2020/21

Abalone TACC

Statutory Consultation Plan

# Contents

[2018/19 Abalone TACC 1](#_Toc495060659)

[Statutory Consultation Plan 1](#_Toc495060660)

[Contents 1](#_Toc495060661)

[Preamble 2](#_Toc495060662)

[Closing date for submissions 2](#_Toc495060663)

[flow chart of consultation 3](#_Toc495060664)

[consultation plan 4](#_Toc495060665)

# 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 only, being published on the Authority's website for 90 days from the conclusion of the consultative process.

## Closing date for submissions

The closing date for the receipt of submissions for consultation on the total allowable commercial catch (TACC) for each abalone fishery zone will be 10 working days after publication of the draft further abalone quota order (FAQO) and any associated fisheries notices.

Statutory consultation documents will be published on the VFA website following the TACC advisory forums with an expected completion date of 7 February 2020.

# flow chart of consultation

The Victorian Fisheries Authority (VFA) and stakeholders zonal attend total allowable commercial catch (TACC) forums.

Forum outcomes and written submissions form industry recommendation to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) VFA (as delegate to the Minister responsible for fisheries) regarding TACC and supporting Fisheries Notice(s).

CEO VFA releases the proposed Further Abalone Quota Order and supporting Fisheries Notice(s) for written comment to persons and organisations with relevant interests.

Written submissions and other relevant information considered by CEO VFA.

CEO VFA declares the Further Abalone Quota Order and supporting Fisheries Notice(s).

The VFA publishes the Further Abalone Quota Order and supporting Fisheries Notice(s) in the *Victoria Government Gazette.*

Fisheries Victoria writes to inform all licence and quota holders of its decision

The VFA publishes its decision on its website.

The VFA writes to inform all licence and quota holders of its decision.

# consultation plan

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. 1 | 1. Consultation Title | 1. 2020/21 Abalone TACC Setting Process | |
| 1. 2 | 1. Representative group/s being consulted | 1. ✓ Commercial wild-catch (Quota and licence holders, Western Abalone Divers Association, Eastern Zone Abalone Industry Association, Abalone Victoria [Central Zone] Ltd., Seafood Industry Victoria) 2. ✓ Recreational fishing (VRFish, Scuba Divers Federation of Victoria)   ✓ Aboriginal communities (The Federation of Victorian Traditional Owner Corporations, Eastern Maar Aboriginal Corporation, Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation, Gunditj Mirring Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation, Wathaurung Aboriginal Corporation)   1. ✓ Conservation interests (Environment Victoria, Victorian National Parks Association) | |
| 1. 3 | 1. Managing Officer | 1. Mark Asplin, Fishery Manager. | |
| 1. 4 | 1. Target Start Date | 1. 27 November 2019 | |
| 1. 5 | 1. Target End Date | 1. 7 February 2020 | |
| 1. 6 | 1. Background/ History | 1. The abalone fishery is one of Victoria's most valuable commercial fisheries.   The fishery has been managed under a system of quota controls since 1988. The TACC and the quantity of catch comprising an abalone quota unit is set for each quota period by a Further Abalone Quota Order published in the Victoria Government Gazette. Fisheries Notices that establish legal minimum lengths for relevant zones may also be required.   1. TACCs are set for blacklip abalone in the western, central and eastern zones and greenlip abalone in the western and central zones. 2. The next quota period extends from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021. | |
| 1. 7 | 1. Relevant Statutory provision | 1. Statutory consultation with stakeholders under Section 3A of the Fisheries Act 1995 is required prior to the Minister or delegate making decisions related to Further Abalone Quota Orders and Fisheries Notices. | |
| 1. 8 | 1. Purpose/objectives/scope | 1. To seek comment on the draft 2020/21 Further Abalone Quota Order and relevant Fisheries Notices. | |
| 1. 9 | 1. Method | 1. Initial consultation on the recommended TACC to inform the Further Abalone Quota Orders and Fisheries Notices is undertaken via three zonal TACC advisory forums attended by industry stakeholders, invited stakeholders and VFA management, science and enforcement staff. 2. Scheduled dates for these forums are: 3. Eastern Abalone Zone: 27 November 2019 4. Central Abalone Zone: 8 January 2020 5. Western Abalone Zone: 16 January 2020 6. Statutory consultation on the draft Further Abalone Quota Orders and Fisheries Notices is promoted via letters to the persons/groups noted in section 2 of this consultation plan and the departmental website. 7. The consultation period will extend for 10 working days following the release of the draft Further Abalone Quota Orders and Fisheries Notices. 8. All consultation is expected to be completed by no later than 7 February 2020. | |
| 1. 10 | 1. Communication Plan | 1. Decisions regarding Further Abalone Quota Orders and Fisheries Notices are communicated through notices published in the Victoria Government Gazette and the VFA website. 2. Letters informing stakeholders of decisions regarding Further Abalone Quota Orders and Fisheries Notices are sent to all identified stakeholder groups listed above. | |
| 1. 11 | 1. Information provision | 1. Stakeholders will be provided with a copy of the draft 2020/21 Further Abalone Quota Order and supporting Fisheries Notices. Other detailed information is presented in the zonal TACC forums and published on the VFA website. | |
| 1. 12 | 1. Resources/advice (inc. purchase of advice) | 1. Internal resources of VFA. | |
| 1. 13 | 1. Output (documentation / implementation) | 1. The 2020/21 Further Abalone Quota Order and supporting Fisheries Notices; letters to stakeholders; notices published in the Victoria Government Gazette; the departmental website; and a media release. | |
| 1. 14 | 1. Publication of results of consultation | 1. *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 only, being published on the VFA website for 90 days from the conclusion of the consultative process.* | |
| Consultation Plan prepared by:   1. Mark Asplin 2. Fishery Manager 3. Date: 29/10/2019 | | | Approved   1. Dallas D’Silva 2. Director Fisheries Management and Science 3. Date: 30/10/2019 |