

VCW Not Linked Trawl 2019 - amended 02/01/20

Conditions applying to this Fishing Permit

In addition to the conditions specified by sub section 32(5) of the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* (the Act), and the condition in sub section 42(2) to comply with any log book determination, and the condition to comply with any Direction under s41A in accordance with sub section 32(7A), the following conditions are specified for the purposes of sub section 32(6) sub paragraph (a)(i):

Note: Under sub section 32(8) these conditions may be varied, revoked or a further condition specified by written notice from AFMA.

Specifically, section 32(5)(a) of the Act provides that a Fishing Permit is granted subject to conditions that the holder must comply with any obligations imposed by the *Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery Management Plan 2003* in particular:

Section 45:	<i>Purpose of Part 7</i>
Section 46:	<i>General obligations</i>
Section 48:	<i>Obligations relating to carrying of fish</i>
Section 49:	<i>Obligations relating to unloading of fish of a quota species taken under State or Territory permit</i>
Section 50:	<i>Obligations relating to unloading of fish of a quota species before fishing under State or Territory permit</i>
Section 51:	<i>Obligations relating to areas in which holder can fish</i>
Section 52:	<i>Obligations relating to inspection of nominated boat</i>
Section 53:	<i>Obligations relating to disposal of fish landed from the fishery.</i>

By section 42B (2) of the Act, Regulations may prescribe conditions that apply to fishing concessions. Regulations have been prescribed in the *Fisheries Management Regulations 2019* (the Regulations) providing conditions that apply to this fishing concession in particular:

Regulation 33:	Nominated boat must be used on trip.
Regulation 37:	Concession holder to ensure that vessel monitoring system is fitted and operating.
Regulation 39:	Requirement to carry observer.
Regulation 40:	Concession holder to ensure provision for observer and equipment.
Regulation 41:	Concession holder to ensure observer is able to perform functions.
Regulation 43:	Fish to be disposed of to a fish receiver permit holder*
Regulation 44 - 65:	Catch limits.*
Regulation 66 - 68:	Fish processing during a trip.
Regulation 70:	No interaction with protected organism.
Regulation 71:	Reporting interaction with protected organism.
Regulation 72:	Requirements if protected organisms is injured by interaction.
Regulation 73:	Requirements if protected organisms killed by interaction.

* not applicable to some concessions

Definitions

Where mentioned in these conditions:

'Landed' means the act of having brought fish to land or shore.

'Electronic monitoring' means electronic monitoring equipment and peripheral equipment approved by AFMA, that can:

- i. record, store and transmit details of a vessel's position and activity; and
- ii. record, store and transmit details of the e-monitoring system's status; and
- iii. record (including visually) and store all fishing events.

Species limitations

1. The holder must not take any species of rock lobster (family Palinuridae) or abalone (family Haliotidae) in waters relevant to South Australia, Victoria or Tasmania unless taken under the authority of a State concession.

Finfish obligations

2. Under the *Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery Management Plan 2003* the holder must not take any tuna or tuna-like species as specified below:
 - a) Fish of the Family *Scombridae*, except fish of the Genera *Scomberomorus*, *Acanthocybium*, *Grammatorcynus* and *Rastrelliger* (commonly known as mackerels); and
 - b) Fish of the Families *Istiophoridae* (commonly known as marlins) and *Xiphiidae* (commonly known as billfish).
3. Any take of the following Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery quota species is to be taken in accordance with the *Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery Management Plan 2010*:
 - a) Albacore tuna (*Thunnus alalunga*)
 - b) Bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*)
 - c) Broadbill swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*)
 - d) Striped marlin (*Tetrapturus audax*)
 - e) Yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*).

Snapper

4.
 - (a) Except as provided in sub section 4(b), the holder must not take more than 200 kilograms of the species snapper (*Pagrus auratus*) per trip when fishing at any time during that trip in waters relevant to Victoria as defined in the Offshore Constitutional Settlement titled 'Arrangement between the Commonwealth and the State of Victoria in relation to the trawl fishery to be managed under Commonwealth Law in waters relevant to Victoria' dated 31 October 1997.

- (b) The limitation in sub section 4(a) does not apply where the holder is given prior approval from the South East Trawl Fishing Industry Association Limited (SETFIA) to take more than 200 kilograms of snapper (*Pagrus auratus*) in accordance with the arrangement between SETFIA and AFMA dated 6 February 2015.

Pink Ling

5.

- (a) The holder of this concession must not take more than 200 kg of pink ling east of longitude 147° East per trip.
- (b) The condition in subsection (1) does not apply to the holder if:
 - i. AFMA has provided the holder with written consent not to take any more than 25 per cent of their pink ling quota (caught or uncaught) in the area of the fishery east of longitude 147° East during a fishing year; or
 - ii. AFMA has been notified by SETFIA that the concession holder has entered into an agreement with SETFIA to take a specified amount of pink ling (*Genypterus blacodes*) east of Longitude 147° East during a fishing year.
- (c) Nothing in this condition permits a holder of a concession to take pink ling in excess of what they are entitled to under their pink ling quota SFR holdings.

6. If the holder conducts fishing east and west of the Longitude 147° East on the same trip all catches of pink ling will be deemed to have been taken from east of Longitude 147° East unless:

- (a) an AFMA observer is carried on the boat nominated to this concession; or
- (b) electronic monitoring equipment is installed and operating on the boat nominated to this concession.

7. If the holder is intending to fish for pink ling east and west of the Longitude 147° East on the same trip without electronic monitoring, before the boat nominated to this concession leaves port the holder must give the AFMA Observer Section at least 72 hours' notice of an intention to depart on a fishing trip, by telephone (02 6225 5506, or 0427 016 859) or by email: observers@afma.gov.au.

Note: Obligations on concession holders relevant to electronic monitoring are specified in Division 9A of the Act.

Blue warehou

8. If the holder catches more than 200 kilograms of blue warehou (*Seriolella brama*) in any shot, the holder must not fish within 3 nautical miles of the location at which the shot is hauled for a period of 24 hours.

Flathead

9. The holder must not take flathead less than 280 millimetres in length when measured from the point of the snout to the tip of the tail.

Shark obligations

10. The holder must not retain Harrison's dogfish (*Centrophorus harrissoni*), Endeavour dogfish (*C. moluccensis*), Southern dogfish (*C. zeehaani*) and greeneye spurdog (*Squalus chloroculus*). If any of these species are taken alive they must be returned to the water carefully and quickly.
11. Retained and/or landed school shark (*Galeorhinus galeus*) and gummy shark (*Mustelus antarcticus*) must exceed 450 millimetres when measured in a straight line from the middle of the posterior edge of the aftermost gill-slit to the ventral insertion of the caudal fin.
12. If any school shark (*Galeorhinus galeus*) are taken alive, they must be returned to the water alive.
13. The holder must not carry or possess any shark (Class *Chondrichthyes*) dorsal, pectoral, caudal pelvic or anal fins on board the boat nominated to this concession that are not attached to the shark's carcass.

Concurrent conditions

14. This concession must only be used in conjunction with another concession held by the same holder namely a Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery (SESSF) Quota Statutory Fishing Right or a fishing concession that allows the take of quota species ("that other concession") such that:
 - (a) The conditions of that other concession apply (to the extent those conditions are not inconsistent and are capable of doing so) as conditions of this concession.
 - (b) A breach, suspension or cancellation of that other concession is a breach, suspension or cancellation of this concession.
 - (c) The conditions of this concession apply (to the extent these conditions are not inconsistent and are capable of doing so) as conditions of that other concession while it is being used in conjunction with this concession.
 - (d) A breach, suspension or cancellation of this concession is a breach, suspension or cancellation of that other concession.

Quota balancing obligations

15. The holder must not be over quota for any quota species.
16. The holder is not considered to be over quota for a species if, within 28 days of landing an amount (by weight) in excess of their uncaught quota recorded in the Register, the holder acquires a further amount of quota for that species which is equal to or greater than the excess.
17. If the holder is over quota for any quota species AFMA may suspend this concession in accordance with this condition, pursuant to section 38(1)(c) of the. In deciding whether to suspend or lift the suspension of this concession AFMA must take account of any written explanation from the holder detailing any exceptional circumstances as to why the holder was over quota.

18. Any dealing in a quota Statutory Fishing Right by the holder of a boat Statutory Fishing Right or Fishing Permit for the purpose of complying with this condition must be lodged with AFMA duly executed and in the form approved by AFMA, on or before the 28th day from which the excess quota species was landed. For the purpose of determining if the holder is over quota under this condition, any acquisition of quota for a species may only be deemed to have been acquired up to 28 days prior to the date of registration of that acquisition of that quota species.
19. If this concession is suspended, unless the holder has acquired and AFMA has then recorded in the Register (but may not deem) an amount of uncaught quota for which the holder is over quota, this concession may, under this condition, again be suspended upon expiration of the earlier suspension.

In these conditions:

Acquire means receiving statutory fishing rights by registering a dealing by which an amount of statutory fishing rights are permanently or seasonally transferred to the holder; and **acquisition** has a comparable meaning.

Quota species has the same meaning as quota species in the applicable management plan for which this concession has been granted and established under the Act.

Over quota means when the holder lands an amount of quota species in excess of the available uncaught amount recorded for that species in the holder's name on the Register.

Register means the Register of Statutory Fishing Rights kept by AFMA pursuant to section 44 of the Act.

Observer/Electronic monitoring obligations

20. When directed by AFMA the holder must:

- (a) give the AFMA Observer Section at least 72 hours' notice of an intention to depart on a fishing trip by telephone (02 6225 5506, or 0427 016 859) or by email: observers@afma.gov.au; and
- (b) ensure that the boat does not leave port until:
 - i. AFMA has notified the holder, or a person acting on behalf of the holder, whether it directs that an observer is to be carried on the boat; and
 - ii. if the boat is equipped with electronic monitoring equipment, an electronic monitoring function test has been completed, AFMA has been notified of the result of the test, and AFMA has notified the holder, or a person acting on behalf of the holder, that it is satisfied that the equipment is working correctly.
- (c) ensure that electronic monitoring equipment is installed and operating on the boat nominated to this concession

Note 1: These conditions are in addition to the conditions concerning the taking of observers that are prescribed in the Regulations. Those conditions are in Part 7, Division 5, regulations 38 to 41.

Note 2: AFMA may direct under the Regulations that an observer be carried, even if electronic

monitoring equipment is installed and is to be operated.

Agent obligations

21. The holder accepts concurrent liability for all conduct by its servants or agents infringing the Act (or the Regulations, Management Plans or concession conditions made by virtue of that Act) who may be engaged by the holder to conduct on the holder's behalf activity under this concession.
22. Liability for the conduct of the holder's servants or agents arises, even if the conduct may be, or actually is, beyond the scope of the servant or agent's actual or apparent authority where it is a breach that occurs during the conduct of activity authorised by this concession.
23. The holder may avoid concurrent liability for conduct whilst conducting activity under this concession if, but only if, the holder can establish that the infringing conduct could not possibly have been prevented by any action or precaution that the holder might have reasonably taken.
24. The giving of an indemnity by the servant or agent to the holder for any penalties incurred by the holder, for infringing conduct by the servant or agent is not, of itself, a reasonable precaution to prevent infringing conduct.
25. The holder must ensure the master of the boat fishing under the authority of this concession is nominated as an authorised agent for the holder **before** any fishing operation may take place.
 - a) The holder must ensure the authorised agent signing the determined *Daily Fishing logbook page was the master of the boat (skipper) at the time the recorded fishing operation took place.
 - b) The holder may sign the determined *Daily Fishing logbook page if they were the master of the boat (skipper) when the recorded fishing operation took place.
 - c) If more than one master of the boat is on board the boat during the fishing trip, each master must complete and sign a separate determined *Daily Fishing logbook page for each of the fishing operations for which they had control over.

**These instructions are for all determined Daily Fishing Logs including e-Logs.*

Direction obligations

26. The holder must comply with any Direction that fishing is not to be engaged in in the fishery, or a particular part of the fishery or during a particular period or periods made under sub section 41A of the Act.

Temporary orders obligations

27. The holder must comply with any Temporary Order made under sub section 43(2) of the Act and to the extent that any provision herein is inconsistent with such Temporary Order sub section 43(9) provides that the provision herein is overridden by the Temporary Order until the Temporary Order ceases to have effect.

Navigating in closed zones

28. AFMA may suspend this concession in accordance with this condition, pursuant to section 38(1)(c) of the Act, if it reasonably appears by VMS transmission from the nominated boat, that there is a failure by that boat while in a closed zone for the purposes of regulation 85 of the Regulations, to meet the exempting provisions of regulations 86(2), or (3). Such suspension will then continue until the concession holder provides a full written explanation, to the satisfaction of the delegate responsible for issuing that suspension, of the lawful reason for the boat being in that closed zone at that time, or until the expiration of the suspension under sub regulation 110(2); whichever is the earlier.

Area limitation

29. The holder must not fish under this concession outside the area of waters described in this document.

Gear limitations

30. This concession authorises the use of the following gear only:

- a) Mid-water trawl, the mesh size of which must not be less than 90 millimetres at any part
- b) Demersal otter trawl when fishing for prawns: the mesh size of which must not be less than 40 millimetres and not greater than 60 millimetres at any part
- c) Demersal otter trawl when fishing for fish other than prawns:
 - i. Mesh size in the wings and the net mouth (shoulders, belly and veranda) not less than 115 millimetres (4 ½ inch).
 - ii. A mesh size of:
 - At least 90 millimetres single twine mesh; or
 - Double twine mesh of at least 102 millimetres (4 inch) or greater; or
 - At least 90 millimetres double twine mesh with one or more bycatch reduction devices
- d) Danish seine trawl, with a mesh size of not less than 38 millimetres at any part, or 75 millimetres in the codend when targeting flathead; and
- e) Pair trawling, the mesh size of which must not be less than 90 millimetres at any part.

In this condition, a bycatch reduction device means a device that allows fish and other animals to escape immediately after being taken in the net and is constructed as follows:

- i. a single large square mesh (of at least 90 millimetres) panel in the upper side of the codend bag (of minimum dimensions 15 bars X 20 bars); or
 - ii. a single large rotated mesh (of at least 90 millimetres) panel (called a T90) in the upper side of the codend bag (of minimum dimensions 15 meshes X 18 meshes).
31. For the purposes of fishing under this concession using a net(s), a mesh in a net must be measured in the following way:
- a) before a measurement is taken, the part of the net to be measured must be soaked in water for at least 5 minutes;
 - b) immediately after the net has been soaked the part of the net to be measured must be suspended vertically. The distance between the inside edge of the knot and the inside edge of the knot in the diagonally opposite corner of the mesh immediately above the first knot must be measured;
 - c) the measurement must be rounded to the nearest 1.6 millimetres; and
 - d) the average of the 10 measurements must be taken as the size of the mesh in the net.

Ban on discards of biological material when fishing in high risk seabird Areas

32. From 1 November 2019, when fishing south of latitude 39 degrees South and west of longitude 147 degrees East during daylight hours, the concession holder must not, except where authorised by AFMA to do so, discharge clearly visible biological material while fishing gear is in the water.
33. From 1 July 2020, when fishing south of latitude 38 degrees South during daylight hours, the concession holder must not, except where authorised by AFMA to do so, discharge clearly visible biological material while fishing gear is in the water.

Definitions

Daylight Hours: means the hours of light between the times of nautical dusk and nautical dawn

Authorised: means approval, in writing, from the Australian Fisheries Management Authority

Biological Material: means

- whole fish, or any fish based biological material not being retained except fish oil or small hard parts such as scales or fins.
- shark, ray or TEP species which are alive and have a reasonable likelihood of post capture survival are not considered biological material for the purposes of this document and may be returned to the water quickly and carefully.

Note: For the purposes of this condition, concessions holders will only be authorised to discharge biological material if the holder can demonstrate to the satisfaction of AFMA that the boat has mitigation techniques that allow discarding of biological material, while gear is in the water, in a way that does not cause seabird interactions.

Seabird management plan

34. The holder must not use the nominated boat to fish using demersal otter trawl or midwater trawl methods unless a seabird management plan for the boat has been approved by AFMA.

35. This concession may be suspended without further notice to the holder if the nominated boat departs on a fishing trip and a seabird management plan for the boat has not been approved by AFMA.

36. To avoid interactions with seabirds, the seabird management plan must contain measures:

- (a) to, where appropriate, require the holder to use physical mitigation devices in a particular manner to avoid interactions with seabirds; and
- (b) to minimise and avoid where possible, the discharge of biological material during daylight hours whilst fishing gear is in the water, to avoid interactions with seabirds***.

*** Unless fishing occurs in areas described in condition 33 and 34 of this concession, where discharge of biological material is prohibited.

- (c) Where a holder has received written authorisation from AFMA to allow for the discharge of biological material during daylight hours whilst fishing gear is in the water, in the areas described in condition 33 and 34 of this concession, a copy of the exemption must be carried with the SMP.

37. For each fishing trip the holder must:

- (a) carry a copy of the AFMA approved seabird management plan on the nominated boat
- (b) strictly comply with the measures and requirements contained in the seabird management plan
- (c) ensure each member of the crew on board the nominated boat is briefed on the content of the seabird management plan before each fishing trip; and
- (d) ensure each member of the crew on board the nominated boat complies with the measures and requirements of the seabird management plan.

Other obligations

38. The holder must provide AFMA with a current emergency contact facility at all times when a nominated boat is being used under this concession.

39. An emergency contact facility must enable AFMA to contact the boat immediately and directly at any time when the boat is at sea, including in the event of an emergency.

40. AFMA must be notified immediately of any change in contact details, by fax sent to (02) 6225 5440 or by email to licensing@afma.gov.au <<mailto:licensing@afma.gov.au>> and the boat must not depart on a fishing trip unless AFMA has been so notified of the change in contact details.

Note: The emergency contact facility may take the form of a satellite phone number, or skipper or crew member's mobile phone number - any number that may be used by AFMA to contact the boat while it is at sea at any time, including in the event of an emergency.

Mandatory AFMA supplied VMS

Direction to Fit

41. When directed by AFMA in writing, the concession holder (or a person acting on the holder's behalf) must;
- (a) make available, within 14 days of the date of the written direction, the boat nominated to this concession for the purposes of installation of an AFMA Vessel Monitoring System unit (AFMA VMS unit) by an AFMA approved technician, and
 - (b) provide all reasonable assistance to the AFMA approved technician including (but not limited to);
 - i. the provision of an un-interrupted connection to the boat's main power source, and
 - ii. an appropriate position for the mounting of the AFMA VMS unit.
42. When directed by AFMA in writing, the concession holder (or a person acting on the holder's behalf) must;
- a) make available, within 14 days of the date of the direction, the boat nominated to this concession for the purposes of removal of the AFMA VMS unit by an AFMA approved technician, and
 - b) provide all reasonable assistance to the AFMA approved technician.

Concession holder must not interfere with AFMA VMS Unit

43. The concession holder (or a person acting on the holder's behalf) must not interfere, or attempt to interfere, with the operation of the AFMA VMS Unit.

Definitions

AFMA VMS Unit means a Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) unit wholly owned by AFMA, marked with AFMA identifications and supplied by AFMA and fitted by an AFMA approved technician.

Interfere - for the purposes of these conditions 'interfere' includes, but is not limited to;

- Physical obstruction or removal of the AFMA VMS unit, or
- Deliberately disconnecting or otherwise interfering with the power supply to the AFMA VMS unit, or
- Deliberate physical interference with the casing or any external or internal components of the AFMA VMS unit.

Notes

Must Make boat available

Where the boat is not made available in accordance with condition 41 (a) or 42 (a), AFMA may suspend this concession pursuant to section 38(1)(c) of the Act.

Must maintain VMS Unit

Regardless of AFMA's decision to fit an AFMA VMS unit,

the holder must continue to maintain a VMS unit in accordance with regulation 37 of the Regulations.

Remains the property of AFMA *At all times the AFMA VMS unit remains the sole property of AFMA. The holder is liable for any costs incurred as a result of loss or damage to the unit.*

Handling and treatment of Bycatch

44. The concession holder (or a person acting on the holder's behalf) must not mistreat bycatch.

Definitions

Mistreat means *taking, or failing to take, any reasonable action or actions, which results, or is likely to result, in the;*

- i. death of, or*
- ii. injury to, or*
- iii. causing of physiological stress to any bycatch.*

Bycatch means *any species that physically interact with fishing vessels and/or fishing gear (including auxiliary equipment) and which are not usually kept by commercial fishers. **Bycatch** species may include fish, crustaceans, sharks, molluscs, marine mammals, reptiles and birds.*

Bycatch includes *listed protected species under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.*

Notes: For the purposes of this condition 'mistreat' does not include the taking, or failing to take, action where it is reasonably necessary to take, or not take, the action;

- to ensure the safety of the boat and or its crew, or
- to comply with the requirements of any AFMA approved bycatch management plan(s) (these may include Seabird Management Plans, Vessel Management Plans etc.).

Requirement to use electronic logbooks (e-log)

45. Where a concession holder has fished for fifty (50) days or more in the current or previous season; they must complete and submit the information contained in in the Eastern Finfish Trawl Daily Fishing Log (EFT01B or EFT01C) using an electronic logbook (e-log) transmission that complies with clauses 19 and 20 of the *Logbooks for Fisheries Determination 2017*.