

Amelia Grant
Fishery Manager
Victorian Fisheries Authority
By email: amelia.grant@vfa.vic.gov.au

Dear Amelia,

VRFISH RESPONSE TO THE PROPOSED FISHERIES (RECREATIONAL ABALONE DAYS) NOTICE

Thank you for providing VRFish an opportunity to comment on the proposed Fisheries (Recreational Abalone Days) Notice 2019 ("Abalone Fisheries Notice") on behalf of Victoria's recreational fishing community.

The Abalone Fisheries Notice remains unchanged from previous years. On each occasion VRFish submits the Fisheries Notice is not responsive to the evolving needs and expectations of Victoria's recreational abalone fishers.

The proposed abalone days have not kept in step with changes in the community. Increasingly, people are becoming time poor and working flexible schedules, and as a result are choosing to pursue their fishing and time with their friends and family on weekdays outside of the standard weekend timeslot. Retaining the status quo abalone arrangements is restricting the recreational fishing sector to optimise the fishery.

VRFish will be consulting further with abalone recreational fishers on new ideas and innovations to optimise our recreational abalone fishery, provide input into the review of the Fisheries Regulations 2009 (Vic) and future revision of the Abalone Management Plan.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rob Loats'.

Rob Loats
Chair
Victorian Recreational Fishing Peak Body

16 September 2018

**Let's make fishing
better, for everyone.**