFA,

The treatment that commercial fishermen continue to received from Fisheries Victoria is nothing short of disgraceful. The introduction and continuation of snapper catch restrictions for inshore trawl operators only adds to the disgrace. The rights and license values of the inshore trawl fishery has been significantly reduced and the supply of fresh fish to the general public has been redirected to benefit only those with recreational fishing interests.

The recreational sector catches over five hundreds tons of snapper each year, yet the first sign that the commercial sector catches a small quantity (30 tons) in one year sends fisheries management into overdrive to restrict the fishery' development.

It has been said by fisheries management that snapper is considered a recreational species, but I fail to see anywhere in the Fisheries Act that refers to any species being specifically recreational or commercial.

The Fisheries (Commercial Snapper Catch Limit) Notice 2017 is not for the benefit of sustainability, is not supported by 'the Act' and serves no purpose other than further devalue the commercial sector.

The general public deserve access to fresh snapper too. The resource belongs to everyone not just recreational fishers, so remove the restrictions on inshore trawls and give everyone a chance to eat some fresh snapper.

Regards

Daryl Stewart

Inshore Trawl License holder