

Recreational Sea Fishing **GUIDE • 2025-26**

1 November 2025 - 31 October 2026





In recognition of the deep history and culture of this Island, we would like to acknowledge and pay our respects to Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past and present Custodians of Land and Sea Country.

For information about Aboriginal fishing rules, please see page 6.

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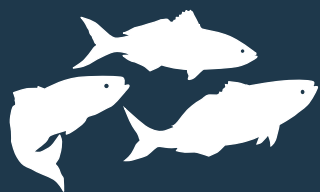
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Fishcare

TASMANIA

Promoting Responsible Recreational Fishing

Fishing Clinics

Community Events and Shows

Schools Programs

See page 94 for Fishcare contact details.

**Volunteer
with us!**



What type of fishing needs a licence?

You need a licence for the following types of recreational sea fishing:

- abalone;
- rock lobster dive;*
- rock lobster pot;*
- rock lobster ring;*
- scallop;
- graball net;
- mullet net;
- beach seine net; and
- set line (includes longline and dropline).

** It is a requirement of this licence that you report your fishing details and your catch.*

You don't need a licence for rod and line fishing in marine waters, but an Inland Fisheries Licence is required for any fishing in inland waters, including some river mouths and estuaries. See page 89.

Licence Fees

From 1 November 2025 to 31 October 2026, the following costs apply:

Standard Licence:

\$66.85 – first licence (base fee of \$57.30 plus \$9.55 for first licence).
Each additional licence type - **\$9.55**.

Concession Licence: Commonwealth Pension, DVA Concession, Government Seniors cardholders and persons under 16. Health Care cardholders are not eligible.

\$38.20 – first licence (base fee of \$28.65 plus \$9.55 for first licence).
Each additional licence type - **\$9.55**.

Additional Licence:

\$9.55 – add a licence type plus the cost of the new licence.

Where do I buy or renew a licence?

Fishing licences are available from Service Tasmania or online at: **fishing.tas.gov.au/licence**.

When will my licence expire?

The recreational licensing year begins on 1 November each year. Licences are valid from the date of issue to 31 October.

Age Restrictions

You must be at least 10 years old to hold a rock lobster, abalone, scallop, graball net, mullet net or set line licence.

Check your licence online

To check your existing licences or your licence number go to: **fishing.tas.gov.au/licence**.

Aboriginal Fishers

Recreational fishing rules apply to both recreational and Aboriginal fishers. If you are an Aboriginal person engaged in an Aboriginal fishing activity, you do not have to hold a fishing licence, but you must follow all other fisheries rules, except:

- you are not required to report rock lobster catch (pg. 54),
- you are not required to use specific abalone tools (pg. 43), and
- you may take and possess limpets and elephant snails.

If you wish to engage in an Aboriginal fishing activity which is not permitted under fisheries rules, you may apply for a permit.

Unique Identifying Code (UIC)

If using pots, caufs, unattended rings, gillnets or set lines, you must mark and display a unique identifying code (UIC) on your gear. Further details about Aboriginal fishing and how to apply for a UIC are available at

fishing.tas.gov.au/community/aboriginal-fishing.

Gear marking

Marker Buoys

Marker buoys must be:

- at least 195 mm in diameter;
- marked in figures not less than 70mm high and 12 mm wide; and
- specifically designed as a buoy and float on the surface of the water.

Additional buoys may be used for visibility.



A marker buoy with licence number

Marking Your Gear

You will be issued with a unique licence number that you can use in future years. Mark a gear code and this number on your buoy for:

- rock lobster pots, caufs and unattended rings (see pages 57 and 58);
- graball and mullet nets (page 35); and
- set lines (page 32).

Species	Season
Rock lobster and giant crab (see map on page 50) 	Waters outside the East Coast Stock Rebuilding Zone (ECSRZ) Open from 1 November 2025. East Coast Stock Rebuilding Zone Open from 6 December 2025. Eastern Region (including ECSRZ) Closed from 1 May 2026. Western Region (Females) Closed from 1 May 2026. Western Region (Males) Closed from 1 September 2026.
Scallops 	2026: Open from 28 March to 31 July inclusive. The D'Entrecasteaux Channel remains closed.
Squid / Calamari (see maps on page 28) 	South-East South of Lemon Rock to Whale Head (including Coles Bay and Great Oyster Bay). Closed from 15 October to 14 November inclusive in 2025 and 2026. North Coast North of Cape Grim and Cape Naturaliste. Closed from 1 September to 31 October inclusive in 2025 and 2026.
Striped trumpeter 	Closed from 1 September to 31 October inclusive each year.
Banded morwong 	Closed from 1 March to 30 April inclusive each year.
Garfish 	Northern Waters North of Cape Grim and Cape Naturaliste. 2026: Closed from 15 January to 14 February. Southern Waters (all other waters) 2025: Closed from 15 November to 14 December.

For changes to published fishing seasons see fishing.tas.gov.au or the *Fishing Tas* app.

Get the **NEW** *Fishing Tas* app

- Fish ID guide to 150+ species
- Maps for wherever you fish
- Quick access to the latest rules

Use the app to
**report your
rock lobster
catch**



Download today!



Catch Limits Explained

Bag limit

The maximum number of a particular type of fish you can take in any one day.



Possession limit

The maximum number of a particular type of fish you as an individual fisher can have at any one time in Tasmania. Some possession limits apply to a specified area (e.g. on-water possession limits, which apply when on State waters and some islands where specified).



Boat limit

The maximum number of a particular type of fish that can be possessed in one boat on any one day. Personal daily bag and possession limits still apply.



Catch limits are a combined total for all species in a fish group.

For example

Australian salmon



15



30



No boat limit

Don't Highgrade Your Catch

- High grading your catch is not allowed. You can't bring **more than your daily bag limit** to the boat or shore to sort your catch and choose what you want to keep.
- Fish are regarded as **taken** and in your possession as soon as collected or caught.
- Count and measure your catch as you go to keep within catch limits.

Bag, Possession and Size Limits

Fish Group - Scalefish					Minimum Size
Baitfish (anchovy, sprat, sardine, hardyhead)		50	100	-	-
Barracouta		15	30	-	-
Boarfish, Longsnout		2	4	-	45 cm
Bream (marine waters)		5	10	-	25 cm
Cod		15	30	-	-
Elephantfish		2	4	-	-
Flathead, Sand*	D'Entrecasteaux Channel, Derwent River, Frederick Henry and Norfolk Bays	2	2 ^	-	Legal size between 35-40 cm
	Eastern Zone	5	5 ^	-	
	Northern/Western Zone	10	10	-	
	King and Flinders Islands	10	10	-	35 cm
	^ a possession limit of 10 applies when on land, regardless of the zone you fished in (see page 16)				
Flathead, Tiger*		20	30	-	32 cm
*Combined limits apply for Sand and Tiger Flathead		20	30		
Flathead, Bluespotted and Rock		5 (Only 1 over 60 cm)	10	-	40 cm
Flounder		15	30	-	25 cm
Garfish		15	30	-	25 cm
Gurnard and Ocean Perch		15	30	-	-
Kingfish, Yellowtail		5	10	-	45 cm
Leatherjacket		10	20	-	20 cm
Mackerel and Redbait		30	60	-	-
Morwong, Banded		2	4	-	Legal size between 36-46 cm

Bag, Possession and Size Limits

Fish Group - Scalefish					Minimum Size
Morwong, Jackass and Other		10	20	30 (jackass only)	25 cm
Mullet		15	30	-	25 cm
Pike, Longfin		15	30	-	-
Salmon, Atlantic (marine waters)		12	24	-	-
Salmon, Australian		15	30	-	20 cm
Snapper		5	10	-	30 cm
Snook		5	10	-	-
Squid - Southern Calamari		10	20	-	-
Squid - Goulds		15	30	-	-
Swordfish or Marlin		1	1	2	-
Tailor		5	10	-	-
Trevalla, Blue-eye		5	10	25	-
Trevally, Silver		10	20	-	20 cm
Trout (marine waters)		12	24	-	-
Trumpeter, Bastard	Eastern region	2	10	10	42 cm
	Western region	5	10	15	
Trumpeter, Striped	Eastern region	2	8	8	55 cm
	Western region	4	8	12	
Tuna, Bluefin, Yellowfin, Bigeye		2	2	4 (only 2 over 1.5m)	-
Tuna, Albacore		5	10	-	-
Tuna, Skipjack		10	20	-	-
Warehou, Blue and Silver		10	20	30 (blue only)	25 cm
Whiting, King George		5	10	-	35 cm
Whiting, Other		15	30	-	-
Wrasse		5	10	-	30 cm
Other fish not listed, except ornamental and protected species		5	10	-	-

Bag, Possession and Size Limits

Fish Group - Shark				Minimum Size
Shark, Mako and Blue	1	2	2	-
Shark, School and Gummy	2	2	see below*	75 cm or 45 cm headed & tailed
Sharks and Rays, Other, except elephantfish	2	4	see below*	-
* Shark boat limit (all species combined except elephantfish)			5	

Fish Group - Other				Minimum Size
Abalone	10	20	-	Blacklip: Arthur River east to Musselroe Point: 120mm Other waters: 138mm Greenlip: Montagu east to Bridport: 132mm Other waters: 145mm
Octopus	5	10	-	-
Rock lobster	Eastern Region	2	4 ^	10
	Western Region	5	10	25
	Northern Bass Strait	2	4 ^	10
	^ A possession limit of 10 applies when on mainland Tasmania, Flinders, Cape Barren or Bruny Islands (see page 53)			Northern Zone male: 110 mm female: 120 mm Southern Zone male: 110 mm female: 105 mm
Scallops	50	50 (on water) 100 (on land)	250	Queen and Commercial: 100mm, Doughboy: 80mm
Giant Crab	1	1	-	male: 140 mm female: 150 mm
Inshore Crabs	15	30	-	-
Prawns	50	100	-	-
Bait Invertebrates (soldier crabs, burrowing shrimp, marine worms)	50	100	-	-

How to Report Illegal Fishing

Fishwatch is a hotline to Tasmania Police for reporting illegal fishing activities. Only call Fishwatch if you're reporting illegal fishing.

For all other enquiries or reports, refer to page 95 of this guide.

If in doubt, you can email **fishing.enquiries@nre.tas.gov.au** or call Recreational Sea Fishing Enquiries on **1300 720 647** during business hours.

What details should you report?

To report illegal fishing call Fishwatch on **0427 655 557**.

Helpful details include:

- The time and location of the offence;
- Fishing gear used, including licence or buoy numbers;
- Car/boat registration numbers or descriptions; and
- Names or descriptions of person/s involved.

Information can be given anonymously.

Buying or Selling Recreational Fish is Illegal

You are not allowed to sell, buy, barter or raffle recreationally caught fish. Both the seller and purchaser are liable for prosecution and heavy fines may apply. Offenders may face confiscation of boats and fishing gear and be prevented from holding a fishing licence in the future.

Can I Give Fish Away?

You are allowed to give away fish that you have caught, but make sure the receiver understands the possession limits for that species. Proof of purchase is required if you have fish in excess of the possession limit.



Give sand flathead a break with **mixed bag fishing**

Spread the pressure. Enjoy the variety. Support recovery.



Find out how at

fishing.tas.gov.au/mixed-bag-fishing

Licence: No licence is required for rod and line fishing in marine waters. A licence is required to use a gillnet, a beach seine net or a set line. You must be 10 years or older to hold a gillnet or set line licence.

Size limits: see pages 16-28

Catch limits: see pages 16-28

Season: Seasons apply for striped trumpeter, banded morwong, southern garfish, squid and calamari (see page 7)

Eating scalefish safely: see page 61

Measuring Scalefish

Most scalefish are measured from the nose to the end of the tail.



The exceptions are:



Banded Morwong: Nose to caudal fork



Garfish: Upper jaw to end of tail

Get a free scalefish measuring ruler or sticker at any Service Tasmania, local tackle shop or Fishcare event.

Filleting Fish at Sea

- You can fillet scalefish at sea, but special rules apply for striped trumpeter (page 24) and shark (page 26).
- For fish that have been filleted, two fillets are deemed to be the equivalent of one fish.

Dispose of Fish Waste Responsibly

- Use frames for soups or stock.
- Take it home and dispose of it in your household rubbish.
- If cleaning at sea, dispose away from shore.
- Compost or bury in your garden.
- Re-use as bait or berley on future trips in the same area.

Do not dump fish waste at boat ramps or beaches.



Consider using fish waste for berley

Scalefish

Fish Group

FLATHEAD

Flathead – Sand



Sand flathead

D'Entrecasteaux Channel, Derwent River, Frederick Henry and Norfolk Bays

Legal size between **35-40cm**



2



2 (on water)

Eastern Zone

Legal size between **35-40cm**



5



5 (on water)

Northern/Western Zone

Legal size between **35-40cm**



10



10 (on water)

King and Flinders Islands

35cm



10



10 (on water)

On land



10

applies on land, regardless of the zone/s you fished in.

Do the right thing



- even when no one's watching.

Flathead - Tiger

32cm



20



30



Tiger flathead

Combined limits apply for sand and tiger flathead.



20



30

For example, if you have caught 5 sand flathead, you are only permitted to catch 15 tiger flathead.

Flathead - Southern Bluespotted and Rock

40cm



5

(only 1 over 60cm)



10

(bluespotted and rock flathead combined).



Southern bluespotted flathead



Rock flathead

Sand Flathead Catch and Size Limit Zones

Statewide



Moving between zones

When moving between zones:

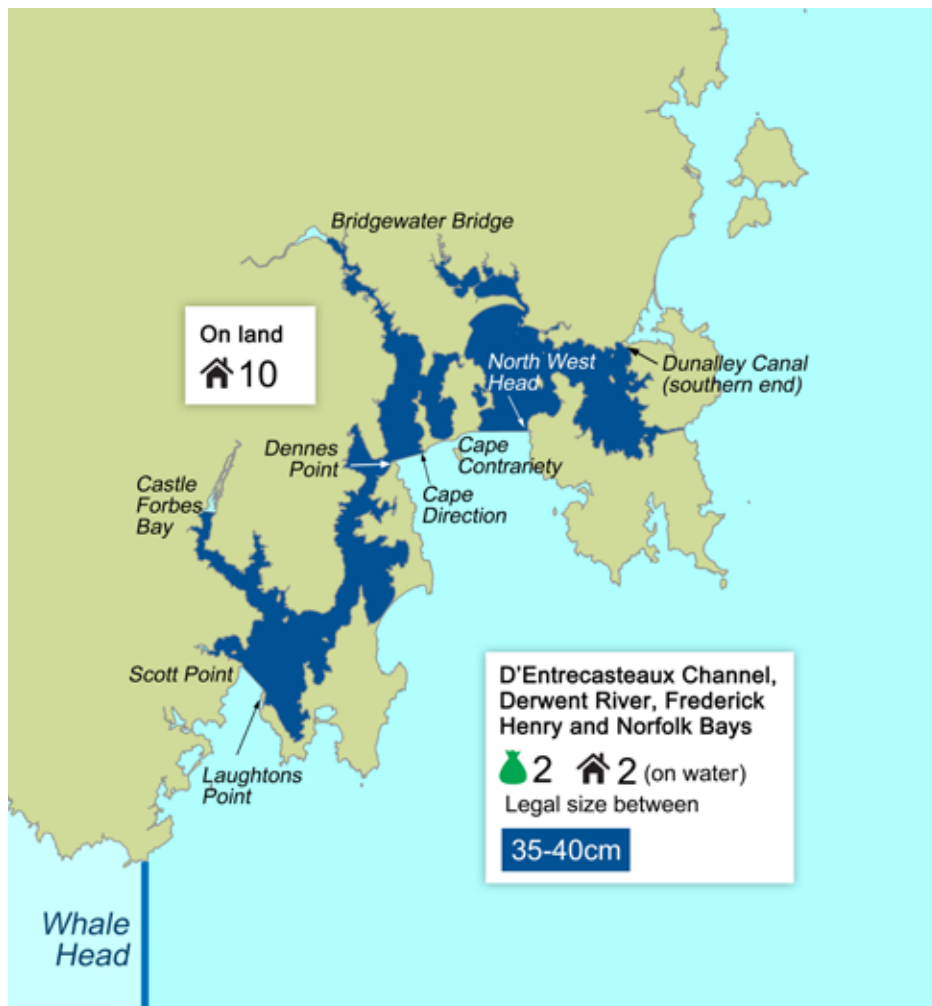
- All sand flathead must meet the size limit of the zone you are entering
- You cannot possess more sand flathead than the on-water possession limit of the zone you are in, unless you are following transiting rules.

Transiting

You can transit the D'Entrecasteaux Channel, Derwent River and Frederick Henry and Norfolk Bays in possession of a maximum of five sand flathead per fisher, so long as you travel directly to a boat ramp or landing point without stopping.

Scalefish

D'Entrecasteaux Channel, Derwent River and Frederick Henry and Norfolk Bays



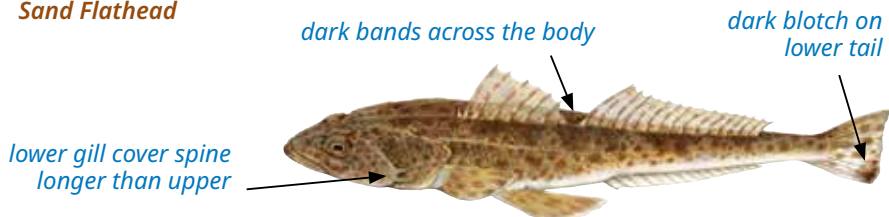
Flathead for the Future

Everyone plays a role in recovering sand flathead stocks. Find out what we are doing to rebuild Tasmania's favourite recreational fish species and how you can help at fishing.tas.gov.au/flathead



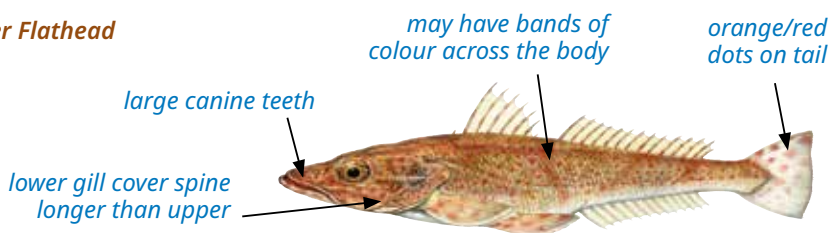
Identifying Different Flathead Species

Sand Flathead



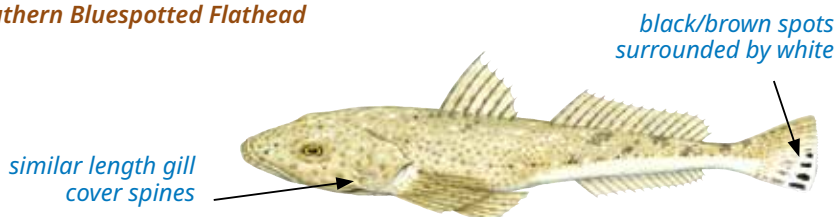
Sandy brownish colour. Covered in spots that vary from white to black with occasional reddish brown spots along the sides. Dark blotch on lower tail.

Tiger Flathead



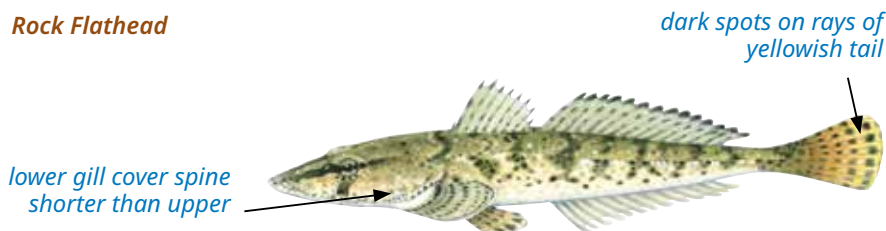
Light brown or pinkish grey colour on the body with orange-brown spots. Rounder body shape. Lower rear part of tail has no markings.

Southern Bluespotted Flathead



Lighter sandy brown body with scattered small blue to white spots intermingled with dark blotches.

Rock Flathead



Dark mottled appearance including a greenish to pale brown rounded body.

Scalefish

Catch limits are a combined total for all species in a fish group.

Fish Group

Anglerfish, Prowfish and Red Velvetfish (ornamental species)

No minimum size.



2



4



Tasseled anglerfish



Red velvet fish

Barracouta

No minimum size.



15



30



Boarfish

45cm

(longsnout boarfish only).



2



4

No spearing



Bream (marine waters)

25cm



5



10

No spearing



Cod

No minimum size.



15



30



Flounder

25cm



15



30



20cm

Minimum size



Bag limit



Possession limit



Boat limit

Fish Group

Garfish

25cm



15



30



Season applies (see page 7).

Groper, Blue



0



0

*Zero catch limits to protect this predator of longspined sea urchins.



male



female

Gurnard and Ocean Perch

No minimum size.



15



30

Be careful of venomous spines.

Common gurnard
perch

Ocean perch

Herring Cale

No minimum size.



5



10



Kingfish, Yellowtail

45cm



5



10



Leatherjacket

20cm



10



20



Mackerel and Redbait

No minimum size.



30



60

Redbait

Blue
mackerelJack
mackerel

Morwong, Banded

Legal size between 36-46cm



2



4



Season applies (see page 7).

Scalefish

Catch limits are a combined total for all species in a fish group.

Fish Group

Morwong, Jackass and Other

25cm



10



20



30 (Jackass only)



Mullet

25cm



15



30



Pike, Longfin

No minimum size.



15



30



Salmon, Atlantic

No minimum size.



12



24 (marine waters).



Specific bag limits apply in inland waters. Refer to *Inland Fisheries Code*.

Salmon, Australian

20cm



15



30



Snook

No minimum size.



5



10



Snapper

30cm



5



10



Tailor

No minimum size.



5



10



Trevalla, Blue-eye

No minimum size.



5



10



25



GUIDE TO SYMBOLS

20cm

Minimum size



Bag limit



Possession limit



Boat limit

Fish Group

Trevally, Silver

20cm



10



20



Tuna, Bluefin, Yellowfin and Bigeye

No minimum size.



2



2



4

(only 2 over 1.5m in a boat)



Bluefin tuna

Tuna - Albacore

No minimum size.



5



10



Albacore tuna

Tuna - Skipjack

No minimum size.



10



20



Skipjack tuna

Swordfish

No minimum size.



1



1



2



Marlin

No minimum size.



1



1



2

Trout

No minimum size.



12



24 (marine waters).

Specific bag limits apply in inland waters.
Refer to *Inland Fisheries Code*.



Rainbow trout

Scalefish

Catch limits are a combined total for all species in a fish group.

Fish Group

Trumpeter, Bastard

42cm

Eastern	 2	 10	 10
Western	 5	 10	 15



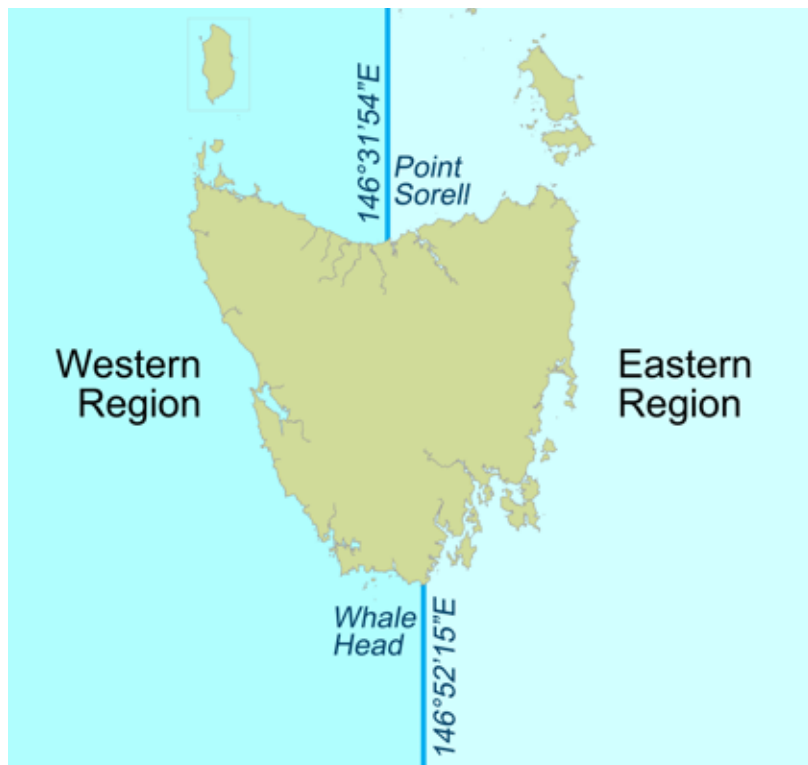
Trumpeter, Striped

55cm

Eastern	 2	 8	 8
Western	 4	 8	 12



Must be landed whole with head and tail attached, or as fillets with frames. Season applies (see page 7).



GUIDE TO SYMBOLS

20cm

Minimum size



Bag limit



Possession limit



Boat limit

Fish Group

Warehou

25cm



10



20



30 (Blue only)



Whiting, King George

35cm



5



10



*Has dark spots,
often in rows.*

Whiting, Other

No minimum size.



15



30



Wrasse

30cm



5



10



female



male

Other Scalefish Species

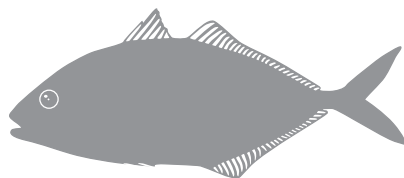
For species not listed above
(except protected species):



5



10



Sharks and Rays

Catch limits are a combined total for all species in a fish group.

Size Limits

School and gummy shark are the only shark species that have a size limit. Sharks should be kept as trunks or whole until landed.

Measuring Shark

You can measure shark species either from the tip of the nose to the tip of the tail, or for headed and tailed shark, measure from the back gill slit to the base of the tail.



Sharks and Rays Boat Limit



5 (all species combined)

There is an overall boat limit of 5 shark, skate and rays combined, excluding elephantfish. This includes mako and blue sharks, which also have their own combined boat limit of 2. For example, a boat with two fishers can have two makos and three gummy shark.

Shark Refuge Areas

No shark or ray fishing (including fishing with the intent to release) is allowed in Shark Refuge Areas (except for elephantfish) - see page 74.

School and Gummy Shark (combined)

75cm

or

45cm

headed and tailed.



2



2



School shark



Gummy shark

Mako and Blue Shark (combined)

No minimum size.



1



2



2



Elephantfish

No minimum size.



2



4



**Other Sharks, Skates and Rays**

No minimum size.



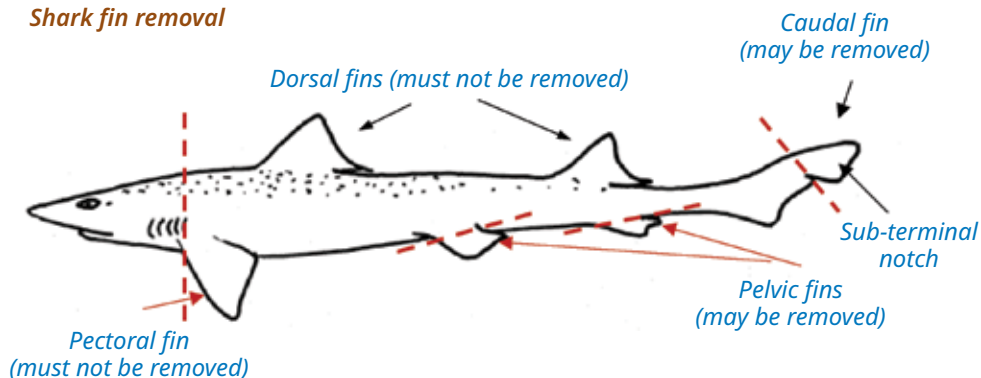
2



4

*Draughtboard shark**Broadnose shark (Sevengill)**Whitespotted dogfish**Port Jackson shark**Smooth stingray***No taking of skates and rays in Macquarie Harbour.****Shark Fins**

The dorsal and pectoral fins must remain attached to all shark until they are brought above the high-water mark. The diagram shows which fins you can remove to bleed the shark.

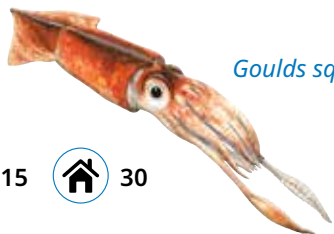
Shark fin removal

Squid, Calamari and Octopus

Size limit

There is no minimum size for squid or calamari.

Bag and possession limits



Goulds squid



15



30



Southern calamari



10



20

Closed Seasons

No taking or possessing calamari, squid or squid jigs attached to a fishing line in closed areas during the dates listed to protect spawning calamari. Only squid that has been commercially purchased can be used as bait in the closed areas.

South-East

From 15 October to 14 November inclusive in 2025 and 2026 - all waters south of Lemon Rock (south of Wineglass Bay) to Whale Head (south of Cockle Creek), including Coles Bay and Great Oyster Bay.

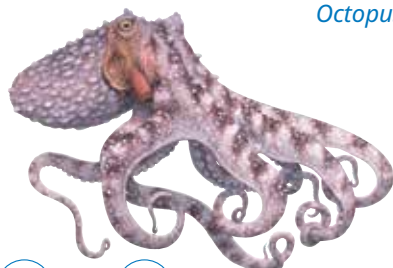
North Coast

Tasmania's north coast closed from 1 September to 31 October inclusive in 2025 and 2026 - all waters north of Cape Grim and Cape Naturaliste.



OCTOPUS

- There is no minimum size for octopus.
- Octopus are usually taken by hand, gaff, line, net, bait trap or in rock lobster pots and rings, but cannot be taken by a specialised octopus pot or trap.



Octopus



5



10

What can I use as Bait?

It is illegal to use undersized fish for bait.

It is an offence to use any part of the following species for bait or berley, including for bait hooks, bait traps and rock lobster pots and rings:

- rock lobster;
- abalone; and
- any species listed as protected, including limpets (see page 65).

Of the following high value species, only the heads and frames may be used for berley or baiting rock lobster pots and rings, unless you have a receipt for purchasing it:

- bastard or striped trumpeter;
- banded morwong;
- boarfish;
- tuna other than skipjack;
- trout;
- school, gummy, blue and mako shark;
- yellowtail kingfish.

Baitfish Species

No minimum size.



50



100

(species combined).



Blue sprat



Australian anchovy



Smallmouth hardyhead



Australian sardine

Bait Invertebrates

No minimum size.



50



100

(species combined).



Soldier crab

Includes soldier crabs, marine worms and burrowing shrimp.

Bait and Berley

Whitebait

For information on the whitebait fishery contact the Inland Fisheries Service on **(03) 6165 3808**.



Using Biosecure Bait

Only buy bait from locally supplied sources. Bringing dead or live bait to Tasmania is prohibited in most instances. Bait originating from other states or countries may contain pests and diseases that do not occur in Tasmania. Call Biosecurity Tasmania on **(03) 6165 3777** for more information.

If you catch your own bait, try to source it from the same area where you fish. Moving fish, including frames, offal and shells, between locations can spread diseases and pests.

Animal Bait and Berley

Mammal flesh, blood or offal other than pellets cannot be used as berley.

Only native animals that have been lawfully taken (eg. by licensed shooters) can be used for bait. Road kill can not be used. Phone NRE Tas Game Services Tasmania on **1300 292 292** for more information.

Bait Nets & Pumps

See pages 33 and 34 for bait trap, pump and net specifications. Sort your catch quickly and release unwanted fish in good condition.

Unless gear is specified in this Guide, it cannot be used. The licence holder must personally set and retrieve any scalefish fishing gear. Another person may assist them if needed e.g. to haul the net.

Aboriginal fishers should use a unique identifying code to mark their gear as specified on page 6.

Hook and Line Fishing

No licence is needed to fish with a hook and line in marine waters, including rod and line, and squid jigs.

Rod and line: You must attend the lines that you are using. You can use any number of lines with up to 5 hooks per line, as long as you are within 20 metres of the gear, or the lines are attached to the boat from which you are fishing.



Electric reels: Electric reels can be used with no more than 5 hooks. You must remain within 20 metres of your gear.

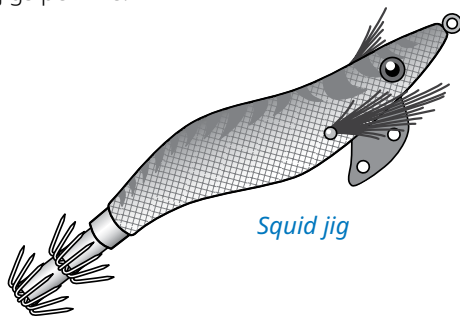


Deploying lines with kites and drones

Auxiliary fishing gear:

- Can be used to deploy or retrieve not more than 200 metres of fishing line with 5 hooks or less.
- Is not permitted in rivers or shark refuge areas.
- Cannot be used within 100 metres of swimmers or any vessel, or within 400 metres of a boat ramp, jetty or mooring.
- On land you must remain within 20 metres of the gear and not use it more than 20 metres from the high-water mark.
- Does not include electric reels, capstans or haulers for set lines.

Squid jigs: You can use up to 3 squid jigs per line.



Scalefish Fishing Gear

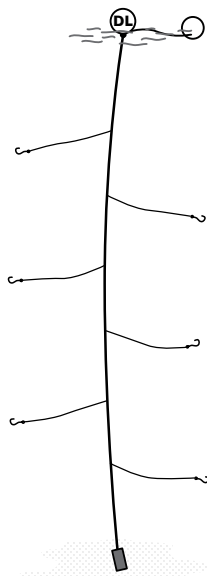
Set Lines

A set line is an unattended line, either a dropline or a longline, with up to 15 hooks.

A licence is required to use this gear and area restrictions apply.

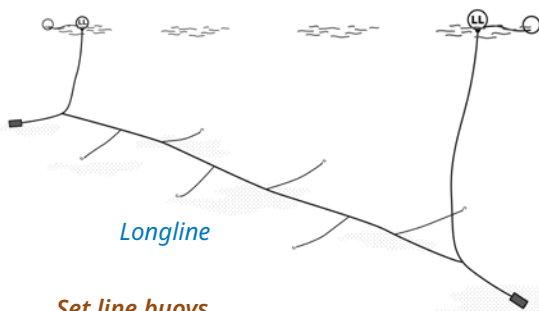
- A person may only use one set line at a time.
- In waters shallower than 150 metres, set lines can be joined to one other line on your boat, provided no person uses more than 15 hooks and not more than a total of 30 hooks are used.
- In waters deeper than 150 metres, set lines can be joined to up to 3 other lines on your boat, provided no person uses more than 15 hooks and not more than a total of 60 hooks are used.
- A maximum of 4 set lines are permitted on a boat.
- Set lines cannot be set at night. Night is defined as from one hour before sunset to one hour before sunrise.

A **dropline** is set vertically with one end weighted and a marker buoy attached to the other. When droplines are joined together, each fisher must have a separate marker buoy attached.



Dropline

A **longline** is set horizontally, weighted at both ends and with a marker buoy attached at each end. When longlines are joined together, each fisher must have a separate marker buoy on each end of the line.



Longline

Set line buoys

Set line marker buoys must be marked with your licence number and either the letters "LL" for longline or "DL" for dropline. See page 6 for marker buoy specifications.

Scalefish Fishing Gear

Spear Guns and Hand Spears (includes Gaffs)

Hand spears, spear guns and gaffs can be used to take squid, shark, octopus and any scalefish except bream and boarfish.

Taking rock lobster or abalone with spears or gaffs is prohibited. Spears cannot be used in the Mersey, Leven and Inglis Rivers other than to spear flounder.

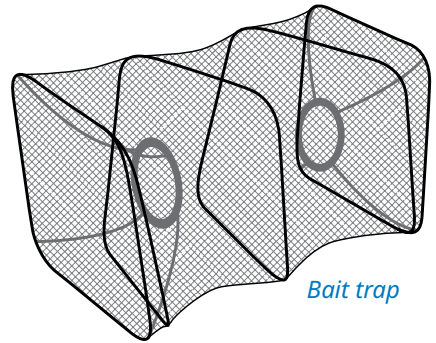
- not more than two entrances no larger than 65 mm; and
- mesh between 10 mm and 40 mm.

Unattended bait traps must have a buoy or tag attached marked with 'BT' and the user's surname, initials, year of birth and postcode.

Opera house traps are not legal gear in Tasmania. Traps that are modified to meet the specifications of a bait trap can be used.

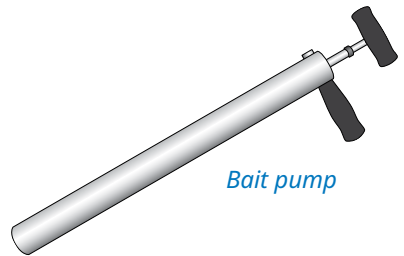
Responsible Spear Fishing

Make sure you size up a fish before you spear it to ensure it is legal size.



Bait Pump

A hand-operated bait pump with a barrel of less than 85 mm may be used.



Bait Traps

Only one bait trap is allowed per person. These are used to take baitfish, crabs and prawns. The trap must comply with the following dimensions:

- no larger than 500 mm x 350 mm x 250 mm;

Scalefish Fishing Gear

Nets

No licence is required to use landing nets, dip nets, bait nets and cast nets. You can only use one of each of these net types. A licence is required to use a graball net, mullet net or beach seine net.

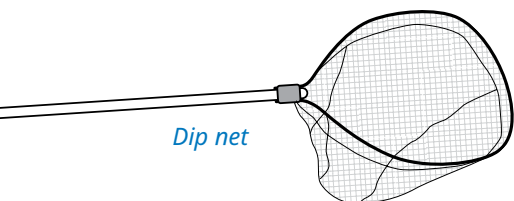
Area restrictions may apply when using nets. See page 76.

Landing net: A landing net is a hand held net that:

- can only be used to land fish;
- is attached to a frame no larger than 600mm across; and
- has mesh of any size.

Dip net: A dip net is a hand held net that:

- can be used to take fish, including prawns;
- is attached to a frame no larger than one metre across; and
- has a mesh larger than 20mm.

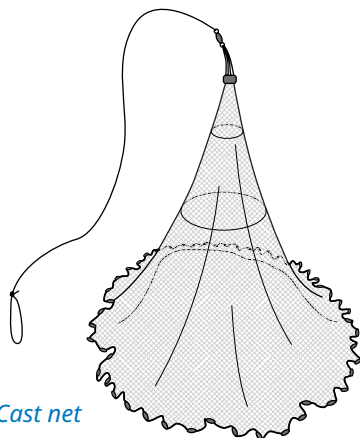


Bait net: A bait net is an encircling net:

- no longer than 6 metres and no deeper than 2 metres; and
- with mesh 20 mm or smaller.

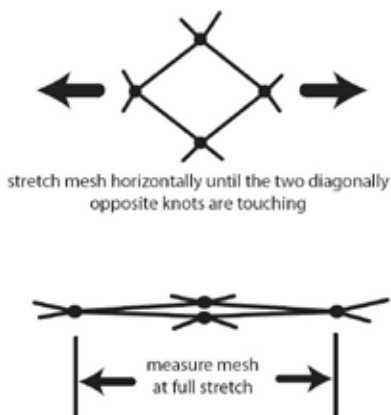
Cast net: A cast net must:

- be a circular or oval net with a leaded footline around the outside; and
- not exceed 6 metres in diameter
- has mesh of any size.



How to Measure Net Mesh

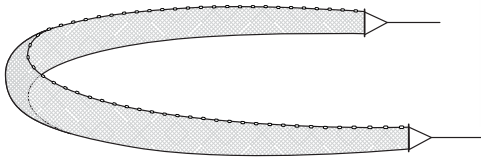
Stretch mesh until upper and lower knots touch. Measure mesh at full stretch.



Beach Seine Net

A beach seine net licence allows you to possess and use one beach seine net in state waters. A beach seine net must:

- be an encircling net that does not exceed 50 metres in length;
- have a bag or bunt, or a panel that forms a bunt, and a mesh size of at least 30 mm;
- not be pursed or drawn through rings into the shape of a bag; and
- be emptied while in the water.



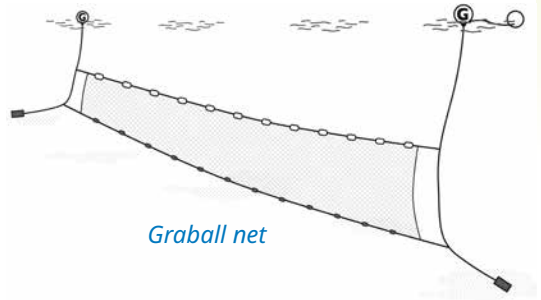
Beach seine net

Gillnets

- Graball nets and mullet nets are types of gillnet.
- No more than 3 gillnets may be carried on or used from a single boat.
- A gillnet cannot be used as an encircling net e.g. as a beach seine net.

Graball net: One graball net (includes flounder nets) may be used and a licence is required. A graball net is a single mesh net:

- mesh must be between 105 mm and 140 mm; and
- must not be deeper than 33 meshes or longer than 50 metres.



Graball net

Mullet net: One mullet net may be used, and a licence is required. A mullet net is a single mesh net:

- mesh must be between 60 mm and 70 mm;
- must not be longer than 25 metres; and
- must not be set over a rocky bottom or reef.

Gillnet buoys

Gillnets, including mullet and graball nets, must be marked with two white buoys, one at each end of the net. Each buoy must be marked with only the licence number and 'G' for graball or 'M' for mullet net. See page 6 for marker buoy specifications.

Scalefish Fishing Gear

Rules for gillnet use

- Gillnets cannot be set at night (between one hour before sunset to sunrise).
- Gillnets may be set for a maximum of 2 hours.
- Licence holders must be within 50m of their net at all times when setting in Shark Refuge Areas.
- Gillnets cannot be used in waters deeper than 20m, or further than 250m from shore.
- **Gillnets cannot be used in Macquarie Harbour** (see page 88).

Weighting your net

All gillnets must be weighted in one of the following ways in order to prevent drift:

- a weight of at least 2 kg tied to the bottom line at each end of the net; or
- a weight of at least 4 kg tied to the bottom line at one end of the net; or
- the net has a minimum weight, when dry, of at least 13 kg for a 50 metre net.

Phase out of recreational gillnetting

The Tasmanian Government policy is to phase out recreational gillnetting by 2030 with the following steps:

By the end of 2026:

- The use of gillnets in Shark Refuge Areas will be prohibited; and
- Set nets will need to be attended by the licence holder at all times.

In 2027, recreational netting will be restricted for the targeting and retention of Atlantic Salmon only (following notifiable escape events).

After 1 January 2030, all recreational gillnetting activity will no longer be permitted.

FADs and Artificial Reefs



Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs)

Fourteen fish aggregating devices (FADs) are deployed year-round across the north, east and south-east coast.

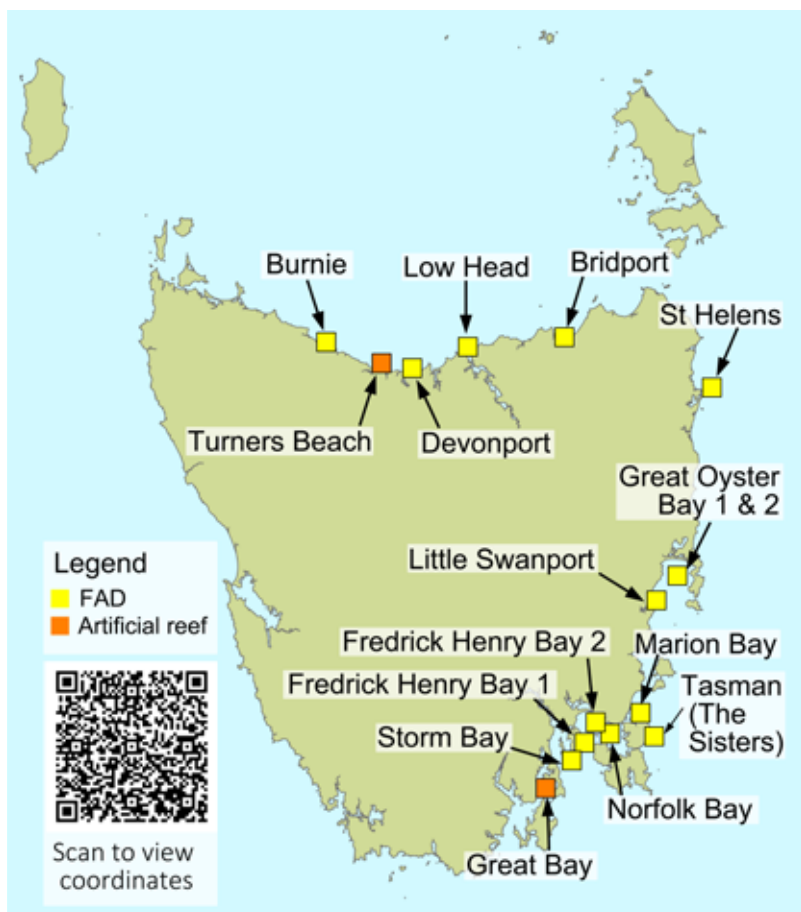
FADs attract pelagic fish species like tuna, yellowtail kingfish and Australian salmon, making them a great spot to fish, especially in summer and autumn.



Artificial Reefs

Tasmania has two artificial reefs, one in the D'Entrecasteaux Channel and the other off Turners Beach on the North-West Coast.

Artificial reefs provide habitat for fish, improving recreational fishing opportunities in areas where little natural reef exists.



Visit fishing.tas.gov.au/fads to check the coordinates of FADs and artificial reefs.

GEARING UP



Circle hooks

reduce gut and gill hooking.



Lures with single hooks

reduce damage to fish.



De-hooker

makes it easier to release fish quickly.



Wet cloth

to gently handle fish.



Scissors or knife

to cut the line on deep-hooked fish.



Rubber landing net

to reduce handling of fish.

SUSTAINABLE FISHING TECHNIQUES



Keep a tight line when bait fishing.



Hold large fish horizontally, not by the jaws or gills.



Aim to return fish to water in less than 30 secs.



Move on from areas with seals.

TIPS WHEN KEEPING YOUR CATCH



1. Dispatch fish humanely by hitting on top of head or brain spiking.



2. Bleed fish to improve eating quality.



3. Quickly put fish on ice.



4. Learn how to enjoy more than the fillets.



5. Dispose of fish waste responsibly.

Responsible Fishing

Reducing Seal Interactions

- Do not feed or approach seals. Never use fish for a decoy or throw fish waste to seals. This trains them to associate boats with an easy feed.
- Avoid areas where seals are known to interact with fishers. If a seal takes your fish, move away.
- Keep noise to a minimum - seals have good hearing. Use matting on your boat and set gear quietly.
- Seals are curious and may approach and potentially swamp vessels, so be alert and observe marine safety rules.
- Do not discard fish waste at jetties or boat ramps. If you clean fish at sea, dispose of fish waste away from shore while there are no seals present.

Responsible Netting Practices

Netting preparation

- Check the length of the buoy lines. Too much line is a hazard to wildlife and other boats.
- The weight bridle should be the weakest line in the net, so if it becomes snagged, the net can still be recovered.
- Don't set your net near fast flowing waters, divers or across boating channels.
- Be aware of other net users and leave at least 50 metres between nets.
- Identify a landmark or use a GPS when setting your net so you don't forget where it is.



Setting and pulling the net

- Check the weather and tides so you can safely retrieve the net.
- Check your net regularly to increase the survival of unwanted bycatch.
- Ensure the propeller is clear of any slack net or ropes.

Avoiding wildlife interactions

- Avoid setting nets near seabird rookeries or where mammals are active.
- Visible panels on nets are seen by seabirds so mark your net in as many places as practical.
- Don't set your net in rough weather conditions. Lost gillnets can entangle marine wildlife.



Licence: A licence is required to take abalone.

You must be 10 years or older to hold an abalone licence.

You cannot take abalone on behalf of another licence holder.

Size limits:

Please note recreational and commercial size limits may not be the same.

Blacklip abalone

Arthur River east to Musselroe Point: 120mm

Other waters: 138mm

Greenlip abalone

Montagu east to Bridport: 132mm

Other waters: 145mm

Daily bag limit: 10 abalone

Possession limit: 20 abalone

Boat limit: No boat limit

Non-licensed possession limit:

On land - 5 abalone

On state waters - 0 abalone

Child under 10 - 0 abalone

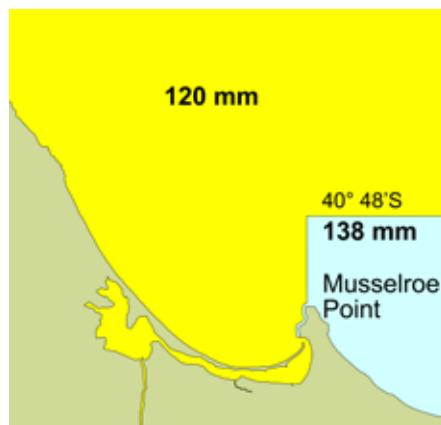
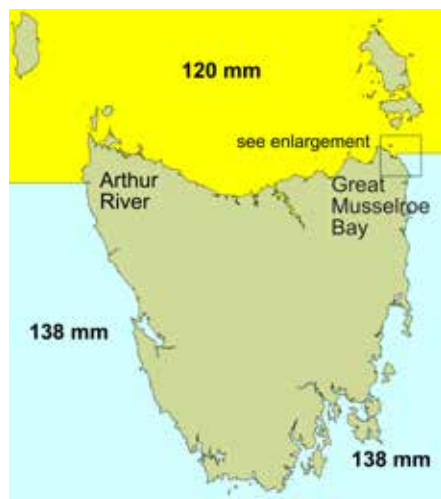
Season: open all year

Eating abalone safely: see page 61

Blacklip Size Limits



Blacklip abalone



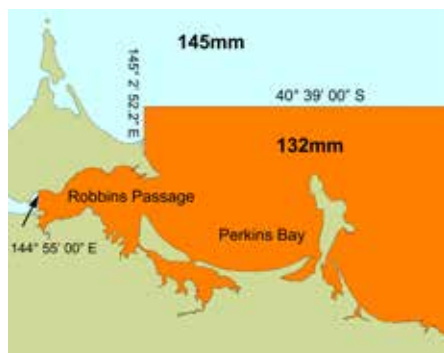
Get a free abalone multi-gauge from Service Tasmania.

Abalone

Greenlip Size Limits



Greenlip abalone



Moving Between Size Limit Zones

You cannot possess abalone smaller than the minimum legal size for a particular area. For example, you cannot enter waters south of Arthur River and Musselroe Point with blacklip abalone smaller than 138mm.

Measuring Abalone

- Abalone are measured across the widest part of the shell.



- **You must carry a measuring device while taking abalone.**
- Measure the abalone before detaching it where possible as abalone that have been cut may die.
- Immediately replace undersize abalone.

Highgrading your catch is not allowed – see page 9.

Measuring Tools

An abalone measuring device must be either:

- A Vernier calliper; or
- A gauge, knife or abalone iron with prominent markings or extended prongs that indicates the minimum size limits for abalone.

Abalone Tools

Only the following tools can be used to take abalone:

- A commercially manufactured knife with a blade not less than 18mm wide excluding that part of the blade that is within 50mm of the tip;



- An abalone iron that is a broadly flat-bladed, chisel-like lever not less than 18mm in width.

This does not apply to Aboriginal fishers.

Shucking and Eating Abalone

You can shuck (remove from shell) and eat one abalone per licence holder at sea. The shell must be retained and brought ashore. This abalone is included in your daily bag limit.

All other abalone must be brought ashore above the high-water mark before shucking.

No Night Fishing

You cannot take abalone between sunset and sunrise.

Area Restrictions

Northern Bass Strait Waters

You cannot take or possess abalone in Northern Bass Strait Waters, unless you are within 50 metres of the shore of any island. This restriction aims to limit the risks associated with the spread of Abalone Viral Ganglioneuritis (see page 64).

Recreationally caught abalone cannot be on board any vessels other than commercial trading vessels in the Northern Bass Strait Waters area unless within 50 metres of the shore of any land.



Research areas

There are multiple Abalone Research Areas where the take of abalone is not permitted. These include the Bay of Fires, Waterwitch Reef, Inner Sister Island and Swan Island Abalone Research Areas. Restrictions also apply to other reserves and research areas (see page 68).

Diving can be **DEADLY**



Know the risks. Get training.

- Learn about decompression illness ('the bends') and how to avoid it.
- Learn how to safely use and maintain your equipment.
- Know the extra risks associated with hookah diving.

***Never
dive
alone.***

Plan the dive, dive the plan.

- Know your maximum dive depth and time at depth.
- Make a safety stop when surfacing.
- Be prepared for conditions.

***Never
hold your
breath.***

Know what to do in an emergency

The bends looks different for everyone. If you feel unwell after diving (even over 24 hours later) **don't risk it - call an expert!**

Emergency (or after hours)

03 6166 8308
Or call **000**

Royal Hobart Hospital (RHH)

Diving Medicine
Specialist on call
(Weekdays 8am – 4pm)
03 6166 8193

Licence: Scallop licence required. Scallops can only be taken by hand. You must be 10 years or older to hold a scallop licence.

Size limit: Commercial and Queen Scallops 100mm, Doughboy Scallops 80mm

Daily bag limit: 50 scallops

Possession limit: 100 scallops (on land), 50 scallops (on water)

Non-licensed possession limit:

On state waters – 0 scallops

On land – 100 scallops

Child under 10 – 0 scallops

Boat limit: 250 scallops

Season: Open from 28 March to 31 July 2026. The D'Entrecasteaux Channel remains closed.

Eating scallops safely: see page 61

Size Limits



Commercial Scallop
– 100mm



Queen Scallop
– 100mm

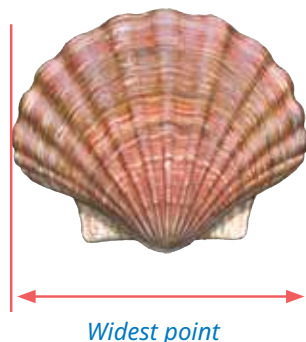


Doughboy Scallop
– 80mm

Please dispose of scallop shells in the rubbish, don't dump them.

Measuring Scallops

Scallops are measured across the widest part of the shell (usually parallel to the hinge). Scallop gauges are available at Service Tasmania shops.



Bag and Possession Limits

 50	 50 on water	 250
	 100 on land (or 3kgs of scallop meat)	

- Limits apply to all species combined.
- On-land possession limit also applies to unlicensed persons, unless they have receipts for purchases.
- Only licensed fishers can possess scallops on the water.

Scallops

Sharing scallop catch

A recreational scallop licence holder can take scallops on behalf of another licence holder on the same boat, provided the person they are fishing on behalf of:

- also dived for scallops on that trip and
- did not succeed in taking their bag limit.

A maximum of one licence holder per boat, who did not dive, may also have a bag limit of scallops caught on their behalf.

When catch sharing, the boat limit must not be exceeded, and no individual fisher may possess more than their bag limit after catch has been shared.

Shucking and Eating Scallops at Sea

- Landing of shucked meats is prohibited.
- Scallops can be shucked for immediate consumption at sea as long as the shells are retained and brought ashore.
- Any scallops consumed count towards the daily bag limit.

Area Restrictions

The D'Entrecasteaux Channel is closed to recreational scallop fishing, including possession of scallops while swimming.

See page 67 for a full list of area restrictions.



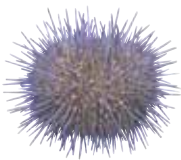
Sea Urchins, Other Shellfish and Shell Collection

Shellfish and Shell Collection

- Licence:** no licence required
- Size limit:** no minimum size
- Daily bag limit:** see table
- Season:** no seasons apply
- Eating shellfish safely:** see page 61

Sea Urchins

Shortspined Sea Urchin



- Voluntary catch limit: 50
- Voluntary size limit: 80mm wide (excluding spines)
- Best eaten August – December

Shortspined Sea Urchin, also called Helio, is an important native species.

Longspined Sea Urchin



- No catch limit or size limit
- Best eaten March – May

Longspined Sea Urchin, also called Centro, is a threat to Tasmania's rocky reefs. Learn more at centro.tas.gov.au.

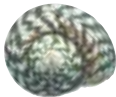
Shell collecting

- There is no limit on collecting shells from beaches, provided that the shell does not contain a living organism.
- Shells cannot be collected from reserved land – contact Parks and Wildlife for more information.

Shellfish limits

The daily shellfish limits help make sure local shellfish stocks don't become depleted.

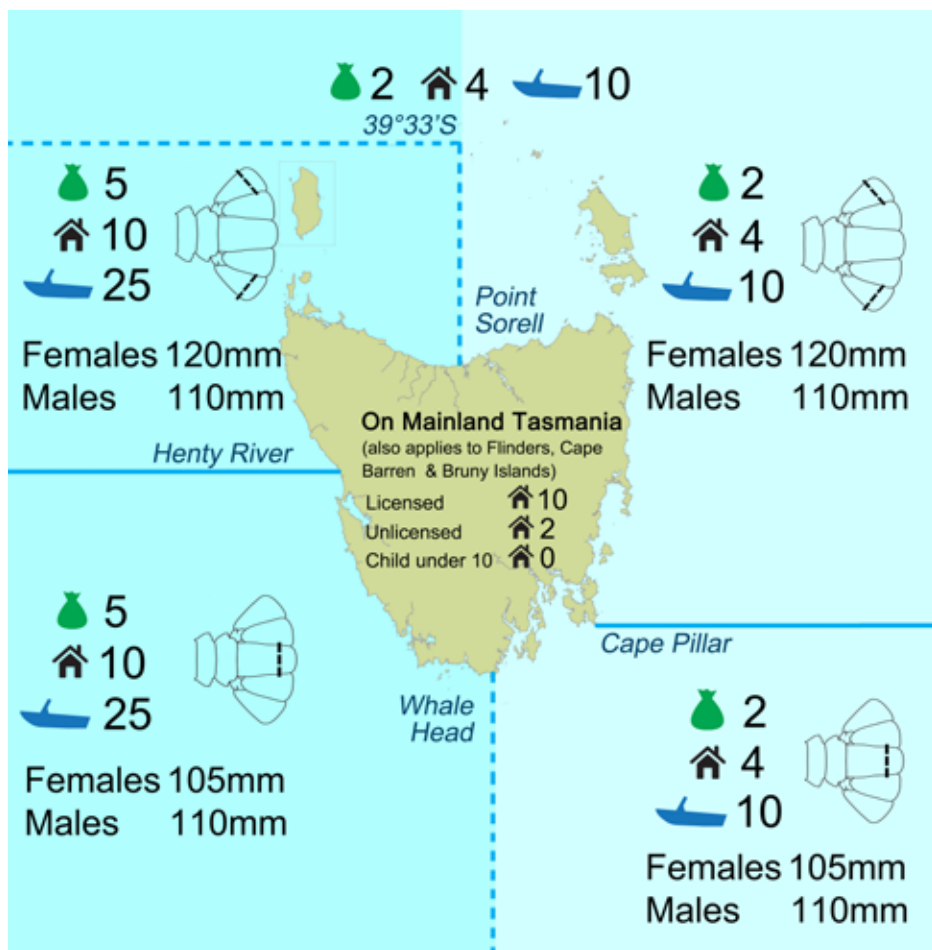
Report suspected unlawful shellfish gathering to Fishwatch – see page 13.

Species	Daily bag limit
Clams, cockles and pipis (species combined) 	100
Wedge shells 	200
Mussels 	100
Wavy periwinkles (<i>Lunella undulata</i> only) 	100 Voluntary size limit: 45mm
Pacific oysters 	no limit
Native oysters 	50
Other shellfish (excludes abalone, scallops and protected species) 	20 (other shellfish species combined)

Taking limpets and elephant snails is prohibited unless you are an Aboriginal fisher (see page 65).

Rock Lobster

Quick Guide to Rock Lobster Area Rules



- Any rock lobster in your possession must:
 - comply with the rules of the region/zone you are entering, and
 - be tail-marked according to where they were caught.
- If you are crossing the Henty River or Cape Pillar lines with rock lobster onboard, you must make a size limit zone transit report (page 51).
- If you possess more than your daily bag limit while on water, you must:
 - abide by the possession limit of the region you are in, and
 - demonstrate you have fished for more than one day.

Licence:

A rock lobster licence is required. A rock lobster dive licence allows you to take rock lobster by hand, a rock lobster pot licence allows you to use one pot, and a rock lobster ring licence allows you to use up to four rings. You must be 10 years or older to hold a rock lobster licence.

Size limit:

Northern Zone

Males 110mm

Females 120mm

Southern Zone

Males 110mm

Females 105mm

Daily bag limit:

Eastern Region – 2 rock lobster

Western Region – 5 rock lobster

Northern Bass Strait – 2 rock lobster

Possession limit:

Eastern Region – 4 rock lobster

Western Region and mainland Tasmania (including Flinders, Cape Barren and Bruny Islands) – 10 rock lobster

Northern Bass Strait – 4 rock lobster

Non-licenced possession limit:

On land – 2 rock lobster

On State waters – 0 rock lobster

Child under 10 – 0 rock lobster

Boat limit:

Eastern Region – 10 rock lobster

Western Region – 25 rock lobster

Northern Bass Strait – 10 rock lobster

Boat gear limit:

5 pots and 20 rings

Seasons:

Seasons apply see page 50.

Biotoxin and Public Health info:

See page 61.

Catch Reporting Requirement

All recreational rock lobster licence holders must make a catch report after they go fishing for rock lobster, even if they don't catch anything (see page 54).



Southern Rock Lobster



Eastern Rock Lobster

The rules apply to both southern and eastern rock lobster.

Rock Lobster

Seasons

Season Open:

Waters outside the East Coast Stock Rebuilding Zone (ECSRZ)

Open from 1 November 2025.

East Coast Stock Rebuilding Zone

Open from 6 December 2025 (see map below).

Season Closed:

Eastern Region (including ECSRZ)

Closes 1 May 2026.

Western Region (Females)

Closes 1 May 2026.

Western Region (Males)

Closes 1 September 2026.



Gear at Season Opening

You can only possess a rock lobster pot on state waters from 6am the day before the season opens for that region or zone and only set a pot after 1pm on

the same day. Pots can then be pulled after midnight.

Transiting at season opening

You cannot possess pots, rings or lobster in any part of the ECSRZ until that area opens, except in the D'Entrecasteaux Channel – see below.

Transiting the D'Entrecasteaux Channel

When waters outside the ECSRZ are open but the ECSRZ is closed, you can transit the River Derwent and D'Entrecasteaux Channel waters with pots, rings and/or rock lobster onboard provided:

- You make a transit report at least one hour before entering the D'Entrecasteaux Channel or River Derwent.
- You directly transit between closed and open waters (no swimming, diving or stopping).
- You only leave from and return to a public wharf, boat ramp or jetty and unload your lobster, pots and rings within an hour of landing there.
- You make a transit report at least one hour before re-entering the closed area with pots, rings and/or lobster onboard.

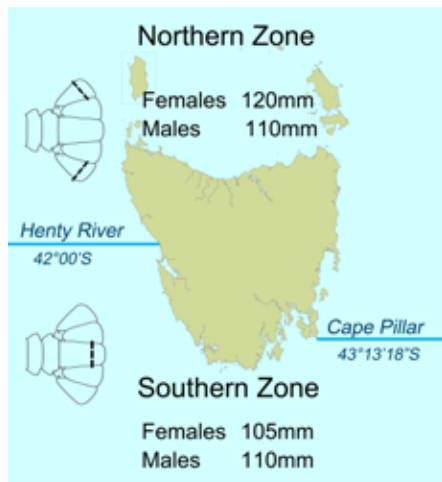
Once the ECSRZ opens, you do not have to make these reports.

See D'Entrecasteaux Channel boundary map on page 59.

You cannot possess pots, rings or lobster in an area which is closed to rock lobster fishing unless you are following the rules for transiting or setting gear at season opening.

Size Limits and Tail-Marking

Regional size limits and tail-marking requirements apply.



You cannot possess female rock lobster smaller than 120mm inside the Northern Zone.

Tail-marking

Rock lobster that you keep must be marked as recreationally caught.

Southern Zone: Cut off at least a quarter of the central tail fan segment or punch a 10mm hole in it.

Northern Zone: Cut off at least a quarter of both outer tail fan segments or punch a 10mm hole in them.

- If fishing from a boat, mark the tail fan within five minutes of the lobster being brought to the boat, before retrieving another pot, moving the boat and before landing; or
- If fishing from the shore, mark the

tail fan within five minutes of landing and within 50 metres of where you are landing.

Transiting between size limit zones

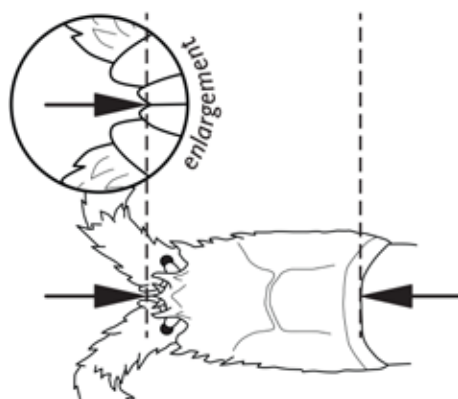
You can transit into another size limit zone with lobsters on board provided that:

- You do not possess female lobsters smaller than 120mm in the Northern Zone.
- You make a transit report to **1300 720 647** at least one hour before crossing any size limit boundary.
- Lobsters are tail-marked in accordance with the zone in which they were taken.

Measuring Rock Lobster

1. Spread the antennal horns.
2. Place the gauge tip hard into the middle notch.
3. Measure from the notch to the end of the carapace.

See diagram below.



Rock Lobster

Sexing Rock Lobster

Female rock lobster:

- Have large, overlapping swimmerets or flaps under the tail.
- Have a small nipper claw on the end of each rear leg.



Rock lobster in berry

- You cannot take rock lobster in berry (with eggs) or strip the eggs.
- If you catch a lobster in berry, you must return it to the water as soon as possible.



Male rock lobster:

- Have small swimmerets or flaps under the tail.
- Have no nipper claws on the rear legs.



Rock Lobster Catch Limit Regions

See next page for a map of catch limit regions.

Western Region: Waters and islands westward of Point Sorell and Whale Head.



5



25

Northern Bass Strait: Waters north of latitude 39°33' S.



2



10

Eastern Region: Waters and islands eastward of Point Sorell and Whale Head. This region includes the East Coast Stock Rebuilding Zone.



2



10

On-water possession limits

When on State Waters, if you can demonstrate you have fished for more than one day (e.g. an overnight trip to an island), you may possess a maximum of:

Western Region:



10 (on water and islands)

Northern Bass Strait:



4 (on water and islands)

Eastern Region:



4 (on water and islands, excluding Flinders, Cape Barren and Bruny Islands)

You must abide by the boat limit for each region.

On-water possession limits apply on State Waters and land within 100m of the high-water mark, except where the fisher's shack or home is within the 100m.

On-land possession limits

Mainland Tasmania, and Flinders, Cape Barren and Bruny Island, including homes, shacks and vehicles:

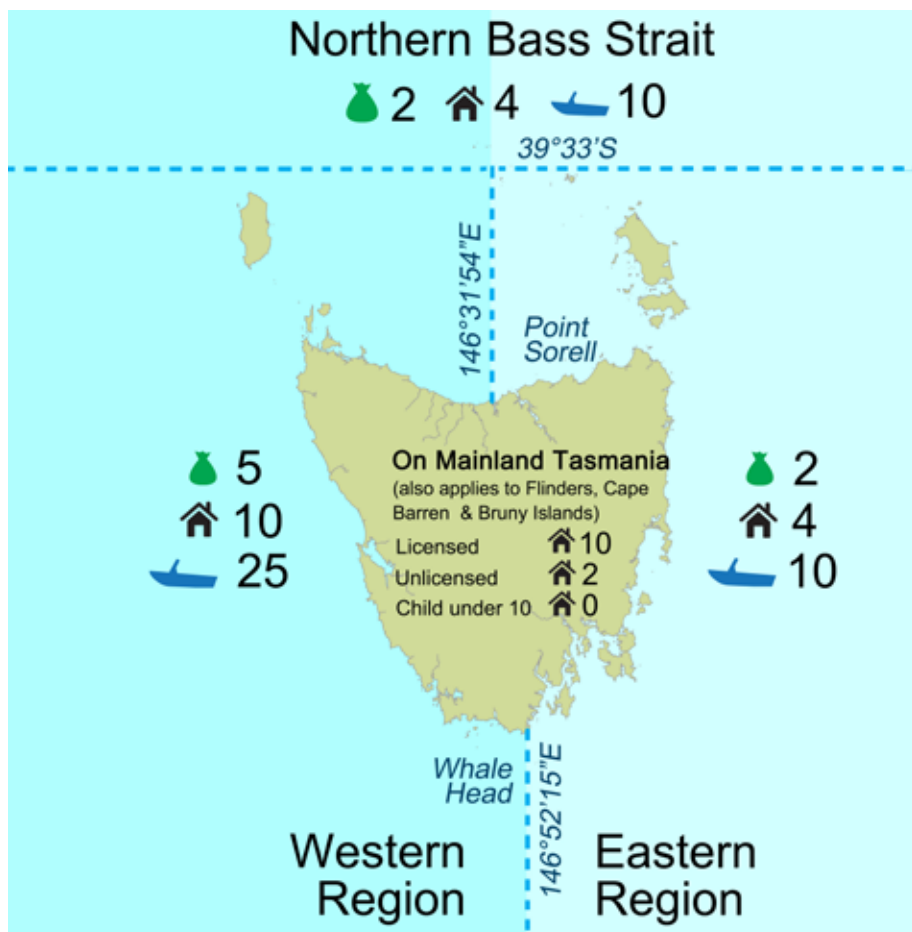
Licensed		10
Unlicensed		2
Child under 10		0

Moving between catch limit regions

You cannot move from the Western Region to the Eastern Region if you possess more rock lobster than the Eastern Region limits.

You do not need to make a transit report when moving between catch limit regions.

Rock lobster catch limit regions map



Rock Lobster

Reporting Your Catch

All recreational rock lobster licence holders must report their catch using either:

- 1) the *Fishing Tas* app; or
- 2) the telephone reporting service.

Another fisher can report on your behalf using the app. It is the responsibility of the fisher making the report to ensure it is accurate.



Report your catch using the Fishing Tas app.

Reporting Service - 1300 720 647

- Transit reports
- Catch reports
- Lost, stolen or irretrievable gear

Please provide your licence or UIC number, boat registration and fishing area details.

How to make a catch report

A catch report must always be made after fishing for rock lobster, even if you did not catch any.

A catch report must be made:

- **if fishing from a boat**, immediately after the last rock lobster has been tail-marked and before travelling more than 250m from where the last rock lobster was brought to the boat, and before bringing any rock lobster to shore, or
- **if fishing from the shore**, immediately after the last rock lobster has been landed and tail-marked, and within 250 metres of landing the last rock lobster.
- **if no rock lobster are taken**, within 250 metres of finishing diving for rock lobster or hauling the last rock lobster pot or ring.

If you have taken a lobster but intend to continue fishing for rock lobster within 250m of where it was taken, you do not have to make your catch report until after you finish that fishing activity (either after the last lobster is taken or after the last pot or ring was hauled or dive was completed).

A catch report includes:

- when you fished for lobster (the date);
- the fishing method/s you used;
- the general location where you fished;
- How many rock lobster you kept (even if 0); and,
- How many rock lobster you released (even if 0).

Temporary Reports

There may be some circumstances in which you are unable to submit a catch report. For example, you may not have access to a phone or there may be no reception.

If this occurs, you must maintain a temporary report of your catch either in the *Fishing Tas* app or on paper. As soon as practical, you must submit this report via the *Fishing Tas* app or telephone reporting service.

Using the Fishing Tas app

If you have access to the *Fishing Tas* app but there is no reception, you can enter your catch report as usual, and it will save as an **unsent report**. You will then need to check this report has submitted when you return to reception.

On paper

You can also maintain a temporary report by writing down the details of your catch report on paper. You must include all details required in a catch report (see page 56 for template).

Visit **fishing.tas.gov.au/report-rock-lobster-catch** for more information on catch reporting and how to use the *Fishing Tas* app.

Sharing Rock Lobster when Group Fishing

Rock lobster can be shared between licensed pot fishers on the same boat provided:

- A fisher's excess catch is only given to another fisher on the same boat who has a pot set, or who has retrieved a pot that was set within 250 metres of any other pot used.
- Any retained lobster is tail-marked in accordance with the rules, see page 51.
- After lobster are marked, each fisher must not possess more than the bag limit.
- The boat operator ensures the total number of lobsters is within the boat limit.

Holding Lobster on an Unattended Vessel

A fisher can leave lobsters on a boat unattended and be more than 100 metres away provided:

- The lobsters are not left unattended for more than 24 hours.
- The lobsters are in a separate compartment or container (such as a bag) which is marked with a fisher's licence number or unique identifying code.
- The fisher is not using a cauf at the same time.

Eating Rock Lobster at Sea

You can cut up and eat one lobster per licence holder. This lobster is included in your daily bag limit.

Rock Lobster

Rock Lobster Temporary Report Record

If you are fishing in an area that does not have reception or you do not have a phone with you, you must maintain a temporary written record of your catch report.

As soon as practical (e.g. on return to reception), you must submit this report via the **Fishing Tas** app or telephone reporting service (**1300 720 647**).

You can record any temporary written reports here.

Date	Fishing method	General location where you fished	No. lobsters kept	No. lobsters released	Submitted?
<i>E.g. 23/12/25</i>	<i>Pot</i>	<i>Binalong Bay</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Rock Lobster Fishing Gear

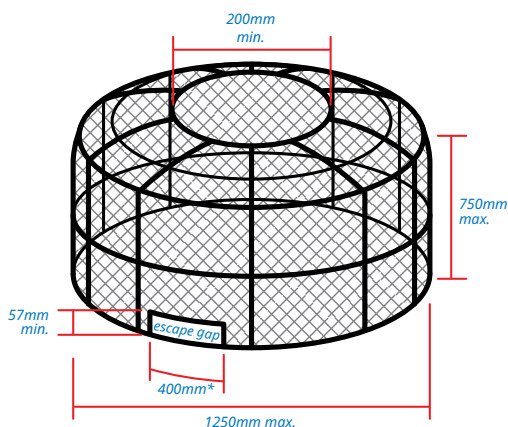
The licence holder must **personally** set and retrieve any rock lobster fishing gear. Another person may assist them if needed e.g. to lift the pot.

Think before you set

You cannot leave your pot in the water for more than 48 hours.

Reconsider setting your pot if the weather is forecast to turn, or if it's likely you won't be able to pull it within 48 hours. **Your pot cannot be retrieved by another person.**

Pot: You can only possess and use one rock lobster pot on State waters. A person in charge of a boat must not allow more than 5 rock lobster pots to be on or used from their boat, and all licensees must be present.



**Minimum 400mm if one escape gap.
Minimum 200mm if two escape gaps.*

A rock lobster pot must:

- be no larger than 1250mm x 1250mm at base and 750mm high;
- have only one neck or entrance at least 200mm in diameter;
- have escape gaps at least 57mm high and the lower inside edge no more than 150mm up from the floor of the pot. If there is only one escape gap, it must be at least 400mm wide and if there are two, they must each be at least 200mm wide.
- have nothing obstructing the escape gap;
- not contain anything likely to entangle the rock lobster in the pot; and
- be marked with a buoy with the licence number and the letter 'P' for pot.

You cannot leave your pot in the water for longer than 48 hours.

You cannot recreationally fish for rock lobster or have a recreational pot or ring on a commercial fishing trip.

Lost, Stolen and Irretrievable Gear

If you leave your pot in the water for longer than 48 hours due to bad weather, illness, loss or theft, ring **1300 720 647** and provide your licence number.

Rock Lobster

Ring or hoop net:

- You may only possess and use up to four ring nets on State waters.
- A person in charge of a boat must not allow more than 20 rock lobster rings to be on or used from their boat and all licensees must be present.
- A rock lobster ring is a single ring or hoop of no more than one metre in diameter, covered with mesh.
- If you are more than 100m from a ring, a marker buoy with the licence number and the letter 'R' for ring must be attached. See page 6 for marker buoy specifications.



Rock lobster buoys: Rock lobster pots, caufs and unattended rings must be marked with a buoy that has only your licence number and 'P' if it is a pot or 'R' if it is a ring. A yellow buoy must be used for caufs.

Aboriginal fishers should use a unique identifying code to mark their gear as specified on page 6.

Diving:

- You can take rock lobster by SCUBA, surface air and snorkelling.
- The only aid that can be used to take rock lobster is a gloved hand.
- Nooses, gaffs, nets and spears cannot be used for rock lobster fishing.
- It is illegal to possess a crook or noose while diving, or to possess a noose on a boat unless it is being used for game fishing.
- Rings and pots can be used from a boat that is being used by divers.

Lines / nets: It is illegal to take rock lobster by a hook and line or a net.

Rock lobster cauf:

- A rock lobster cauf is a device for holding rock lobster in the water.
- A person can only use one cauf at a time. It must have a yellow buoy marked with the licence number attached.
- A cauf can be used by more than one fisher, but lobsters in a shared cauf must be separated from other fishers' lobster into their own compartments. Each fisher must have their own yellow buoy marked with their licence number attached to their compartment of the cauf.
- All rock lobster in the cauf must be tail-marked and count toward your possession limits.

Area Restrictions

See page 67 for a full list of restrictions.

No rock lobster pot areas

Specific No Rock Lobster Pot areas are listed below. Rock lobster pots cannot be set in these areas, however rock lobster rings can be used.

D'Entrecasteaux Channel and Derwent Estuary – with a southern boundary being a line from Scott Point to the northern tip of Partridge Island and then from the southern tip of Partridge Island south to Labillardiere Peninsula on Bruny Island and a northern boundary being a line from Dennes Point to Piersons Point.



Derwent River – upstream from a line from Dennes Point to Cape Direction.

Georges Bay – west of the line of longitude of the end of the training wall situated at the entrance to Georges Bay.



King Island – within 300 metres of the Blowhole on the Eastern side of King Island.



Elephant Rock and North Bay Rock Lobster Research Areas

Elephant Rock and North Bay Rock Lobster Research Areas are pot only areas. See pages 70 and 71 for more information.

Other Crustaceans

Giant Crabs

Licence: recreational rock lobster pot licence required to fish for giant crabs.

Size limit: Females 150mm, Males 140mm (measure from front to back of carapace)

Bag limit: 1 giant crab

Possession limit: 1 giant crab

Seasons: as for rock lobster, see page 7

Rules: Female giant crabs in berry (with eggs) cannot be kept.



Giant crab

Inshore crabs

- Inshore crabs include all crabs other than giant crabs and soldier crabs. No minimum size.



15



30



Red velvet crab



Red bait crab



Sand crab



Spider crab

- Female crabs in berry (with eggs) cannot be kept;
- Crabs can be taken by hand, bait net (page 33), dip net, bait trap, rock lobster ring or pot (licence required), but not specialised crab traps. If using soldier crabs as bait, see page 29.

Prawns

Prawns are mainly caught using a dip net or landing net. Gear and area restrictions apply, see page 34.



50



100



King prawn

Marine Plants

Seaweed collection

- No licence is required when seaweed is collected for private use.
- There is a daily limit of 100kg per person for cast seaweed and collection is only from beaches with public access.
- Marine plants (including seaweed) attached to the sea floor must not be harvested.
- Seaweed cannot be taken in Marine Nature Reserves. See page 67.



The Department of Health is responsible for issuing advice on eating seafood safely, including wild shellfish health alerts when toxic algal blooms are occurring.

If in doubt, check the Department of Health website.

Wild shellfish health alerts:

www.health.tas.gov.au/news/health-alerts/wild-shellfish-health-alerts

Standard warnings on collecting and eating wild shellfish:

www.health.tas.gov.au/health-topics/food-safety/food-safety-consumers/wild-shellfish

Derwent Estuary fish limits:

www.health.tas.gov.au/news/health-alerts/derwent-estuary-fish-limits

Derwent or Tamar Estuaries

Shellfish collected in Hobart's Derwent Estuary and Launceston's Tamar Estuary are always unsafe to eat because the shellfish concentrate the heavy metals present in these waters.



Recreationally Harvested Wild Shellfish

There is always some risk to your health from eating wild shellfish that you have collected. Do not take shellfish from:

- near marinas or other places where boats discharge waste
- near sewage, industrial or stormwater outfalls
- in areas near septic tanks
- in places affected by recent heavy rain
- from the Derwent and Tamar Estuaries
- from places affected by toxic algal blooms.

Toxic Algal Blooms and Biotoxins

There is an extra risk to your health when there is a toxic algal bloom (also known as harmful algal blooms).

Shellfish eaten from an area affected by a harmful algal bloom can cause serious illness.

Oysters, mussels, clams, pipis, cockles, wedge shells, abalone, scallop roes and the intestines and livers of rock lobster can be affected by toxins.

The Department of Health issues Wild Shellfish Health Alerts when algal blooms are present.

Check for current wild shellfish health alerts at

www.health.tas.gov.au/news/health-alerts/wild-shellfish-alerts

Eating Seafood Safely

'Do Not Eat Wild Shellfish' warning signs are displayed at popular boat ramps and jetties along Tasmania's north east, east and south east coastlines when algal blooms are present.

Read the Department of Health's warning about toxic algal blooms and shellfish poisoning, including symptoms of shellfish poisoning:

www.health.tas.gov.au/health-topics/food-safety/food-safety-consumers/wild-shellfish

If you experience paralytic shellfish poisoning symptoms after eating wild shellfish, go to your nearest emergency department or call 000.



Scalefish

Derwent Estuary

Heavy metal contamination in the Derwent Estuary affects the type and amount of seafood caught in the area that you should eat.

- Do not eat Bream from the Derwent Estuary
- Limit consumption of flathead and other fish from the Derwent Estuary to:
 - o no more than twice a week, or
 - o no more than once a week for pregnant and breastfeeding women and women planning to become pregnant or children aged six years and younger.



- If you eat fish from the Derwent, it is best to avoid eating fish from other sources in the same week.

More information at derwentestuary.org.au/fishing-and-seafood-safety

Other areas

For areas outside the Derwent Estuary, fish can be eaten as part of a balanced diet in line with Food Standards Australia New Zealand advice - see www.foodstandards.gov.au/consumer/chemicals/mercury.

The oceans are home to a range of invasive marine species, some with the potential to cause significant damage to Tasmania's unique marine environment.

Understanding the status and distribution of both introduced and exotic species helps us plan biosecurity measures to prevent further spread and recognise when new incursions occur.

How You Can Help

1. Report it

Everybody has a role to play in protecting Tasmania's marine environment from new and harmful pests. So, if you see something unusual, report it!

Species we want to keep out of Tasmania

The following species aren't currently found in Tasmania, and it is a high priority to keep them out of our waters. So, if you spot them, report them immediately.



Chinese Mitten Crab



Black-striped false mussel



New Zealand green-lipped mussel



Harris' mud crab

How to report invasive species

Report sightings of invasive species to Biosecurity Tasmania.

Invasivespecies@nre.tas.gov.au
(03) 6165 3777

Species we want to limit the spread of

The species below already occur in some parts of Tasmania, but we want to reduce their spread to other areas.



Northern Pacific seastar



Japanese kelp



European green crab



Soft-shelled clam



Pacific oyster

2. Don't spread it

Pests, such as New Zealand green-lipped mussel, can be spread by boats, bait, dive gear and fishing gear. Some pests can live for days on boats, on hulls, in bilge water or on your gear.

Do your part:

- Don't move water, fish, or fish parts (including shells, offal or bait) between locations.
- **CHECK, CLEAN, DRAIN AND DRY** all boating, fishing and diving gear after every trip.

Marine Diseases

Tasmania's unique marine ecosystems are at risk from the introduction and spread of water-borne diseases. Some of these diseases can have serious impacts on our native wildlife, as well as species that are important to recreational and commercial fishing and aquaculture.

Understanding the status and distribution of both introduced and exotic marine diseases helps us plan biosecurity measures to prevent further spread and recognise when new outbreaks occur.

Report Abalone Viral Ganglioneuritis (AVG)

Abalone viral ganglioneuritis (AVG) is a viral disease that affects the nervous system of abalone, resulting in weakness and death.

If you see any number of sick or dying abalone, report it to the **Emergency Animal Disease Hotline** on **1800 675 888**. Do not collect samples unless directed to by Biosecurity Tasmania.



Abalone with AVG might have curling of the foot (yellow arrows) or a swollen mouth (red arrow).

Source: Department of Agriculture.

Outbreaks of AVG can be devastating to abalone populations. By reporting signs of AVG, you can help Biosecurity

Tasmania reduce the impact of any potential outbreaks.

AVG only affects abalone species and there are no human health risks from handling or eating abalone infected with AVG.

Prevent the Spread of Marine Diseases

You can help prevent the spread of marine diseases like AVG by:

- washing down boats, fishing and dive gear when moving between areas
- if you catch your own bait, sourcing it from the same area where you fish.

Fish Kills

Occasionally you may come across one or more dead fish. If there are many dead fish, please contact the **EPA's Incident Response Hotline** on **1800 005 171** and **Emergency Animal Disease Hotline** on **1800 675 888**.



The following species are protected and must not be taken for any reason:

Elephant snail



Limpet



Handfish



Threefin blenny

Pipehorse



Pipefish



Seadragon



Maugean skate



Seahorse



Great white shark



Basking, grey nurse, megamouth and whale sharks are also protected.

If you encounter or accidentally catch a protected species, you must return the animal to where you found it regardless of whether it is alive or dead. Aboriginal fishers may take and possess limpets and elephant snails.

Threatened Species

A number of threatened marine species are protected under the *Threatened Species Protection Act 1995*. Many of these are also protected nationally under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

A full list can be found at nre.tas.gov.au/conservation/threatened-species-and-communities.

Threatened species cannot be taken without a permit for any reason. If you encounter or accidentally catch a threatened species whilst fishing, return it to the water with as little damage as possible. Please report any sightings of threatened species to the Natural Values Atlas (www.naturalvaluesatlas.tas.gov.au).

If it is injured or entangled in fishing gear, please contact the Marine Conservation Program on **0427 942 537**.

Maugean Skate Alert

Although previously known to Bathurst Harbour, the Maugean skate is only found in Macquarie Harbour and its numbers are dangerously low. It is clearly identifiable by the elongated shape of the snout. Recreational gillnetting has been prohibited in Macquarie Harbour to protect the skate as it is especially vulnerable to being caught in gillnets. All skates must be returned to the water as soon as possible without harm.



Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies

Tasmanian Wild Fisheries Assessments

IMAS fisheries research now has a digital home, with the launch of a new website reporting the health of Tasmania's fish stocks and the research used to underpin fisheries management decisions. Head to tasfisheriesresearch.org

Tassie Fish Frame Collection Program



IMAS is asking recreational anglers to donate the frames (head, skeleton and guts) of legal-size Yellowtail Kingfish, King George Whiting, Pink Snapper and Striped Trumpeter. Our researchers will use the frames to collect important information on the age, growth and reproduction of these species in Tasmanian waters.

Details: bit.ly/fish-frame

Have you caught a tagged fish?

IMAS has tagging programs underway for abalone, rock lobster, flathead, trumpeter, banded morwong and shark. Please record the tag number, fish species, size and sex (for lobsters), and date and location of catch.

In addition, every reported **sand flathead** and **rock lobster** tag goes

into our regular Tag Lottery draw for the chance to win some great prizes throughout the year.



Report your tagged catch to **0409 277 140** or email fish.tag@utas.edu.au

Redmap



Spot, log and map sightings of marine species that are uncommon in Tasmanian seas at redmap.org.au

Study Science of Fishing at IMAS

Science of Fishing is for everyone.

From people wanting to develop their skills and knowledge in fishing, to those looking to enhance their recreational fishing experience, to those looking to contribute to a sustainable fishery.

After completing Science of Fishing you will be able to identify a range of Australian fish species, describe their characteristics and understand their behaviour within the marine environment.

Improve your fishing experience and gain a greater understanding of how to fish safely and responsibly for the future.

Visit utas.edu.au/study/sustainable-living to enroll or contact us at IMAS.Science.of.Fishing@utas.edu.au for more information.

INDEX of Fishing Restriction Maps

1) **Marine Nature Reserves**

Generally no fishing of any type for any species. Two reserves allow restricted recreational fishing in some areas.

Index map **68**

Individual area maps and fishing restrictions **69-73**

2) **Fishery Research Areas**

Restrictions on anchoring, dive fishing and some other types of fishing apply.

Index map **68**

Individual area maps and fishing restrictions **69-73**

3) **Shark Refuge Areas**

No take of shark (except elephantfish), skates or rays and no set lines.

Index map **74**

Individual area maps **75**

4) **Net and Set Line Restrictions**

Restrictions on using nets and set lines apply to many rivers and sheltered waters.

Index map **76**

Individual area maps and restrictions **77-88**

5) **Estuaries, Rivers and Lagoons**

Special rules for taking marine species in these waters may apply.

Individual area maps and restrictions **89-91**

6) **Marine Farming Lease Areas**

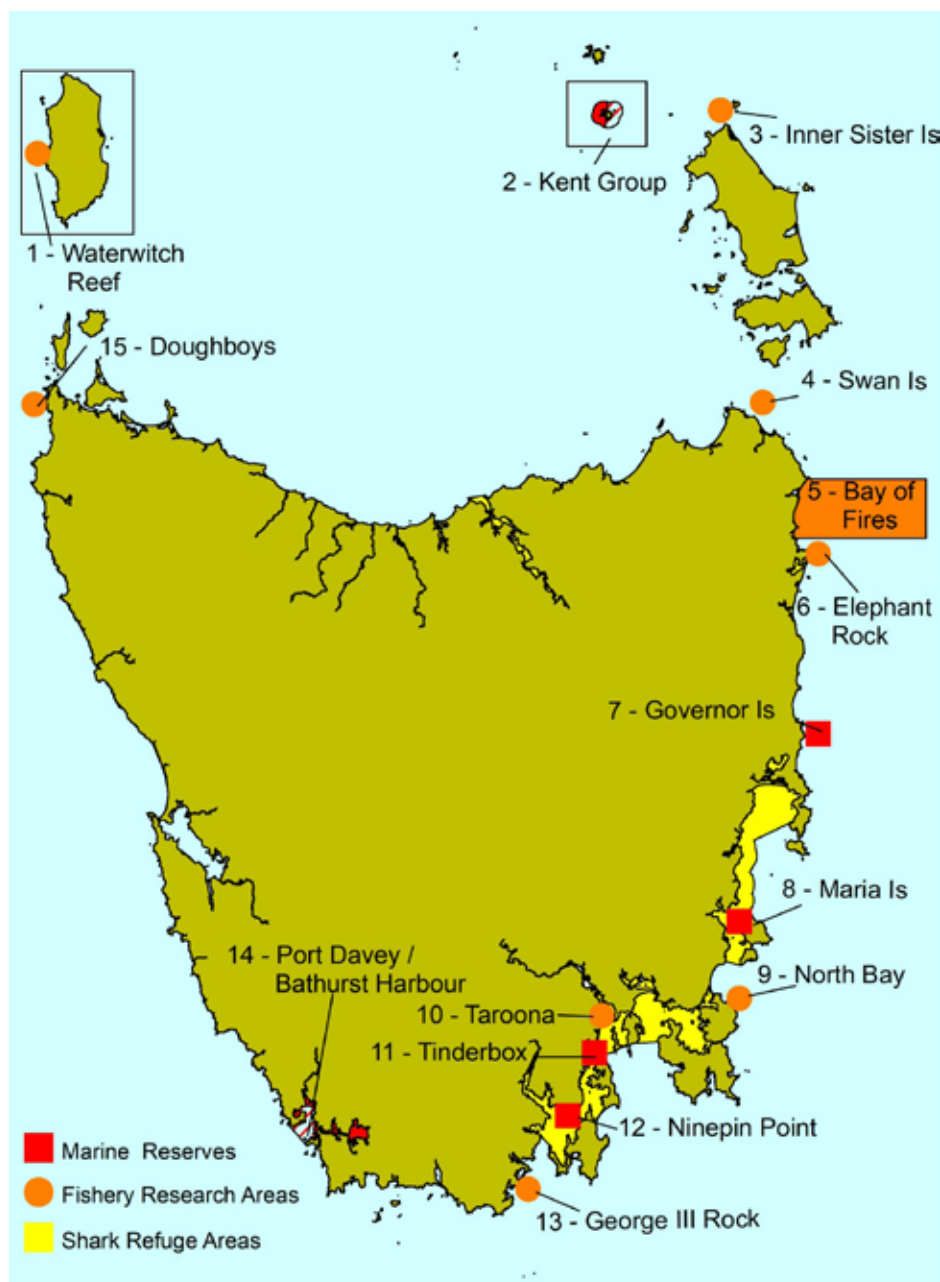
No fishing unless you have the prior permission of the leaseholder.

More details **92**

Interactive maps can be found on the **Fishing Tas** app or on the web at
www.fishing.tas.gov.au

Area Restrictions

Reserves, Research Areas and Shark Refuge Areas



Marine Nature Reserves and Research Areas

More information about marine reserves is available at parks.tas.gov.au/explore-our-parks/marine-reserves.

In some reserves, white marker poles may indicate boundaries.

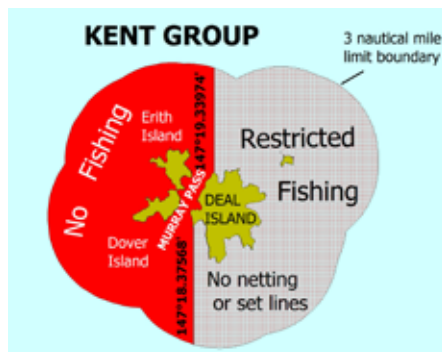
1. Waterwitch Reef Abalone Research Area (West of King Island)

No taking of any fish by diving.



2. Kent Group Marine Nature Reserve

No fishing or setting of fishing gear in the no fishing zone. The only fishing currently allowed in the restricted zone is line fishing with up to 5 hooks and taking rock lobster using pots and rings and by diving. The taking of abalone is allowed subject to biosecurity area restrictions. See page 44.



3. Inner Sister Island Abalone Research Area (North of Flinders Island)

No taking of any fish by diving within 500 metres of the high-water mark in the area shown.



Australian Marine Parks

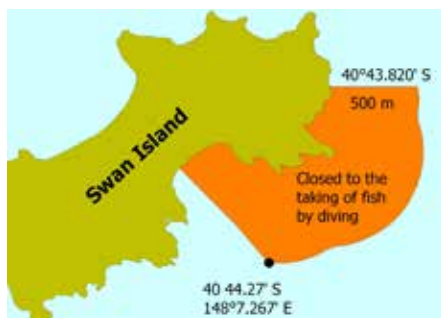
Franklin, Beagle, Flinders, Freycinet, Huon and Tasman Fracture are Marine Parks off Tasmania managed by Parks Australia. No fishing or setting of gear allowed in some zones. More information at parksaustralia.gov.au/marine/parks/south-east



Marine Nature Reserves and Research Areas

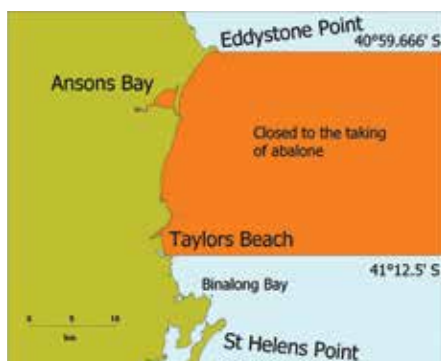
4. Swan Island Abalone Research Area

No taking of any fish by diving.



5. Bay of Fires Abalone Research Area

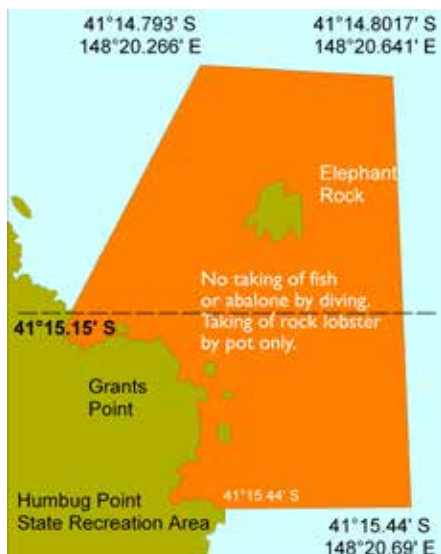
No taking of abalone.



6. Elephant Rock Rock Lobster Research Area

The research area is off Grants Point, including Elephant Rock, near St Helens.

No fishing by diving or use of rock lobster rings. Rock lobster pots may be used.



Marine Nature Reserves and Research Areas

7. Governor Island Marine Nature Reserve

No fishing or setting of fishing gear is allowed. There are white paired poles marking the western boundary.



8. Maria Island Marine Nature Reserve

No fishing or setting of fishing gear is allowed in the reserve between Cape Boullanger in the north and Return Point in the south. Recreational fishing of all types is permitted east of Cape Boullanger.



9. North Bay Rock Lobster Research Area

The research area is south of North Bay, on Cape Frederick Hendrick, east of Dunalley.

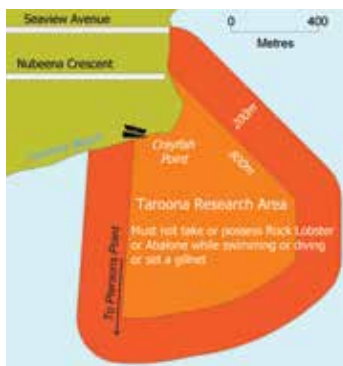
No fishing by diving or use of rock lobster rings. Rock lobster pots may be used.



Marine Nature Reserves and Research Areas

10. Taroona Waters Reserve and Research Area

No abalone or rock lobster fishing or gillnetting. Taroona Waters extends from a south-easterly arc 800 metres from the shore at the end of Nubeena Crescent continuing 800 metres offshore to the boat ramp on Taroona Beach. A 200 metre buffer zone surrounds the reserve starting from the shore of the Seaview Ave walking track and 200 metres west of the boat ramp at Taroona Beach. You may possess rock lobster or abalone taken outside the reserve on a boat that is transiting the buffer zone to or from the Taroona Beach boat ramp. You may fish with a rod and line in this Research Area.



11. Tinderbox Marine Nature Reserve

No fishing or setting of fishing gear allowed. Fish caught outside the reserve can be landed at the boat ramp. The northern boundary is approximately 800 metres south of Fossil Cove. The northern and western boundaries are marked by white paired poles.



12. Ninepin Point Marine Nature Reserve

No fishing or setting of fishing gear allowed. The eastern and western boundaries are marked by white paired poles.



Marine Nature Reserves and Research Areas

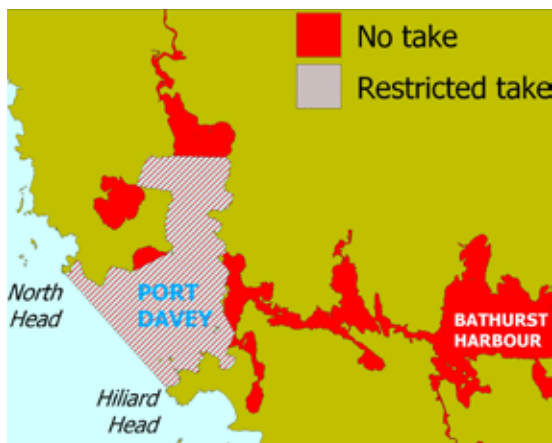
13. *George III Rock Abalone Research Area*

No anchoring, swimming or taking of any fish by diving is allowed within 500 metres of the rock.



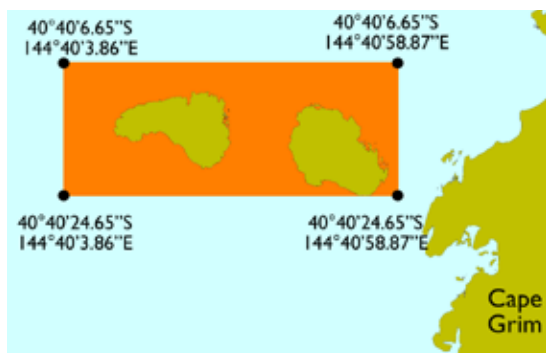
14. *Port Davey/Bathurst Harbour Marine Nature Reserve*

No fishing or setting of fishing gear is allowed in the no fishing zone. The only fishing allowed in the restricted take zone is diving for abalone and rock lobster, using a rock lobster pot or ring and line fishing with up to 5 hooks.



15. *Doughboys Abalone Research Area*

No taking of any fish by diving.



Shark Refuge Areas

Shark Refuge Areas are important habitat for the breeding of school and gummy sharks, skates and rays.

- No **shark, skate or ray** of any kind (except elephantfish) can be taken in Shark Refuge Areas.
- Do not target sharks at all in Shark Refuge Areas, even if you intend to release what you catch. Return accidentally caught shark to the water immediately.
- Using set lines and auxiliary fishing gear (see page 32) is prohibited in Shark Refuge Areas.
- Using mullet nets is prohibited in Shark Refuge Areas and other netting restrictions may apply. See page 67.
- Where permitted, graball nets may only be set for up to 2 hours and licence holders must be within 50m of their net at all times.
- You can carry sharks, skates or rays through a Shark Refuge Area if they were taken outside that area.



Shark Refuge Areas

Blackman Bay: near Dunalley.

Derwent River: upstream of a line from Dennes Point to Cape Direction.

Frederick Henry Bay and Norfolk Bay (includes Pittwater): all the waters of those bays north of a line from Cape Contrariety to Northwest Head.



D'Entrecasteaux Channel (includes North West Bay River and Huon River): between a line from Scott Point to Partridge Island and to Labillardiere Peninsula in the south and a line from Dennes Point to Piersons Point in the north.



Great Oyster Bay: north of a line from Weatherhead Point on the southern end of Freycinet Peninsula to Seaford Point.



East Coast Waters: those waters within three nautical miles of any part of the coast between Seaford Point and Cape Bougainville.

Mercury Passage: bounded in the north by a line from Cape Bougainville to Cape Boullanger and in the south by a line from Cape Peron to Cape Bernier.



Georges Bay and Burns Bay: west of a line from Grants Point to St Helens Point.

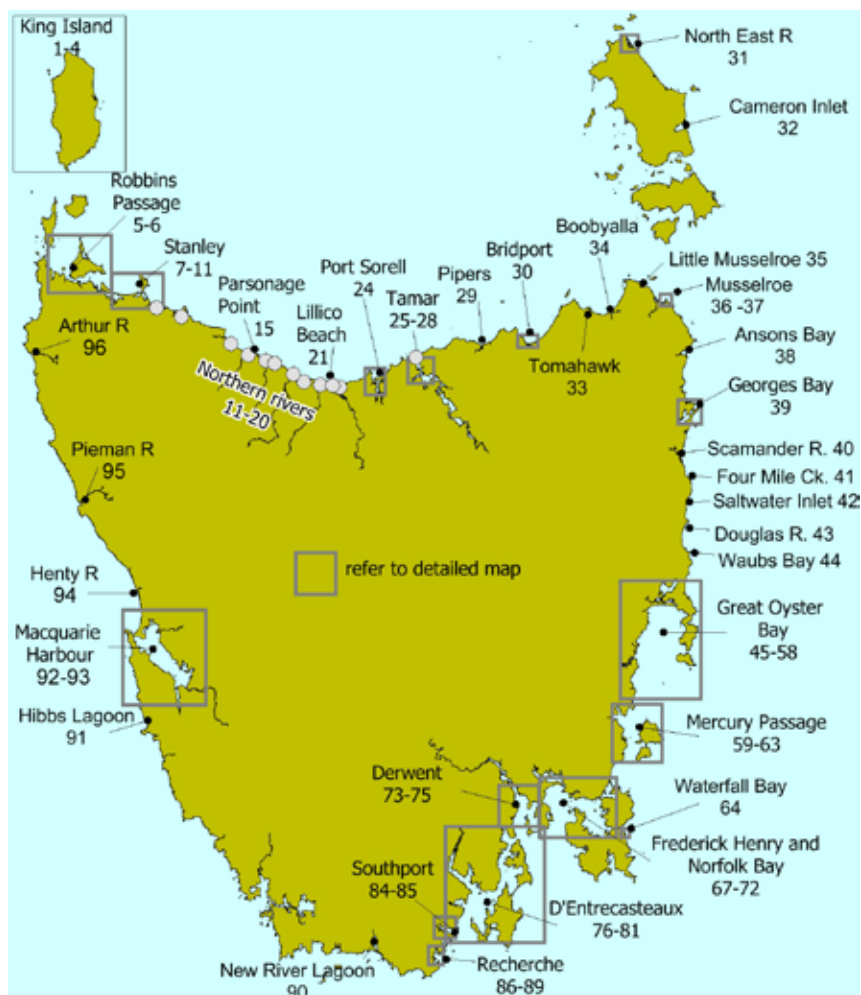
Port Sorell: south of a line through Griffiths Point in the east to Taroona Point in the west at the southern extremity of Hawley Beach.



Tamar River: those waters south of a line from Low Head and West Head.

Net and Line Area Restrictions

The map below shows where net and line restrictions apply to protect vulnerable species or sensitive habitat. More detailed maps and a description of the restrictions are on the following pages.



MAPS:	 No nets	 No mullet nets	 No gill nets (mullet & graball)
	Set lines prohibited includes longlines & droplines		Graball nets prohibited
	Mullet nets prohibited		Other nets prohibited includes beach seine nets, cast nets & bait nets
	Bait traps prohibited		Spears prohibited

Interactive maps can be found on the *Fishing Tas* app or on the web at www.fishing.tas.gov.au

1 Currie Harbour



The harbour side of a line from the tip of the most westerly breakwater at the south-west end of the harbour to the north-western extremity of the harbour, known as Devils Gap.

2 Sea Elephant River



Upstream of the mouth.

3 The Blowhole



Within 300m of The Blowhole.

4 Grassy Harbour



In the harbour with a boundary formed by a line from the end of the jetty at Jetty Point to Sandblow Point.

5 Mosquito Inlet



South of a line from the northern tip of Back Banks to Egging Point and west to the shore of Robbins Island.

6 Robbins Passage



The area bounded in the west by a line from Woolnorth Point to the northern tip of Kangaroo Island and then to Bird Point on Robbins Island, and bounded in the east by a line from Cape Elie on Robbins Island to Shipwreck Point on Perkins Island. Beach seine nets are not allowed. Bait nets and cast nets are allowed (map at top of next column).



7 Duck Bay



The bay with seaward boundaries defined by a line from Kingston Pt to Eagle Point, and at the northern end of channel known as The Jam.



8 East and West Inlet



South of a line from the north extremity of Black River Beach to the east extremity of Anthony Beach.

Net and Line Area Restrictions

9 Black River



Upstream of the mouth and including those waters within 100m to seaward of the mouth to the bridge carrying the A2 road across the river.

10 Sawyer Bay



West of a line from the northern tip of Black River Beach to a point 500m off the shore and due south of the western wave wall of Fishermans Dock and within 500m of the shore around The Nut to the southern end of Godfreys Beach.

11 Godfreys Beach, Stanley



Waters within an imaginary straight line extending from the existing no netting boundary to the easternmost point of the first small headland north of Godfreys Beach.

12 Detention River



Upstream of the mouth between Hellyer Beach and Forwards Beach and including those waters within 100m to seaward of the mouth to the downstream side of the bridge carrying the A2 road across that river.

13 Inglis River



Upstream of a line between the seaward ends of the breakwaters on each side of the mouth and within 100m seaward of that line to the downstream side of the bridge carrying the C234 road. Spearfishing of flounder is allowed.

14 Cam River

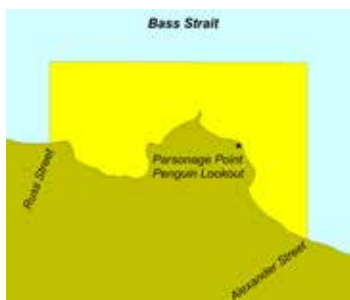


Upstream of the mouth including those waters within 300m to seaward to the downstream side of the bridge carrying the A2 road.

15 Parsonage Point, Burnie



Waters bounded by a line commencing at the intersection of the high-water mark and the line of longitude 145.9041 E to the point 41.0419 S / 145.9041 E to the point 41.0419 S / 145.8915 E then due south to high-water mark.



16 Emu River



The river and its tributaries, upstream of the mouth including those waters within 200m to seaward to the downstream side of the bridge carrying the A2 road.

17 Blythe River



Upstream of the mouth including those waters within 100m of the seaward end of the rocks on the eastern shore at the mouth to the downstream side of the bridge carrying the A2 road.

18 Sulphur Creek



Upstream of the mouth to the railway bridge.

19 Leven River



Upstream of a line between the seaward ends of the breakwaters on each side of the mouth including waters within 100m seaward of that line to the downstream side of the bridge carrying the A1 road. Spearing of flounder is allowed.

20 Forth River



Upstream of a line across the river that follows the direction of The Esplanade and 200m to seaward of that line.

21 Lillico Beach



Waters enclosed within a 1 km radius of the Lillico Beach penguin viewing platform.



22 Don River



Upstream of a line between Don Heads and the gun club building and 100m to seaward of that line to the downstream side of the bridge carrying the railway across that river.

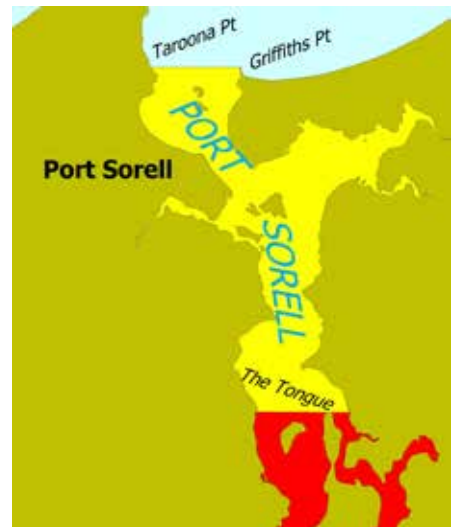
23 Mersey River



The river and its tributaries (including Horsehead Creek), upstream of a line from the seaward end of the breakwater on the western shore to the first beacon on the eastern side of the river mouth including waters within 100m to seaward of that line to a line running north-east across that river from the junction of the B19 road and Tarleton Road on the western shore to the boat ramp on the eastern shore. Spearing of flounder is allowed.

24 Port Sorell

Is a Shark Refuge Area (see page 74).



24a Port Sorell (North of the Tongue)



North of a line of latitude through the northern end of Dells Point, known as The Tongue to a line from Taroona Point to Griffiths Point.

Net and Line Area Restrictions

24b Port Sorell (South of the Tongue)



South of a line of latitude through the northern end of Dells Point to the bridges carrying the Frankford Road.

25, 26, 27 Tamar River

Is a Shark Refuge Area (see page 74).



25 Tamar River Entrance



Those waters south of a line from Low Head and West Head to a line from the northern end of Garden Island to the Georgetown Monument.

26 Tamar River Middle



Upstream of a line from the northern end of Garden Island to the Georgetown Monument to a line from Point Rapid (near Rowella) to Sheeptail Point (near Hillwood). Bait traps may be used in this area.

27 Tamar River Upstream



Upstream of a line from Point Rapid to Sheeptail Point to the parallel of latitude of Haystack Point (near Riverside).

28 Low Head



Waters 500 metres west of the intersection of latitude 41° 03' 45 S and the high-water mark and then generally in a northerly direction to 500 metres north of Low Head. Set lines can be used north of a line from West Head to Low Head.

29 Pipers River



Upstream from the mouth to a line between two white posts on opposite shores at the upstream limits of the estuary.

30 Anderson Bay - Brid River



South of a line from the eastern end of Barnboughe Beach to the boat ramp at the southern end of Old Pier Beach and the old wharf piles to the downstream side of the Brid River bridge carrying the B84 road, including Trent Waters.



31 North East River and Arthurs Creek



Upstream of a line from the eastern tip of Holloway Point south to the northern tip of Foochow Beach (map at top of next column).



32 Cameron Inlet



Upstream of a line from the north-west tip of Planters Beach and west to the opposite shore.

33 Tomahawk River



Upstream of a line from the eastern tip of the northern arm of the river entrance south to Tomahawk Beach to one kilometre below the bridge on the West Tomahawk Road.

34 Boobyalla Inlet



Upstream of a line from Campbells Point east to the opposite shore to a point at grid reference 574658/5474108.

35 Little Musselroe River



Upstream from the mouth.

36 Musselroe Bay - West



Upstream of a line from a point on Ryans Arm at longitude 148.1541 E to the opposite shore.



37 Musselroe Bay - East



Waters upstream of a line from the red navigation mark at 40.8284 S / 148.1738 E to the point 40.8301 S / 148.1748 E to a line from the point known as Ryans Arm at longitude 148.1541 E due north to the opposite shore.

38 Ansons Bay



All waters of Ansons Bay to the mouth of Ansons River.

39 Georges Bay and Burns Bay



West of a line between Grants Point and St Helens Point is a Shark Refuge Area (see page 74) (map at top of next page).

Net and Line Area Restrictions



40 Scamander River



Upstream from and within 200m of the mouth to the downstream side of the A3 road bridge.

41 Four Mile Creek



Upstream from the mouth to the Four Mile Creek road bridge.

42 Saltwater Inlet



The inlet at Wardlaws Creek.

43 Douglas River



Upstream from the mouth to the A3 road bridge.

44 Waubs Bay



Waters enclosed to the north of an imaginary straight line from the southernmost point of Governor Island west to the Tasmanian mainland, to the west of a second imaginary straight line from the northernmost point of Governor Island to the southernmost point of Diamond Island, and to the

south of a third imaginary straight line from the westernmost point of Diamond Island to the northern end of Redbill Beach.



45 Moulting Lagoon



Upstream from the mouth, including the waters of King Bay and Pelican Bay to where the Swan River enters King Bay. Note: bait nets are allowed.

46 Freshwater Lagoon



Upstream from the mouth.

47 Saltwater Lagoon



Upstream from the mouth.

48, 49 Great Oyster Bay

Is a Shark Refuge Area (see page 74) (map at top of next page).



48 Great Oyster Bay - Northern end



North of a line from Waterloo Point at Swansea to The Fisheries at Coles Bay. Beach seine nets are not allowed in Coles Bay from Hepburn Point to The Fisheries.

49 Great Oyster Bay - Southern end



North of a line from Seaford Point to Weatherhead Point to a line from Waterloo Point at Swansea to The Fisheries at Coles Bay. Beach seine nets are not allowed in Promise Bay.

50 Meredith River



Upstream from the mouth to the main road bridge.

51 Bryans Lagoon



Upstream from the mouth.

52 Lisdillion River



Upstream of a line from the southern tip of Lisdillion Beach and west to the opposite shore.

53 Mayfield River



Upstream from the mouth.

54 Troyheleener Lagoon



Upstream of the Tasman Highway (A3) road bridge.

55 Buxton River



Upstream of a line from the south-eastern tip of Horrels Point to Penquite Point to the posts marking the tidal limit.

56 Little Swanport Estuary and Little Swanport River



Upstream of a northerly line from Limekiln Point to the opposite shore to the downstream side of the Tasman Highway bridge. Bream fishing area to posts approximately 800 metres above the downstream side of Tasman Highway bridge.

Net and Line Area Restrictions

57 East Coast Waters



Three nautical miles off the coast between Seaford Point south to Cape Bougainville is a Shark Refuge Area (see page 74).

58 Okehampton Lagoon



Upstream from the mouth.

59 Prosser River



Upstream from the mouth to the seaward limit at the downstream side of the A3 road bridge.

60, 61 Mercury Passage

Is a Shark Refuge Area (see page 74).



60 Mercury Passage



The area bounded in the north by a line from Cape Bougainville to Cape Boullanger and in the south by a line from Cape Bernier to Cape Peron.

61 Mercury Passage – shoreline waters



Within 200m of the low water mark.

62 Earlham Lagoon (south of Rheban)



Upstream of the mouth of the lagoon to where the Sandspit River enters the lagoon at grid reference 576279/527769.

63 Waterfall Bay and Patersons Arch



Within 200m of the low water mark of the shore from the main waterfall in Waterfall Bay east to the most southern point of Waterfall Bluff and within 200m of the lookout on the point west of Patersons Arch.



64 Bream Creek



Upstream from the mouth to a line between 2 posts approximately 1.6 km above the mouth.

65 Blackman Bay and Dunalley Canal



East of the western entrance to Denison Canal to the mouth between Long Spit and Little Chinaman Bay is a Shark Refuge Area (see page 74).

66- 71 Frederick Henry Bay and Norfolk Bay (including Pitt Water and Eaglehawk Bay)

Is a Shark Refuge Area (see page 74).



66 Frederick Henry Bay and Norfolk Bay - Shoreline Waters

  (grey area on map)

Waters 200m seaward from the low water mark of Frederick Henry Bay and Norfolk Bay or to the prescribed lines. Graball nets allowed.

67 Frederick Henry Bay and Norfolk Bay

   (yellow area on map)

The area of Frederick Henry Bay and Norfolk Bay bounded in the south with a line from Cape Contrariety to North West Head other than shoreline waters. This includes Spectacle Island and between Sloping Island and Green Head. No gillnets allowed.

68 Eaglehawk Bay

Eaglehawk Bay east of a line from Sympathy Point to Heather Point.

69 Carlton River

The area of Carlton River upstream of a line from the western most part of Carlton Bluff to the Carlton Beach Surf Lifesaving Club building on the opposite shore.

70 Pipe Clay Lagoon

The area of Pipe Clay Lagoon upstream from the mouth.

71 Pitt Water and Coal River

The areas of Pitt Water and Coal River upstream of a line running eastward from Sandy Point to the western extremity of Tiger Head.

72 - 74 Derwent River

Is a Shark Refuge Area (see page 74).



Net and Line Area Restrictions

72 Derwent River - Middle and Upper



Upstream of a line from the Crayfish Point boat ramp to Droughty Point.

73 Derwent River - Entrance



South of the above no netting zone to a line from Piersons Point to Dennes Point to Cape Direction.

74 Kingston Beach and Blackmans Bay



In the river and inshore west of a line from Bonnet Point at Kingston to Soldiers Rocks at Blackmans Bay.

75 - 80 D'Entrecasteaux Channel (includes North West Bay and Huon River)

Is a Shark Refuge Area (see page 74).



75 D'Entrecasteaux Channel



The area bounded in the south by a line from Scott Point to the northern tip of Partridge Island, then from the southern tip of that island to Labillardiere Peninsula and in the north by a line from Dennes Point to Piersons Point.

76 Stinkpot Bay



Upstream of a line from the boat ramp at Dru Point to the western point of Stinkpot Bay.

77 Huon River



The area of the Huon River upstream of a line from the navigation light on Brabazon Point to the western side of the river.

78 Neck Beach



Waters west of a line commencing at 43.2436 S / 147.4017 E Mars Bluff to the point 43.3108 S / 147.3203 E at the southern end of Neck Beach.

79 Esperance River



Upstream of a line between Slacks Point and Hawkers Point.

80 Stringers Cove



Within the cove or 100m seaward.

81 Cloudy Bay Lagoon



Upstream of a line extending from the south-western tip of the spit at the western end of Cloudy Beaches and then west to the opposite shore.

82 - 85 Southport Area



82 Lune River and Hastings Bay



Upstream of a straight line across the channel south of Bream Bay at latitude 43.4472 S.

83 Southport - Western Side of Bay



West of an imaginary line running due south from Martyns Point to a second straight line across the channel south of Bream Bay at latitude 43.4472S.

84 Southport - Eastern Side of Bay



West of a line from Southport Bluff to Burnett Point.

85 Southport Lagoon



Upstream from the mouth of Southport Lagoon.

86 Blackswan Lagoon (north of Recherche Bay)



Upstream of a line from the southern tip of Little Lagoon Beach and west to the other shore.

87 Catamaran River



Those waters within 200m to seaward of the mouth.

88 D'Entrecasteaux River



Upstream of a line from the intersection of the Cockle Creek Road and the Leprena Track to the northern end of Coal Pit Bight to the mouth of the D'Entrecasteaux River.

89 Recherche Bay



West of a line from Sullivan Point to the navigation light on Fishers Point.



Net and Line Area Restrictions

90 New River Lagoon



Upstream from the mouth.

91 Hibbs Lagoon



Upstream from the mouth of the lagoon.

92 - 93 Macquarie Harbour



92 Macquarie Harbour



All waters upstream of an imaginary straight line due east from latitude 42°12'43.2\"S, longitude 145°12'50.4\"E to latitude 42°12'43.2\"S, longitude 145°13'33.6\"E, excluding Macquarie Harbour South East. Includes all waters in Birchs Inlet south of Henrietta Creek.

No recreational gillnetting is allowed in Macquarie Harbour.

93 Macquarie Harbour - South East



South and east of a line between Gordon Point and Charcoal Burners Bluff.

94 Henty River



Upstream from a line 100m seaward of mouth.

95 Pieman River



Upstream of a line through Pieman Head along longitude 144° 55' E.

96 Arthur River



Upstream of a line from Gardiner Point, north to the opposite shore.

Estuaries, Rivers and Lagoons

In the lower reaches of rivers and in estuaries, separate Inland Fisheries rules may apply. For small rivers and creeks, the border between inland and marine rules is generally where the waters of the river meet the waters of the sea. For larger rivers with extensive tidal areas:

- a *seaward limit* is set; or
- special arrangements are in place for *bream fishing*.

Seaward limits and inland waters:

Where a *seaward limit* is set, water upstream of the limit is inland waters. An inland fisheries licence is required to fish in inland waters.

Bream fishing area: In a *bream fishing area*, an inland fisheries licence is required for trout and seasons may apply. Bream and marine species can be taken without an inland fisheries licence with up to two rods, all year round.

For inland fishing enquiries, contact:

Inland Fisheries Service
1300 INFISH
www.ifs.tas.gov.au



The following is a list of the status of some major rivers and estuaries.

Ansons River: *bream fishing area* upstream from the mouth of the river to the St Helens-Eddystone Point Road bridge (map above right).

Arthur River: *bream fishing area* upstream from a line at grid reference 303452/5452424 to the downstream side of the bridge connecting the Arthur River road to Temma road.



Bream Creek: *bream fishing area* downstream from a straight line between grid reference 570959/5261529 and grid reference 570982/5261529 approximately 2.5 kilometres from the river mouth.

Buxton River: *bream fishing area* from the mouth upstream to the posts marking the tidal limit.

Carlton River: *seaward limit* at the crossing of the Carlton-Dunalley Road.

Coal River: *bream fishing area* from the mouth upstream to the weir immediately below Richmond.

D'Entrecasteaux River: *bream fishing area* from the mouth upstream to the road bridge.

Derwent River: *bream fishing area* upstream from a line across the river from Dowsings Point to Store Point to the Bridgewater Bridge.



Estuaries, Rivers and Lagoons

Don River: *seaward limit* at the downstream side of the bridge carrying the railway across that river.

Douglas River: *breem fishing area* from the mouth upstream to the road bridge.

Esperance River: *breem fishing area* from a line across the river at Chale Bay upstream to the road bridge.

Forth River: *seaward limit* at the downstream side of the bridge carrying the A1 Road across that river.

Four Mile Creek: *breem fishing area* upstream from the mouth to the Four Mile Creek Road bridge.

Great Forester River: *seaward limit* at the continuation of the high-water mark on Waterhouse Beach.

Great Musselroe River: *breem fishing area* upstream from the mouth to the first rapids marked by a post.

Henty River: *seaward limit* at the mouth of that river at grid reference 356499/5346132.

Huon River: *breem fishing area* upstream from a line drawn between a white post on the shore of the southern side of Castle Forbes Bay and another white post on the eastern bank of the river to the downstream side of the bridge at Huonville (map above right).

Inglis River: *seaward limit* at the downstream side of the bridge carrying the C234 road.



Jordan River: *breem fishing area* from the mouth upstream to the Cove Hill Road bridge.

Leven River: *seaward limit* at the downstream side of the bridge carrying the A1 road.

Lisdillon River: *breem fishing area* from the mouth upstream to the road bridge on the Tasman Highway.

Little Swanport River: *breem fishing area* from the mouth upstream to posts approximately 800 metres above the Tasman Highway bridge.

Lune River: *breem fishing area* from a line across the river at Echo Island upstream to the first rapids.

Meredith River: *breem fishing area* upstream from the mouth to the main road bridge.

Mersey River: *seaward limit* at an imaginary straight line running north-east across that river from the junction of the B19 Road and Tarleton Road on the western shore of that river to the boat ramp on the eastern shore of that river (map above right).

Estuaries, Rivers and Lagoons



Pieman River: *bream fishing area* upstream of a line through Pieman Head along longitude 144.9166 E to the seaward limit at an imaginary straight line running south-east across that river from Ferry Point at 41.6597 S / 144.9305 E.

Prosser River: *bream fishing area* downstream from the Prosser River Dam to the seaward limit at the road bridge.

Sandspit River: *bream fishing area* downstream from the road bridge to where it enters Earlham Lagoon.

Scamander River: *bream fishing area* from the bridge carrying the A3 upstream to the posts near Mason's windmill.



Swan River: *seaward limit* at a line drawn between the white posts situated on opposite banks of the Swan River near where it enters King Bay.

kanamaluka/River Tamar: *seaward limit* at the parallel of latitude of Haystack Point.

The Arm: St Helens, *bream fishing area* from the mouth upstream to the road crossing marked by two posts.

Tomahawk River: *bream fishing area* from the West Tomahawk road bridge downstream for one kilometre.

EAST COAST LAGOONS

The following lagoons are bream fishing areas: Big Lagoon, Dianas Basin, Fortescue Bay Lagoon, Freshwater and Saltwater Lagoons (at Friendly Beaches), Grants Lagoon, Hendersons Lagoon (at Falmouth), Old Mines Lagoon (near Bicheno), Lisdillon Lagoon, Sloop Rock Lagoon, The Gardens Lagoon and Wrinklers Lagoon. Orielson Lagoon and Templestowe Lagoon are inland waters and Inland Fisheries Service rules apply.

Marine Farming Lease Areas

Fishing Near Marine Farms

Recreational fishing in marine farming lease areas is prohibited without the permission of the leaseholder. Marine farming leases provide the leaseholder with exclusive right of occupation of the waters and seabed.



A few simple rules should be followed:

- be aware of marine farming leases in any area you intend to fish. If unsure, check the lease locations on LISTMap at: **www.thelist.tas.gov.au**;
- keep well clear of the boundaries of marine farming lease areas which are marked with IALA special markers (see photos) as you may be trespassing; and
- be careful if anchoring or fishing near deep water marine farming lease areas. The anchors and mooring lines for marine farming equipment are allowed to extend outside the lease area and you risk fouling your gear or anchor.

For any questions regarding marine farming leases, email the NRE Tas Aquaculture Branch at **mfops@nre.tas.gov.au**.

Report Marine Farming Debris

Marine farming debris is any aquaculture equipment outside a marine farming lease area (including the shoreline) without authorisation (e.g. buoys, pipes, ropes, oyster baskets).

If you see marine farming debris that poses a navigational hazard, please contact Marine and Safety Tasmania (MAST) on (03) 6235 8888.

All other marine farming debris should be reported to the NRE Tas Aquaculture Branch via:

- Online reporting form
- DECKEE Boating app

When making a report please include your name, contact details, date, time, location, and image/description of debris to enable further investigation.



Scan to report marine farming debris

Buying a Boat?

When inspecting a boat, check for:

- **Structural condition:** Look for cracks, rot, corrosion or repairs and delamination or soft spots in timber.
- **Engine size and compliance:** Ensure the engine meets manufacturer specifications.
- **Mechanical condition:** Start the engine to check for smoke, leaks and noises; consider a mechanic's inspection.
- **Electronics and systems:** Verify all electronics (eg, GPS, radios, lights, bilge pump) are operational and correctly wired.
- **Maintenance history:** Request service records to confirm regular maintenance of the boat and engine.



If you are a MAST client, you can manage the administration of your licence, registration, or mooring permit through the MAST Portal as well as lodge a Notice of Disposal.



Contacts

Recreational Sea Fishing Enquiries, NRE Tas	Phone: 1300 720 647 or (03) 6165 3233 Email: fishing.enquiries@nre.tas.gov.au Website: fishing.tas.gov.au
Recreational Sea Fishing Licences	Available from: fishing.tas.gov.au/licence or Service Tasmania
Tasmania Police	131 444 or marine@police.tas.gov.au
Recreational Fishing Reporting Service (transit reports, rock lobster catch reports, lost or irretrievable gear)	1300 720 647
Fishcare Tasmania	fishing.tas.gov.au/fishcare Email: fishcare@nre.tas.gov.au
Inland Fisheries Service	1300 463 474 or (03) 6165 3808 or ifs.tas.gov.au
Marine and Safety Tasmania (MAST)	1300 135 513 or mast.tas.gov.au
Fisheries research	IMAS: (03) 6226 8277 or imas.utas.edu.au
Parks and Wildlife Service	parks.tas.gov.au or 1300 827 727
Aboriginal fishing	Details at fishing.tas.gov.au
TARFish (recreational fishing peak body)	1300 665 225 or tarfish.org
Department of Health (biotoxin alerts, eating seafood safely)	Public Health Hotline 1800 671 738 or www.health.tas.gov.au/health-topics/food-safety/food-safety-consumers/wild-shellfish
Weather	bom.gov.au

Disclaimer: This booklet is a guide to the Tasmanian recreational fishing rules as at 1 November 2025. It does not replace the *Living Marine Resources Management Act 1995* or the legislation made under it. No responsibility is accepted for the accuracy, completeness, or relevance to the user's purpose, of the information. Those using it are advised to verify it with the relevant Commonwealth or State government department, local government body or other source and to obtain any appropriate professional advice. The Crown, its officers, employees and agents do not accept liability however arising, including liability for negligence, for any loss resulting from the use of or reliance upon the information. Fishing laws change from time to time. It is your responsibility to ensure that you are acting within the law

Have you seen something in the marine environment that you want to report?

If your report is about whales, seals, dolphins or seabirds, please contact the **Marine Conservation Program** on **0427 942 537** in addition to the relevant organisation below.

What did you see?		How should you report it?
Illegal fishing		Call Fishwatch 0427 655 557
Lost, stolen or irretrievable gear		Call the Recreational Fishing Reporting Service 1300 720 647
Tagged fish		Contact the Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies on 0409 277 140 or email fish.tag@utas.edu.au
Marine farming debris	Does it pose a navigational hazard?	Yes - Contact MAST on (03) 6235 8888 No - Report using the Deckee app , or the NRE Tas online reporting form (see page 92)
An unusual marine species	Is it an invasive species?	Yes - Contact Biosecurity Tasmania at Invasivespecies@nre.tas.gov.au No - Report it to Redmap online or call (03) 6226 8277
Dead or dying animals	Is it a large number of dead or dying animals?	Yes - Call the 24-hour Emergency Animal Disease Hotline on 1800 675 888 If they are fish, please also report it to the EPA Incident Response Hotline on 1800 005 171 No - Call Biosecurity Tasmania during office hours on (03) 6165 3777
Injured or entangled animal		Contact the Marine Conservation Program on 0427 942 537 .

If you're not sure who to contact or have a general enquiry about recreational sea fishing:

- call Recreational Fishing Enquiries on **1300 720 647** during business hours, or
- email **fishing.enquiries@nre.tas.gov.au**

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Cover image: Jordy with snapper caught near Devonport FAD. Image attribution: Steve Farrow.

Where else can I find fishing information?

*Get the **Fishing Guide** on your phone!*

- Fish ID guide to 150+ species
- Maps for wherever you fish
- Quick access to the latest rules

FREE

to download today.



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