



Dear Torres Strait Fish Receiver Licence Holder,

**Notification of variation of licence conditions to enable a black teatfish trial opening in 2022**

I am writing to inform you that I, as a delegate of the Protected Zone Joint Authority (PZJA), under section 22 of the *Torres Strait Fisheries Act 1984*, have varied the conditions of your fish receiver licence for the Torres Strait Beche-de-mer Fishery to enable a trial opening of fishing for black teatfish to commence on 9 May 2022.

On 11 February 2022, the PZJA agreed to another trial opening of the fishery for black teatfish on 9 May 2022 subject to a 20 tonnes Total Allowable Catch (TAC) and requirement of daily landing and daily reporting of catch through the mandatory fish receiver system. The PZJA has set the commencement date for the opening to be 9 May 2022 and ending on the **TAC Date**. The **TAC Date** is the day that the PZJA or its delegate determines as the last day of fishing based on its reasonable belief that the TAC will be reached, in order to avoid an overcatch of the TAC.

Please note that black teatfish is listed in Appendix II of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and is subject to a 20 tonnes catch and export limit imposed through the Wildlife Trade Operation approval for the fishery. An overcatch of the TAC would therefore have significant implications on the ability to export the species and, potentially, on future openings of the fishery.

The new conditions that will apply to your licence are enclosed and are as follows:

- From 9 May 2022 you must electronically send an image of the white original copy of the completed TDB02 Catch Disposal Record (CDR) pages within the same day of receiving catches of black teatfish. You can send the image using a smart phone or other electronic devices, as a photograph via:
  - Email: [blackteatfish@afma.gov.au](mailto:blackteatfish@afma.gov.au); or
  - SMS: 0437 825 291; or
  - Fax: 07 4069 1277
- If you submit an image of the CDR page, you are still required to return to AFMA a hard copy of the white original copy of the completed CDR page within three (3) days of receiving the catch.



**Australian Government**

**Australian Fisheries Management Authority**

- A holder of a fish receiver licence is not permitted to receive black teatfish past the **TAC Date**.

The new conditions are in addition to the existing conditions of your fish receiver licence which you must continue to comply with.

A holder of a TIB licence is required to land catches of black teatfish to a licenced fish receiver within the same day those species are caught.

If you require any further information regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Danait Ghebrezgabhier, A/g Manager, Torres Strait Fisheries on 07 4069 1990 or by email at [FisheriesTI@afma.gov.au](mailto:FisheriesTI@afma.gov.au).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Anna Willock'.

19 April 2022

Anna Willock

Deputy Chief Executive Officer, PZJA Delegate

Australian Fisheries Management Authority

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**Australian Government**

**Australian Fisheries Management Authority**

***Enclosure 1 – Variation of fish receiver licence conditions to add NEW daily reporting conditions during the black teatfish opening in 2022.***

**Completing TDB02 Catch Disposal Record (CDR) during the black teatfish opening in 2022**

From 9 May 2022 until a Total Allowable Catch Date (**TAC Date**) for black teatfish is determined by the PZJA or its delegate, you must send AFMA electronically to **email:**

**blackteatfish@afma.gov.au** or **SMS: 0437 825 291** or **Fax: 07 4069 1277**, an image of the white original copy of the completed TDB02 Catch Disposal Record pages **within the same day** of receiving catches of black teatfish.

*Note: the image of the white original copy can be sent to AFMA, using a smart phone or other electronic devices, as a photograph via the mobile number: 0437825291. Alternatively, the image can be emailed to AFMA via email address: blackteatfish@afma.gov.au or faxed to: 07 4069 1277.*

A holder of a fish receiver licence is not permitted to receive black teatfish past the **TAC date**.