



15 October 2019

Dear TRL Fishery Licence Holder

Torres Strait Tropical Rock Lobster Fishery Management Plan

I am writing to inform you that, on 16 September 2019, Senator the Hon Jonathon Duniam, Assistant Minister for Forestry and Fisheries, allocated quota units in the Torres Strait Tropical Rock Lobster Fishery (TRL Fishery) in accordance with the *Torres Strait Fisheries (Quotas for Tropical Rock Lobster (Kaiar)) Management Plan 2018* (the Plan). In making this decision, Assistant Minister Duniam has allocated:

- 662,016 quota units to the Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA) comprising:
 - 562,000 to hold for the benefit of the traditional inhabitant sector; and
 - 100,016 for the TVH licences it holds.
- 337,981 quota units to the remaining TVH principal licence holders.

Further details on quota unit holdings can be found in the Torres Strait Public Licence Register on the PZJA website at www.pzja.gov.au

From 1 December 2019, the start of the next fishing season, the TRL Fishery will operate under a quota management system. In addition to prescribing the quota allocation process, the Plan allows for the Commonwealth Minister to determine a total allowable catch (TAC) before the start of each fishing season (and increase the TAC subject to catch sharing arrangements with PNG) and for quota units to be traded, either for a single fishing season or permanently. The Plan also provides a formula for calculating the kilogram value of a quota unit.

A copy of the Plan and the Guide to the Plan, as well as links to information about quota management systems, can be found on the PZJA website at www.pzja.gov.au

AFMA will write to all TRL Fishery licence holders before the start of the next fishing season to provide more information concerning the TAC and moon-tide hookah closures.

If you have any questions regarding the Plan, or matters relating to the TRL Fishery, please contact the AFMA Thursday Island office on 07 4069 1990 or FisheriesTI@afma.gov.au. If you would like to be informed of future management arrangements by email or SMS, please contact the AFMA Thursday Island office to update your contact details.

Yours sincerely

Selina Stoute
Manager, Torres Strait Fisheries