

## Help preserve marine life around our reefs!

The removal of Barnacles, Shrimps, Snails Crabs, Coral, Abalone, Rock Lobster, Periwinkles, Limpets, Worms, Mussels and other bottom dwelling organisms may seem harmless, but it represents a loss of food for other species further up the food chain including many highly sought after recreational and commercial fish species.

Once removed, it is difficult for reef life to recover because their larvae cannot travel long distances to replenish depleted populations.

Sustainable fisheries, and the management of fish stocks in South Australia is a partnership with shared responsibility between industry, government and the community to help safeguard our fish stocks for future generations.



## More information

Other rules apply to fishing in South Australia and these rules can change from time to time.

For the latest information about the rules that apply to fishing in South Australia go to the PIRSA website [www.pir.sa.gov.au/fishing](http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/fishing) or call the 24 hour Fishwatch hotline on **1800 065 522**.

Information is also available through the free SA Recreational Fishing Guide app which is suitable for Apple, Windows and Android mobile devices and can be downloaded via [www.pir.sa.gov.au/recfishingapp](http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/recfishingapp)



This pamphlet is intended as a guide to fishing regulations in South Australia under the *Fisheries Management Act 2007*. It does not replace the Act and should not be relied upon as a legal document.

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# Protecting Intertidal Reefs in South Australia



## Intertidal reefs - fully protected in SA

A closure for the taking of all benthic (bottom dwelling) organisms from intertidal rocky reef areas applies to all coastal waters in South Australia.

### What are intertidal reefs and what does the closure mean?

Intertidal reefs are those rocky areas of our coastline extending up to the high tide mark.

The closure means that it is illegal to remove any bottom dwelling organisms, including Abalone, from any intertidal rocky reef in South Australia out to a depth of two metres.

**The closure only relates to rocky reefs and therefore does not include sand or beach areas.**

### Anatomy of the intertidal reef

Living in the intertidal reef areas is a diverse range of plants and animals dependent on the sea for their means of survival.

Barnacles and Tubeworms feed by filtering microscopic organisms from the water. Herbivores, such as Abalone, Limpets and Periwinkles, graze on seaweeds and other plants growing on the rocks.

Carnivores, such as the larger Molluscs (for example Whelks) and Crabs, hunt and scavenge for food.

Intertidal organisms are also dependent on the sea for their reproduction. Many of these organisms must shed their eggs or larvae into the sea to survive.

**These areas are fragile and are easily impacted by human activity.**

**To protect these areas it is an offence to remove bottom dwelling organisms from all intertidal rocky reef areas out to a depth of two metres throughout South Australia.**

