



Document ID: A6105566

20 December 2023

Error! Unknown document property name.

2 Hamra Avenue
West Beach SA

Error! Unknown document property name.

Error! Unknown document property name.

NOTICE TO BLUE CRAB FISHERY LICENCE HOLDERS

Public consultation on draft Management Plan for the South Australian Commercial Blue Crab fishery

Dear Licence holder

I write in relation to the release of a draft *Management Plan for the South Australian Commercial Blue Crab Fishery* ("the Management Plan" or "the Plan") for a statutory public consultation period of not less than two months, closing at 11.59pm on 3 March 2024.

It is proposed that the draft Management Plan will apply for a term of 10 years, replacing the current Management Plan which came into effect on 1 January 2018, and following an 18 month extension, expires 30 June 2024.

Consistent with section 49 of the *Fisheries Management Act 2007* (the Act), a review of the current Plan was conducted by members of the Blue Crab Fishery Management Plan Review Committee (BCFMPRC) which has been established by the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development under section 20 of the Act. This review concluded that the current Management Plan should be replaced.

A replacement draft Management Plan was subsequently prepared by the Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) on behalf of the Minister pursuant to section 44(1)(b) of the Act and in consultation with the BCFMPRC.

A report has also been prepared by PIRSA on behalf of the Minister pursuant to section 44(2) of the Act to accompany the draft Management Plan. The report provides an explanation of the purpose and effect of the draft Management Plan, and a summary of the relevant background and issues and the analysis and reasoning applied in its formulation.

Pursuant to section 44(3)(b) of the Act, and as delegate of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, I am releasing the draft Management Plan for public consultation.

Copies of the draft Management Plan and the report will be available for inspection at PIRSA at 2 Hamra Ave, West Beach SA 5024 during the consultation period during normal business hours.

I now refer the draft Plan and report to you and invite you as an interested person to make written submissions in relation to the draft Management Plan by **11.59pm 3 March 2024**.

Pursuant to Section 44(5) of the Act, if written submissions are made, a copy of those submissions must be made available for inspection by interested persons during ordinary business hours. You are advised that written submissions received relevant to the draft Management Plan will be made available for inspection at PIRSA at 2 Hamra Ave, West Beach SA 5024, during normal business hours on 5 and 6 March 2024.

A public hearing will also be held from 4pm on 6 March 2024, at PIRSA, 2 Hamra Ave, West Beach, in which interested persons may appear to be heard in relation to the draft Management Plan and the submissions.

The draft Management Plan and relevant report are available at, and feedback can be provided at the PIRSA website: pir.sa.gov.au/fishing-consultation

If you have any questions regarding the draft Management Plan or consultation process, please contact Sam Stone, Manager, Community Fisheries, on telephone (08) 8429 2101 or 0439 728 643 or email sam.stone@sa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Prof. Gavin BEGG
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE