

FI401

FISH RESOURCES MANAGEMENT ACT 1994
PROHIBITION ON FISHING FOR DEMERSAL FINFISH FROM CHARTER BOATS
(WEST COAST REGION) ORDER 2023
Order No.1 of 2023

[A4455]

Made by the Minister under section 43.

1. Citation

This order may be cited as the *Prohibition on Fishing for Demersal Finfish from Charter Boats (West Coast Region) Order 2023*.

2. Commencement

This order commences operation on 1 July 2023.

3. Interpretation

In this order—

- charter boat* has the same meaning as in the regulations;
- demersal finfish* has the same meaning as in the regulations;
- quota tag* means a lockable plastic tag issued by the CEO for a quota period;
- quota period* means the 12-month period ending on 30 June in each year;
- quota species* means a demersal finfish of a species listed in Schedule 1 to this Order;
- securely attached* means that a quota tag has been inserted through the mouth and gill slit of a quota species and with the locking mechanism of the tag engaged.

4. Prohibition on fishing for demersal finfish

The master of a charter boat, while conducting a fishing tour in the West Coast Region, must not fish, or allow a person on the boat to fish, for demersal finfish.

5. Exception

Clause 4 does not apply where the master of a charter boat—

- (a) is in possession of unused quota tags; or
- (b) is undertaking a charter tour in the Abrolhos Islands Fish Habitat Protection Area, under the authority of a restricted fishing tour operator's licence.

6. Operational requirements for excepted persons

(1) The master of a charter boat conducting a fishing tour must ensure that, where a quota species is taken on a fishing tour, the quota species is either—

- (a) retained, and with a quota tag being immediately and securely attached to the quota species; or
- (b) immediately returned to its natural environment in a way that causes the least possible injury, and by the use of a release weight where necessary.

(2) Where a quota species is retained, the master must—

- (a) ensure the quota tag remains securely attached until—
 - (i) the quota species has been landed; or
 - (ii) the quota species has been filleted, in which case the quota tag must be removed and stored with the fillets until they have been landed or consumed, and
- (b) write the serial number of—
 - (i) each securely attached quota tag; and
 - (ii) each quota tag removed from a filleted quota species,in the comments field of the approved daily statutory return—
 - (I) prior to the quota species being landed, where the trip is a day trip; or
 - (II) prior to midnight of the day the quota species was taken, where the trip involves an overnight stay.

SCHEDULE 1

Quota species

Cod, Breaksea (*Epinephelides armatus*)
Dhufish, West Australian (*Glaucosoma hebraicum*)
Groper, Baldchin (*Choerodon rubescens*)
Snapper (Pink Snapper) (*Chrysophrys auratus*)

Dated 19th of June 2023.

Hon. DON PUNCH, MLA, Minister for Fisheries.