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About this document

This document sets out to be a ‘plain English’ guide for all holders of a scalefish licence—excluding banded morwong as that fishery has a separate operational guide—and contains relevant information for those fishing in State waters utilising a scalefish licence. The rules summarised here are described in the *Fisheries (Scalefish) Rules 2015* (the Rules).

**DISCLAIMER**

This Guide is a plain English summary of most Rules and is produced without prejudice. It, therefore, should not to be used as a binding interpretation of the Rules for legal proceedings.

The Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment (DPIPWE) and its employees to not warrant or make any representation regarding the use, or results of the use, of the information contained herein as regards to its correctness, accuracy, reliability and currency or otherwise. DPIWE and its employees expressly disclaim all liability or responsibility to any person using the information or advice.

**LICENCE HOLDER RESPONSIBILITY**

Information provided in this Guide is correct as at the time of publication. Licence holders and authorised supervisors are advised that Fishery Management Plans (the legislation) change from time to time and licence holders are advised of these changes when they occur.

Licence holders are reminded of their responsibility to ensure that any person specified as an authorised supervisor on their licence is made aware of these changes as they occur.

It remains your responsibility as a licence holder or authorised supervisor to read and understand the relevant legislation in full, and to maintain an up to date knowledge of the management plan relevant to your activities.

1. Industry representation

There are two main ways that industry are represented in the planning and management process for all Tasmania's fisheries — via the relevant recognised fishing body (Tasmanian Seafood Industry Council) and individual fishers who are involved the Minister’s Advisory Committee processes (Scalefish FAC). This representative involvement is part of the co-management framework for managing Tasmania’s marine resources.

Fishers also have the option to contact DPIPWE or write to the Minister about their issue, but are encouraged to direct any issues to the peak body (TSIC) in the first instance.

1.1 TASMANIAN SEAFOOD INDUSTRY COUNCIL

Industry is represented by the seafood industry’s peak body the Tasmanian Seafood Industry Council (TSIC). The Government consults with TSIC on a broad range of issues relating to the fishery. TSIC also has representation on the ministerially appointed Scalefish Fishery Advisory Committee (SFAC).

A component of the levy charged for a fishing licence (personal) funds TSIC. This means that all fishers who hold a fishing licence (personal) are automatically members of TSIC.

1.2 SCALEFISH FISHERY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Scalefish Fishery Advisory Committee (SFAC) is comprised of industry, management, research and enforcement representatives that provide advice directly to the Minister on issues relevant to the fishery.

The Minister for Primary Industries and Water approved membership of a new SFAC on 23 December 2019. Membership of this new SFAC will expire on 31 December 2022.

When membership expires, DPIPWE writes to licence holders calling for Expressions of Interest to become members of the new FAC.

Membership is not limited to licence owners, and women with experience in the scalefish fishing industry and active fishers (supervisors) are encouraged to express interest.

The SFAC webpage is updated periodically with new information such as meeting minutes and any changes to membership.

Advice on recreational fisheries matters is provided to the Minister by a similar committee—the Recreational Fishery Advisory Committee (RecFAC).
2. Communication with DPIPWE

2.1 WILD FISHERIES MANAGEMENT BRANCH

For questions relating to the information contained within this document and the management arrangements for the fishery, please contact the Wild Fisheries Management Branch Scalefish Section on (03) 6165 3044 or send an email to Fishing.Enquiries@dpipwe.tas.gov.au. If sending an email, please ensure you include “Commercial Scalefish Enquiry” in the subject line.

To receive email updates on what is happening in the Scalefish Fishery, please sign up to our email subscription service by scanning the below QR with your mobile device.

Alternatively go to http://eepurl.com/dGq72L. Make sure to select the licence types that you hold, use or have interest in (by indicating with a "Y"), as some emails will be targeted to specific licence types other than banded morwong.

If you are not already receiving emails from us via this subscription service then we encourage you to subscribe now.

2.2 LICENSING AND ADMINISTRATION BRANCH

For questions relating to licensing matters, quota transfers and quota balances, and catch and effort logbooks please contact the Licensing and Administration Branch on (03) 6165 5300 or send an email to Fisheries.Licensing@dpipwe.tas.gov.au or Fisheries.Monitoring@dpipwe.tas.gov.au.

To streamline and simplify the way that the commercial fishing industry interacts with DPIPWE, it is now possible to receive your fishing certificates and other fisheries related communications by email. To nominate an email address, or update your nominated email address for electronic communications with DPIPWE, you must lodge the “Consent for Communication by Electronic Notification” form. You can obtain this form from our Commercial Licensing Forms web page at www.fishing.tas.gov.au/forms. This is
much quicker than sending mail via Australia Post—that now takes up to a week for general mail to be received within Tasmania.

The Frequently Asked Questions web page www.fishing.tas.gov.au/CommFishFAQ is the first place you can go to find answers to common questions relating to your licence. The Licensing and Administration Branch will regularly update this page—especially as the changes are worked through. Suggestions for content are also welcome—you can email your suggestions to fisheries.licensing@dPIPWE.tas.gov.au

The Licensing and Administration Branch has also identified ways to streamline and simplify processes affecting the commercial fishing industry. This includes performing licence related transactions, and providing catch and effort information.

Some changes are already in place, and some will take time to implement. To keep up to date with all of the changes, keep an eye on the Making Life Easier pages on the DPIPWE website at www.fishing.tas.gov.au/makelifeeasier.

Remember:

- You can now elect to receive all communications from the Licensing and Administration Branch and the Wild Fisheries Management Branch directly to an email address—including licence renewals.
- To do this, simply complete the “Application to Consent to Communication by Electronic Notification” form on the Commercial Licensing Forms page (hint: it is right at the bottom), and return it to the Branch.

2.3 WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BRANCH – WHALE HOTLINE

In addition to your legal requirement to record all interactions with protected species in your logbook—refer to Section 12 for more information on recording your interactions with protected species—DPIPWE’s Marine Conservation Program is keen to hear about all sightings of whales and dolphins in Tasmanian waters, in particular, those that are stranded, entangled or injured.

Reports contribute valuable information to long term monitoring and conservation of these species in Tasmania. The 24 hour Whale Hotline (0427 942 537) can also be used to report entangled or injured seals or seabirds.

Guidelines for viewing and approaching whales and dolphins are outlined below. These guidelines apply to all water users including commercial operators and recreational boaters.

In general, when a whale or dolphin is observed, vessel operators should:

- Slow down and avoid erratic changes in speed and direction.
- Approach no closer than the specified approach distances (see below).
- Avoid approaching from directly in front of or behind the animal.

2.4 REVIEW OF FISHERIES LEGISLATION (I.E., THE RULES)

The legislation that drives the management of the Tasmanian Scalefish Fishery—the *Fisheries (Scalefish) Rules 2015*—is valid for 10 years from the date of effect.

A review may occur sooner than this period, subject to any management action that is required for all or part of the fishery.
The Fishery

The Tasmanian Scalefish Fishery is a multi-species and multi-gear fishery that is primarily made up of small owner operated commercial businesses and a large and diverse recreational fishery. This fishery includes the take of finfish, cephalopods (calamari and squid), octopus and chondrichthyans (sharks and rays).

The fishery is managed under the provisions of the Living Marine Resources Management Act 1995. The Act's objectives include conserving resources for future generations, taking account of community needs and interests, and encouraging community participation in the planning process. The Department seeks to achieve these objectives through a range of management measures and consultation processes.

Catch and effort in the fishery is controlled through input controls such as limited entry (capped licence numbers), closed seasons and gear restrictions. Output controls, such as minimum and maximum size limits and trip limits, are also used.

In October 2009 a quota management system was introduced to manage the commercial take of banded morwong from the east coast. More detail on the management of the Banded Morwong Fishery can be found in the Guide for the Commercial Banded Morwong Fishery, which is available for download on the DPIPWE website.
3. **Area of the fishery**

The Tasmanian Scalefish Fishery is managed as one area (Figure 1)—with the exception of banded morwong, southern calamari, octopus and rock lobster. For banded morwong, please refer to the Guide for the Commercial Banded Morwong Fishery.

3.1 **STATE WATERS**

All scalefish licences—excluding rock lobster and octopus—can only operate in the coastal waters indicated in blue (Figure 1). The exception is the holder of a fishing licence (rock lobster) that has a fishing licence (wrasse) attached to the licence package as this can operate in waters described in Figure 2. Remember to check your vessel survey limits before accessing remote State waters.

Please note that Marine Reserves and Shark Refuge Areas are not shown on this map.

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**Figure 1:** Map of Tasmanian Coastal Waters. The northern boundary is at latitude 39°12’S. All scalefish licences—excluding rock lobster and octopus—can only operate in coastal waters indicated in blue. Marine Reserves and Shark Refuge Areas are not shown on this map. Remember to check your vessel survey limits before accessing remote State waters.
3.2 STATE WATERS FOR HOLDERS OF A FISHING LICENCE (ROCK LOBSTER)

Holders of a fishing licence (rock lobster) are able to operate outside coastal waters and includes the light blue shaded waters in Figure 2. These waters are considered “State Waters” when a fisher is operating under a fishing licence (rock lobster).

Rock lobster fishers can use the scalefish gear component of this licence in all of these waters—however—the catch limits detailed in Section 8 apply. The only exception is where the holder of fishing licence (rock lobster) also holds a fishing licence (wrasse) on the same licence package. Under these circumstances the holder has no limit on wrasse and sell live wrasse.

Figure 2: A map of Tasmanian Offshore Constitutional Settlement (OCS) jurisdiction for the Scalefish Fishery. Rock lobster fishers have access to waters outside coastal waters and can utilise the scalefish gear component of their licence in these waters. Marine Reserves and Shark Refuge Areas are not shown on this map.
3.3 STATE WATERS FOR HOLDERS OF A FISHING LICENCE (OCTOPUS)

Holders of a fishing licence (octopus) are able to operate outside coastal waters and includes the light blue shaded waters in Figure 2 as these waters are considered “State Waters”. However, holders of a fishing licence (octopus) are only permitted to access waters indicated in Figure 3.

Figure 3: A map of Tasmanian Offshore Constitutional Settlement (OCS) jurisdiction for the Scalefish Fishery. Octopus has the same access as rock lobster, but the fishing licence (octopus) can only operate in the northern waters as indicated by the line in the west from Cape Grim and the line in the east from Cape Naturaliste. Marine Reserves and Shark Refuge Areas are not shown on this map.
3.4 STATE WATERS FOR HOLDERS OF A FISHING LICENCE (SOUTHERN CALAMARI)

A fishing licence (southern calamari) can only operate inside South East Waters—which are State waters—bounded in the north by the line of latitude running through Lemon Rock, including Great Oyster Bay, and in the west by the line of longitude running through Whale Head.

Figure 4: Map of South East Waters. A fishing licence (southern calamari) can only operate inside coastal waters bounded in the north by the line of latitude running through Lemon Rock (including Great Oyster Bay) and in the west by the line of longitude running through Whale Head. Marine Reserves and Shark Refuge Areas are not shown on this map.
3.5 MARINE PARKS AND MARINE RESERVES

There are areas around Tasmania where no fishing or limited fishing using specific types of fishing gear is allowed. These areas include Marine Parks, Marine Nature Reserves and Shark Refuge Areas.

Refer to Section 3.6 for information on Shark Refuge Areas.

In Tasmanian waters, the Parks and Wildlife Service and DPIPWE’s Marine Resources Division jointly manage marine reserves and Parks Australia manages the Commonwealth Marine Parks.

Commonwealth Marine Parks

Although most scalefish licence holders [other than holders of a fishing licence (rock lobster) or a fishing licence (octopus)] do not have access outside Tasmanian coastal waters—the Beagle, Boags, Flinders, Franklin, Freycinet and Tasman Fracture Marine Parks are located off Tasmania and are managed by Parks Australia.

If you are the holder of a fishing licence (rock lobster) or fishing licence (octopus), you will need to refer to the classification of the respective zones to work out if you are able to access certain areas and if a permit is required. All vessels are allowed to transit all zone classifications in accordance with plan prescriptions—i.e., without the need for a permit or class approval.

Governor Island Marine Reserve

The reserve extends 400 metres eastward from the shoreline of Governor Island. This 50 hectare reserve includes the island itself and Alligator Rock.

No fishing or setting of fishing gear is permitted in the Governor Island Marine Reserve. There are white paired poles marking the western boundary.

The above detailed map and further information is available from the Parks and Wildlife website.
The Kent Group Marine Reserve

There are two zones in the Kent Group Marine Reserve—the “no fishing zone” and the “restricted zone”. Refer to the *Fisheries Rules 2009* for the relevant legislation.

No fishing or setting of fishing gear is permitted in the “no take zone”. The only fishing currently allowed in the restricted zone is handline fishing for scalefish (no set lines, spearing or netting) and taking rock lobster using pots and rings and by diving (the taking of abalone is prohibited for biosecurity reasons).

The above detailed map and further information is available from the [Parks and Wildlife website](http://www.parkswa.gov.au).
Maria Island Marine Reserve

The reserve includes all waters up to one kilometre offshore from the north eastern point of Fossil Bay to Return Point and covers 1,500 hectares.

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

The above detailed map and further information is available from the Parks and Wildlife website.
Port Davey and Bathurst Harbour Marine Reserve

No fishing or setting of fishing gear is permitted in the no fishing zone. Refer to the 
Fisheries Rules 2009 for the relevant legislation.

The only fishing allowed in the restricted zone is diving for abalone and rock lobster, using a rock lobster pot or ring and line fishing with up to five (5) hooks. A detailed map and further information is available from the Parks and Wildlife website.
Ninepin Point Marine Reserve

No commercial fishing or setting of commercial fishing gear is permitted in waters of the D’Entrecasteaux Channel.

A detailed map and further information is available from the Parks and Wildlife website.
Tinderbox Marine Reserve

No commercial fishing or setting of commercial fishing gear is permitted in waters of the D'Entrecasteaux Channel or the Derwent River (unless otherwise endorsed for the Derwent).

A detailed map and further information is available from the Parks and Wildlife website.
3.6 **SHARK REFUGE AREAS**

No shark can be taken or possessed in a Shark Refuge Area (SRA)—**Rule 15**. The exception is elephantfish, where five (5) can be taken in an SRA—**Rule 85**.

If you are endorsed to use a gillnet in a Shark Refuge Area then you must not set or leave your gillnet in the Shark Refuge Area for longer than six (6) hours and all shark (excluding elephantfish) must be released as per **Rule 15**.

As defined in the **Rule 3** and described in **Schedule 2** of the *Fisheries (Scalefish) Rules 2015* shark refuge, area means the following areas.

**Table 10**: list of Shark Refuge Areas (SRAs) as defined in **Rule 3** and described in **Schedule 2** the *Fisheries (Scalefish) Rules 2015*.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SRA Name</th>
<th>Fishing Block Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blackman Bay</td>
<td>ES17</td>
<td>Means the waters within the area bounded – a) in the west by the western entrance of the Denison Canal; and b) in the east by an imaginary straight line from the southern extreme of Long Spit due east to the opposite shore of Little Chinaman Bay.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D'Entrecasteaux Channel</td>
<td>ES02 &amp; ES03</td>
<td>Means the waters within the area bounded – a) in the south by an imaginary straight line from Scott Point (situated at the entrance of Port Esperance) to the northern point of Partridge Island and the line of longitude 147°5'54&quot;E between the southernmost point of Partridge Island and Labilladiere Peninsula on Bruny Island; and b) in the north by an imaginary straight line from Dennes Point on Bruny Island to Piersons Point situated on the western shore of the River Derwent.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Coast Waters</td>
<td>ES15</td>
<td>Means waters within 3 nautical miles of any part of the east coast of the State between Seaford Point and an imaginary straight line from Cape Bougainville to Cape Boullanger on Maria Island.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frederick Henry Bay</td>
<td>ES19</td>
<td>Means the waters within – a) an imaginary straight line between North West Head and Cape Contrariety; and b) Pitt Water and Pipe Clay Lagoon; and c) Eaglehawk Bay.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norfolk Bay</td>
<td>ES18</td>
<td>Means the waters enclosed west of an imaginary straight line from Grants Point to St Helens Point.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georges Bay</td>
<td>ES12</td>
<td>Means the waters enclosed west of an imaginary straight line from Grants Point to St Helens Point.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### 3.7 NO NETTING OR SETLINE AREAS

Restrictions apply on the use of nets and setlines in many rivers and sheltered waters, in addition to the Shark Refuge Areas listed in Section 3.6. These areas are described in Rule 20, Rule 24 and Rule 28 and additional waters are specified in Schedule 6.

There is also descriptions and maps on no netting and setline areas available on the DPIPWE website.

### 3.8 USE OF GILLNETS

You must not set or leave a commercial gillnet in State waters longer than six (6) hours. If you are endorsed to use a gillnet in a Shark Refuge Area then you must not set or leave your gillnet in the Shark Refuge Area for longer than six (6) hours and all shark (excluding elephantfish) must be released. Refer to Rule 15 for the specific legislation.

You must not set or leave a commercial gillnet in State waters between one hour after sunset and one hour before sunrise unless you are attending your gillnets while they are set.

More information on soak times and setting of gillnets can be found in Rule 104.

Restrictions apply on using nets in many rivers and sheltered waters. These areas are described in Rule 24 and Rule 28 and the waters specified in Schedule 6.
3.9 AREAS WHERE COMMERCIAL FISHING IS NOT PERMITTED

As described in Rule 38, commercial scalefish fishing is not permitted in the following waters:

- Georges Bay;
- the D’Entrecasteaux Channel; or
- Ansons Bay.

Additionally, only holders of an endorsement for the following waters are allowed to fish for commercial purposes in the following waters:

- the River Derwent;
- Macquarie Harbour;
- Port Sorell.
3.9 ASSESSMENT AND RESEARCH

There are five assessment regions utilised for scalefish species—SEC = south east coast, EC = east coast, NEC = north east coast, NWC = north west coast and WC = west coast. The assessment for southern calamari uses slightly different regional boundaries (South East Waters) for the south east as indicated in Figure 5. These regions are currently used for assessment purposes only.

Figure 5: A map of Tasmania with the fishing blocks and assessment regions for the Scalefish Fishery. SEC = south east coast, EC = east coast, NEC = north east coast, NWC = north west coast and WC = west coast. The exception is for calamari where SEW = south east waters as indicated with the red line.

Specific species are assessed on an annual basis. The Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS) produces an annual Tasmanian Scalefish Fishery Assessment Report. These assessment reports are available for download on the IMAS website.
Limits or caps may be placed on one or more of these regions if catch and effort of a species becomes concentrated to a point that compromises the sustainability objectives of that species—at either a State or regional level.

Research needs relevant to the Scalefish Fishery is prioritised through the Scalefish Fishery Advisory Committee (SFAC) and high priority research needs are progressed through external processes such as the Tasmanian Fisheries Research Advisory Board (TasFRAB) and the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation (FRDC).

Current FRDC funded research relevant to the Scalefish Fishery are:

- Socio-economic characterisation of a small scale commercial fishery: opportunities to improve viability and profitability in the Tasmanian Scalefish Fishery (FRDC 2018-067)

- Opportunities and impacts of range extending scalefish species: understanding population dynamics, ecosystem impacts and management needs (FRDC 2018-070)
4. Scalefish licences

The Tasmanian Scalefish Fishery is a multi-gear and multi-species fishery—with 10 gear type licences, three species licences and three licence types that allow access to a specific species and the use of specific gear to take that species.

A person cannot commercially fish unless they are the holder of a fishing licence (personal). To operate in the Scalefish Fishery a person must also be the holder or supervisor of a licence package with a fishing licence (vessel) and gear licence and/or a species licence. For the relevant legislation go to Rule 37 of the Fisheries (Scalefish) Rules 2015.

If you are the holder of a licence package you must renew your package within 12 months of expiry, otherwise those licences will be automatically surrendered.

4.1 TRANSFER OF COMMERCIAL FISHING LICENCES

The Application to Transfer Tasmanian Commercial Fishing Licence(s) form should be completed to transfer commercial fishing licence(s) between licence holders. Information and requirements concerning licence transfers is available for download on the DPIPWE webpage at www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au/legislation.

Note: Endorsements (e.g. supervisors, vessels, caufs, purge sites) will be removed upon transfer. You may need to complete further forms. Please refer to the Checklist.

What you need to do

1. Both transferor (current licence holder) and the transferee (new licence holder) must sign this form ensuring details are fully completed and dated.
   PART A - Must be completed by the transferor
   PART B – Must be completed by the transferee

2. A checklist of required items is provided on page 3 of the application. Incomplete applications will result in a delay in processing the application.

3. All pages of the application form must be submitted before the application will be processed.

4. A prescribed fee applies to transferring each fishing licence. Please refer to the schedule of fees listed on the DPIPWE website at www.fishing.tas.gov.au/forms or contact DPIPWE.

   Commercial Fisheries Licensing Fees are reviewed annually with changes taking effect each 1st of July.

   PART C – Method of Payment, must be completed on page 4

5. Submit completed application package to DPIPWE.
4.2 LICENCE SPLITTING

A key management policy used to consider individual licence transfers from one licence package to another is the prevention of any potential increase in total fishing effort in a fishery—and not necessarily the fishery that the fishing licence to be transferred specifically relates to. The complex nature of many licence transfer applications necessitated the development of a Ministerial Guideline in February 2011. A copy of this guideline is available for download on the DPIPWE website at https://dpipwe.tas.gov.au/Documents/MGLicenceTransfers.pdf.

The purpose of this guideline is to assist decision making on splitting a fishing licence package and licence transfer applications. This guideline allows some rationalisation in fishing operations, while limiting the potential for increasing existing effort in a fishery.

Verbal advice or an approval “in principle” given to any person in relation to a proposed licence transfer by the DPIPWE does not constitute a formal decision—therefore is not reviewable and is not binding upon the Minister. Formal decisions must be sent to the applicant in writing and will only be made in response to the receipt of an application in writing.

4.3 FISHING LICENCE (PERSONAL)

A fishing licence (personal) allows the holder to commercially take, possess and sell or transfer fish. All commercial fishers—i.e., the Master (Supervisor or Skipper) of a licensed fishing vessel or any person intending to sell fish caught from a licensed commercial fishing vessel must hold an active fishing licence (personal) prior to going fishing. Refer to Rule 9 of the Fisheries Rules 2009 for the specific legislation.

A fishing licence (personal) expires on 31 August annually. This is a non-transferable licence. The application form for a fishing licence (personal) is available for download on the Commercial Licensing and Application Forms page of the DPIPWE website.

Table 1: Summary of the attributes of a fishing licence (personal) and total number — expiry 31 August 2019.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Licence Type</th>
<th>Limits</th>
<th>No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Fishing licence (personal) | Authorises the holder to take and sell or transfer fish for commercial purposes. 
This is a non-transferable licence that expires on 31 August annually. | 503  |
4.4 FISHING LICENCE (VESSEL)

A fishing licence (vessel) is the licence that all scalefish licence types are attached to, which then forms a “licence package”. This licence is valid from 1 March to end of following February each year—as are the other fishing gear and species licences. A fishing licence (vessel) is a transferable licence.

There are currently around 653 vessel licences with four vessel length categories (stated on the licence)—noting that not all licences are active.

The length categories are –

- less than 6 metres
- less than 10 metres
- less than 20 metres
- Unlimited.

Refer to Division 3 of the Fisheries Rules 2009 for the specific legislation relating to fishing vessels.

Table 2: Summary of the attributes of a fishing licence (vessel) and total number renewed—expiry 29 February 2020.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Licence Type</th>
<th>Limits</th>
<th>No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fishing licence (vessel)</td>
<td>Only the vessel specified in the licence can be used to operate the fishing licences attached to the fishing licence (vessel). These licences are transferable.</td>
<td>653</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4.5 GEAR LICENCES

Gear or “apparatus” licences allow the holder to use certain types of fishing gear when commercially harvesting scalefish. The licensing period begins on 1 March each year and ends on the last day of February the following year for all scalefish licences. Fishing licences relevant to the Scalefish Fishery are generally transferable with some notable exceptions—for example, Class Danish seine and the fishing licence (scalefish C). There are 10 types of gear licence operating in the Scalefish Fishery as outlined in Table 3.

Table 3: Types of fishing licences that allow specific types of fishing gear to be used in the Tasmanian Scalefish Fishery and total number renewed—expiry 29 February 2020. If you do not hold a specific gear licence then you cannot use that type of fishing gear.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Licence Type</th>
<th>Gear Limits</th>
<th>Total No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fishing licence (scalefish A)</td>
<td>1,000 metres of gillnet; 200 hooks; 2 fish traps; Squid jigs, landing nets, hand-held dipnets and spears; Up to 4 automatic squid jigging machines and fish attraction lamps with total power rating of up to 2,000 watts.</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishing licence (scalefish B)</td>
<td>500 metres of gillnet; 200 hooks; 2 fish traps; Squid jigs, landing nets, hand-held dipnets and spears; Up to 4 automatic squid jigging machines and fish attraction lamps with total power rating of up to 2,000 watts.</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishing licence (scalefish C)</td>
<td>150 metres of gillnet; or 200 hooks; or 1 fish trap; and 5 Squid jigs, landing nets and 1 hand-held dipnet. If holder of a fishing licence (scalefish C) and a fishing licence (wrasse)</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*This is a non-transferable licence.*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Licence Type</th>
<th>Equipment</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fishing licence (rock lobster)</td>
<td>2 fish traps, and No more than 10 hooks, if traps are being used.</td>
<td>311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rule 44</td>
<td>150 metres of gillnet 200 hooks 2 fish traps 5 Squid jigs, landing nets and 2 hand-held dipnets.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishing licence (purse seine net)</td>
<td>Purse seine net or lampara net with max headline length of 600 metres.</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rule 46</td>
<td>There is one licence of this type that is not transferable.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishing licence (beach seine A)</td>
<td>Maximum headline length of 600 metres.</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rule 47(1)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishing licence (beach seine B)</td>
<td>Maximum headline length of 150 metres.</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rule 47(2)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishing licence (small mesh gillnet)</td>
<td>Max length for each small mesh gillnet is 200 metres. Up to 600 metres of small mesh gillnet in total.</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rule 45</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishing licence (Danish seine)</td>
<td>Must not possess more Danish seine nets than the number specified in the licence or use more than one Danish seine net at a time.</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rules 98 and 99</td>
<td>This is a non-transferable licence.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishing licence (Limited Danish seine)</td>
<td>Must not possess more Danish seine nets than the number specified in the licence or use more than one Danish seine net at a time.</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rules 100, 101 and 102</td>
<td>This is a non-transferable licence.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 4.6 SPECIES LICENCES

There are three species licences which must be used in conjunction with a gear licence, such as fishing licence (scalefish A), fishing licence (scalefish B), fishing licence (scalefish C) or fishing licence (rock lobster) as outlined in Table 1. These are fishing licence (banded morwong), fishing licence (wrasse) and fishing licence (southern calamari). All of the licences listed in Table 2 are transferable.
Table 4: Types of fishing licences that allow certain types of fish species to be targeted with no catch limits (noting banded morwong is the exception) in the Tasmanian Scalefish Fishery and total number renewed—expiry 29 February 2020. These species licences must be used in conjunction with the relevant gear licence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Licence Type</th>
<th>Limits</th>
<th>Total No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fishing licence (banded morwong) <em>(Part 3, Division 5)</em></td>
<td>Catch inside TAC area limited by quota. No limit on catch taken outside TAC area.</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishing licence (wrasse) <em>Rule 87</em></td>
<td>No limit on catch. Allows holder to sell live wrasse. You cannot sell live wrasse if NOT the holder of this licence type. A trip limit of 30 kilograms of wrasse applies if not the holder of fishing licence (wrasse) or fishing licence (rock lobster)</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishing licence (southern calamari) <em>Rule 86</em></td>
<td>No limit on catch taken in South East Waters. Cannot possess southern calamari in waters outside South East Waters. Trip limits apply for non-licence holders in SE waters.</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.7 SPECIES AND GEAR LICENCES

There are three licence types that allow the unlimited take of specific species using certain fishing gear. All of the licences listed below are transferable.

Table 5: Types of fishing licences that allow certain types of fish species to be targeted (with no catch limits) using specific gear in the Tasmanian Scalefish Fishery and total number renewed — expiry 29 February 2020. These species licences do not need to be used in conjunction with a gear licence that allows the use of the same type of fishing gear.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Licence Type</th>
<th>Limits</th>
<th>Total No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fishing licence (automatic squid jig) <em>Rule 48</em></td>
<td>Can take and possess Gould’s squid only. Can use automatic squid jiggng machines, squid lines and fish attraction lamps.</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishing licence (Australian salmon) <em>Division 4 – Australian salmon</em></td>
<td>Can use beach seine and purse seine nets with a maximum headline length of 600 metres and a minimum mesh size of 30 millimetres to take Australian salmon.</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Fishing licence (octopus)

**Rule 78**

Can use up to 10,000 unbaited octopus pots (no doors permitted).

Can take unlimited amounts of pale octopus (*Octopus pallidus*), gloomy octopus (*O. tetricus*) and maori octopus (*O. maorum*).

Is restricted to fishing on the north coast of Tasmania—in waters north of Cape Grim in the west and Cape Naturaliste in the east.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Endorsement Type</th>
<th>Endorsement Conditions</th>
<th>Total No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beach seine – Tamar</td>
<td>When fishing under the authority of a fishing licence (beach seine A) or fishing licence (beach seine B) the holder of this fishing licence (personal) may use, in part of the River Tamar, as defined by the <em>Fisheries (Scalefish) Rules 2015</em>, the amount of beach seine net authorised by that beach seine licence.</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beach seine – NW Coast</td>
<td>The holder of this fishing licence (personal) may use a maximum of 250 metres of beach seine net in total on the North West Coast, between North Point and Point Sorell.</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. **Endorsements**

There are two types of endorsement—the more common “non-transferable” endorsement and a “transferable” endorsement.

Refer to [Division 2 – Endorsements on licences](#) for the legislation relating to endorsements.

5.1 **NON-TRANSFERABLE ENDORSEMENTS**

The most common endorsement is a non-transferable endorsement. These type of endorsements were introduced when commercial effort was being removed from specific areas of the fishery and allowed the holders who had historical reliance on these areas to continue their access until they exited the fishery. These endorsements are held on the operator’s fishing licence (personal)—except for Danish Seine which is held on the Danish seine licence (itself a non-transferable licence).

**Table 6**: Type and total number of non-transferable endorsements currently in existence and conditions of access for each endorsement type.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Endorsement Type</th>
<th>Endorsement Conditions</th>
<th>Total No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beach seine – NW Coast</td>
<td>The holder of this fishing licence (personal), when fishing under the authority of a fishing licence (class scalefish), may use a beach seine net on the northwest coast between North Point and Point Sorell. Pursuant to rule 62(1)(b) of the <em>Fisheries (Scalefish) Rules 2015</em>, the holder of this licence is permitted to carry or land more than 500 kg of Australian salmon when operating under the authority of his north coast beach seine endorsement up to a maximum of 12.5 tonnes in total weight in a licensing period being 1 September to 31 August. Upon taking 12.5 tonnes during a licence period, this exemption will cease to have force and the holder of the licence will be limited to a maximum of 500 kg in accordance with rule 62(1).</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small mesh gillnet – north coast</td>
<td>The holder of this fishing licence (personal), when fishing under the authority of a fishing licence (class scalefish), may use in Bass Strait, between Cape Grim and Cape Naturaliste, a total of 600 metres of &quot;small mesh&quot; gillnets, however no single net may be longer than 200 metres.</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unattended north coast night netting</td>
<td>The holder of this licence is endorsed, for the purpose of Rule 104 of the <em>Fisheries (Scalefish) Rules 2015</em> — when operating under the authority of a fishing licence (class scalefish) — to set and leave gillnets unattended at any time, in the waters of the north coast of Tasmania in the area bounded in the west by a line of latitude through Cape Grim and in the east by a line of latitude through Cape Naturaliste.</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gillnet – Frederick Henry &amp; Norfolk Bays</td>
<td>The holder of this fishing licence (personal), when fishing under the authority of a fishing licence (class scalefish), may use in the combined Frederick Henry Bay / Norfolk Bay Shark Refuge Area, a total of 800 metres of “graball” gillnets — each net no longer than 200 metres.</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endorsement Type</td>
<td>Endorsement Conditions</td>
<td>Total No.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gillnet – Mercury Passage</td>
<td>The holder of this fishing licence (personal), when fishing under the authority of a fishing licence (class scalefish), may use in the Mercury Passage Shark Refuge Area, a total of 800 metres of “graball” gillnets—each net no longer than 200 metres.</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gillnet – Tamar</td>
<td>The holder of this fishing licence (personal), when fishing under the authority of a fishing licence (class scalefish), may use in the Tamar River Shark Refuge Area, a total of 800 metres of “graball” gillnets—each net no longer than 200 metres; and A total of 600 metres of “small mesh” gillnets—each net no longer than 200 metres, however, the total combined length of all nets used must not exceed 800 metres.</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gillnet – Port Sorell</td>
<td>The holder of this fishing licence (personal), when fishing under the authority of a fishing licence (class scalefish), may use in the Port Sorell Shark Refuge Area, a total of 300 metres of “graball” gillnets—each net no longer than 100 metres and a total of 200 metres of “special small mesh” gillnets—each net no longer than 100 metres.</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danish seine – whiting codend in Derwent</td>
<td>The holder of this licence is endorsed to carry two Danish seine nets and use one Danish seine net with a whiting codend attached in the waters of the River Derwent and Frederick Henry Bay. This endorsement is issued in accordance with Fisheries (Scalefish) Rules 2015 Rules 98 and 99. The holder of this licence may carry two (2) Danish seine nets and use one Danish seine net with a whiting codend attached in the following State waters: (i) In the River Derwent, downstream of an imaginary straight line from the Pigeon Holes at the northern end of Half Moon Bay to Flowerpot Point at the southern end of Blackmans Bay; and (ii) In Frederick Henry Bay, south of imaginary straight lines from Cape Deslacs to the southern end of...</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sloping Island and from the southern end of Sloping Island to Black Jack Point.

| **Dipnet – Tamar (expires on 14 December 2022)** | The holder of this fishing licence (personal), when fishing under the authority of a fishing licence (class scalefish), may use the number of dipnets specified below on and from the fishing vessel specified in the fishing licence (class scalefish), to take garfish and calamari in the River Tamar downstream of an imaginary straight line from Point Rapid to Sheeptail Point. If two or less people are on the fishing vessel, then no more than two dipnets may be used. If more than two people are on the fishing vessel, then no more than two dipnets may be carried or used. The use of a dinghy as authorised by rule 114 of the *Fisheries (Scalefish) Rules 2015*, is not permitted when fishing under the authority of this endorsement. This endorsement may be subject to alteration or revocation through formal planning processes including but not limited to:

- (a) any statutory changes made under the *Living Marine Resources Management Act 1995*, including Fishery Management Plans and Marine Protected Area Management Plans; or

- (b) any implementation of management arrangements under *National Parks and Reserves Management Act 2002* for any marine protected area declared under the *Nature Conservation Act 2002* that is within the endorsed fishing area.

Unless subject to any of the above, this endorsement continues in force whilst this fishing licence (personal) is renewed annually until 14 December 2022, unless earlier revoked, altered or surrendered. |

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### 5.2 TRANSFERABLE ENDORSEMENTS

There is only one type of transferable endorsement available in the Scalefish Fishery and that is the “Macquarie Harbour” endorsement. This endorsement allows the holder to commercially fish for scalefish in Macquarie Harbour. There are only two of these endorsements available and they are attached to either a fishing licence (scalefish A) or fishing licence (scalefish B).
5.3 USE OF FISH CAUFS

If you are using a fish cauf to hold fish, such as wrasse, in any unattended fish cauf you will need to apply for an endorsement. Once approved, this endorsement will be specified on the relevant fishing licence (class scalefish), stating the location of the cauf as well as any restrictions relating to its use. It is an offence to use an unattended fish cauf if you do not hold an endorsement to do so. Refer to Rule 118 for the relevant legislation.

Attended fish cauf

This type of cauf is used to store your retained catch in close proximity to your fishing vessel and under your close and direct supervision while fishing.

You do not require an endorsement to use a cauf in this manner.

If you are camping on land at night during a fishing trip and you are storing your catch in your fish cauf then you will need to demonstrate that the cauf is in close proximity and under close and direct supervision in the same way as if you were at sea. If you cannot do this then you will need to apply for an endorsement for the use of an unattended fish cauf.

Unattended fish cauf

This type of cauf is for when you want to store your fish at the end of one or more fishing trips until you have enough to transfer to a processor, receiver or their agent.

You will need to keep detailed records including the date and how many fish you put in or take out of this cauf—in addition to completing your catch and effort logbook at the end of each trip in accordance with the instructions.

You will require an endorsement on your fishing licence (class scalefish) to use an unattended fish cauf—nominating the exact location (the latitude/longitude position) of where you intend to use this type of cauf.

Important note: Any fisher using a fish cauf or holding tank is required to keep detailed written records—suitable for inspection at any time—of the exact number of fish added to or removed from the holding facility each time fish are added or removed.

In order for a licence to be endorsed for the use of an unattended fish cauf or holding tank an application must be completed and lodged with the Licensing and Administration Branch of the DPIPWE. Forms are available for download at www.fishing.tas.gov.au/forms or by contacting the Licensing on (03) 6165 3000.

5.4 HOLDING TANKS

A holding tank is used to hold live fish on land or on a pier, jetty or other artificial extension of land. You must hold an endorsement on your fishing licence (class scalefish) nominating the location of the holding tank. You must also comply with your local council regulations—if any. Refer to Rule 119 for the relevant legislation.
Important Note: Any fisher using a fish cauf or holding tank is required to keep detailed written records — suitable for inspection at any time — of the exact number of fish added to or removed from the holding facility each time fish are added or removed.

In order for a licence to be endorsed for the use of an unattended fish cauf or holding tank an application must be completed and lodged with the Licensing and Fisheries Monitoring Branch (LFMB) of the DPIPWE. Forms are available for download at www.fishing.tas.gov.au/forms or by contacting the LFMB on (03) 6165 3000.
6. Types of fishing gear

There are many types of fishing gear used in the Tasmanian Scalefish Fishery, including the following:

- Automatic squid jig machines
- Danish seine
- Dipnet
- Fish traps
- Gillnets (including graball net)
- Hooks (used on rod and line, when trolling or on setlines)
- Octopus pots (unbaited with no door)
- Seine nets (beach seine and purse seine, lampara or ring net)
- Small mesh gillnet
- Spears
- Squid jigs

Some of these gear types must only be used when operating under specific licence types, such as seine nets, octopus pots and Danish seine.

6.1 Landing nets

A landing net is a hand held net used to land fish. The net is attached to a frame so that the maximum length across the net is not more than 600 millimetres.

A landing net can only be used to “land” fish and must not be used to target and catch fish. Refer to Rule 117 for the relevant legislation.

6.2 Measurement of nets

Rule 21 of the Fisheries (Scalefish) Rules 2015 describes how the length of a net is measured.

The length of a net –

(a) is measured from the first point of attachment of the head rope to the mesh to the last point of attachment of the head rope to the mesh; and

(b) excludes any rope attached between the net and any buoy or similar marker at, or near, the surface of the water.

Mesh size, in relation to a net, means the average measurement of 10 adjoining meshes in the net, where each mesh is measured by –

(a) holding the mesh taut; and
(b) holding two diagonally opposite knots together so that they are touching each other; and
(c) measuring the distance between the inside surface of the diagonally opposite knots of the mesh that are not touching each other.

6.3 MARKER BUOYS

Marker buoys must be used for all passive fishing gear—i.e., the fishing gear is set and left—such as gillnets, fish traps, octopus longlines, set lines and fish caufs. The distinguishing mark of the fishing vessel should be written/painted on to the main buoy attached to the fishing gear.

If you are using a fish trap then you must also mark a buoy with the letters “FT”. You must attach this buoy to the hauling line of that fish trap within one metre of the main marker buoy.

You must also mark your gillnet at one end by a red, orange or pink buoy in addition to the white marker buoy—this does not apply to holders of a fishing licence (banded morwong) operating under the authority of that licence as per Rule 72. This also applies if you are endorsed to use your gillnets in a Shark Refuge Area. This indicates that the gear in the water is commercial fishing gear.

More information can be found in Rule 34, Rule 72, Rule 82, Rule 95 and Rule 96.

6.4 AUTOMATIC SQUID JIGGING MACHINES

Automatic squid jigging machines can only be used by the holder of a fishing licence (automatic squid jig) or a fishing licence (scalefish A) or (scalefish B). When using an automatic squid jigging machine you must only take and possess Gould’s squid.

Squid jigging vessels have overhead lights that illuminate the water and attract squid—which then gather in the shaded area under the boat.
The squid are caught using barbless lures on monofilament fishing lines, which are jigged up and down in the water by machines. The jigs used are cylindrically in shape, and spaced approximately one metre apart. Instead of normal fishing hooks, each jig contains multiple tiers of closely spaced spikes, which face towards the top of the jig. When squid try to attack the jig, they become tangled around the vertically facing spikes.

Each jigging machine has a roller, which extends out from the side of the boat, allowing the line to be lowered into the water column away from the edge of the boat and be jigged up and down without causing abrasion to the line. Barbless lures are used so that, as lures are recovered over the end rollers, squid fall off into the boat. This assists in reducing the handling time required to individually remove squid from the lures.

Refer to Rule 42 and Rule 48 for the relevant legislation.

6.5 DANISH SEINE

Danish seine nets can only be used by the holder of a class Danish seine licence. Danish seine fishing gear is very light and does not plough into the sea floor, but rather skips over the substrate, scaring and herding the fish into the net. Due to the light nature of the fishing gear, reefs are avoided by the operators.

A Danish seine net is a bag like net that has a mouth that is open by warps (not trawl doors) and has a mesh size of not more than 70 millimetres. A whiting codend is a Danish seine codend that has a mesh size of not less than 42 millimetres calculated over a length of not more than 400 meshes.

The gear is deployed with one end of a weighted rope (warp) attached to a dhan pole and buoy. As the vessel sweeps in a large circle the warp is deployed sinking to the bottom, followed by the Danish seine net and another warp until the vessel returns to the dhan pole and buoy. Once a full circle has been made the gear is towed for approximately 30 minutes until the warps come together and the vessel is steaming slowly to close the net.

The towing operation then ceases and the warps are winched back onto the vessel simultaneously with the net scooping up fish that have been herded into its path by the warps coming together on the bottom. The operation takes approximately 1 hour and 20 minutes.

The main species targeted by this method are tiger flathead and school whiting. There is usually very little bycatch associated with this type of fishing.

Legislation relevant to Danish seine is located in Subdivision 3 – Danish seine nets of Division 9 of the Fisheries (Scalefish) Rules 2015. There is also information including a pictorial description of a Danish seine fishing operation and area maps on the DPIPWE website at https://dpipwe.tas.gov.au/sea-fishing-aquaculture/commercial-fishing/scalefish-fishery/danish-seine-fishery.
6.6 DIPNET

A **dipnet** is a hand held net on the end of a long handle that is used to take scalefish. A dipnet is made of a mesh net—with a mesh size of more than 20 millimetres—that is held open by a frame, of which the longest length is no more than one metre.

Dipnets have been used for many years and can be used for scooping fish near the surface of the water, such as garfish and southern calamari. When a hand net is used by a fisher to help land fish it is called a landing net. A landing net is not to be used to catch fish, only land fish.

Dipnets can be used by holders of a fishing licence (scalefish A), (scalefish B), (scalefish C) and fishing licence (rock lobster). Dipnets are not permitted to be used in certain areas as described in Rule 28, unless otherwise endorsed to do so.

6.7 FISH TRAP

In Tasmania, **fish traps** are generally used to target wrasse and leatherjackets. In the wrasse fishery traps were the predominant catching method until the *Abalone Viral Ganglioneuritis* (AVG) outbreak banned the use of abalone guts as bait. Fishers were unable to find a suitable replacement bait and the fishery switched to hooks.

In Tasmania a fish trap is a trap that –

(a) is not more that two metres in width, by one metre in depth and by two metres in length; and

(b) has a mesh size of more than 25 millimetres; and

(c) may have more than one chamber; and

(d) has only one chamber with an entrance, or entrances, that —

i. allow fish into the trap; and

ii. measure no more than 250 millimetres across the longest dimension of each entrance.

Fish traps can be used by holders of a fishing licence (scalefish A), (scalefish B), (scalefish C) and fishing licence (rock lobster). Rule 142 refers to what species must not be used as bait in a fish trap, unless in the form of heads and frames. Rule 32 refers to the areas where a fish trap must not be used.
6.8 GILLNETS

A gillnet, also known as a set net, means one of the following nets that is set vertically in the water, so that fish swimming into it are entangled or “gilled” in the mesh:

(a) a graball net (a commercial and recreational net that can be used Statewide);
(b) a mullet net (a type of recreational net similar to a small mesh gillnet);
(c) a shark net (used by the Commonwealth school and gummy shark fishery operating in Tasmanian State waters);
(d) a small-mesh gillnet (a commercial net that can only be used on the north coast);
(e) a special small-mesh gillnet (a commercial net that can only be used on the north coast if the holder has an endorsement to use this type of net).

The type of gillnet you can use depends on the type of licence you have. A gillnet/graball net can be used by holders of a fishing licence (scalefish A), (scalefish B), (scalefish C) and fishing licence (rock lobster).

The way you use your gillnet depends on what you are targeting. Banded morwong fishers use a larger mesh size and hang the mesh loosely so that the banded morwong are entangled in the net and the fish remain alive. When the gillnet is hung taut then the fish are more likely to be gilled. Gillnets can be bottom set or set just under the surface, depending on the depth you are fishing and what species is being targeted.

All gillnets must be **weighted** at each end with a weight that –

(i) is made of metal, concrete or a similar material; and
(ii) weighs at least 2 kilograms; and
(iii) is securely tied to the bottom line of the net.

If the gillnet is **weighted** at one end only, then the weight must have the same specifications as above, but the weight must weigh at least 4 kilograms.

Alternatively, when dry, the gillnet must weigh at least 13 kilograms for each 50 metres of its length—i.e., a 100 metre net would need to weigh 26 kilograms when dry, a 200 metre gillnet would need to weigh 52 kilograms when dry and a 500 metre gillnet would need to weigh 130 kilograms when dry.

The above specifications are described in Rule 23 of the *Fisheries (Scalefish) Rules 2015*.

You must not set or leave a commercial gillnet in State waters longer than six (6) hours as described in Rule 104. The exception is for holders of a scalefish licence that are endorsed to fish in Macquarie Harbour. If you are endorsed to use a gillnet in a Shark Refuge Area then you must not set or leave your gillnet in the Shark Refuge Area for longer than six (6) hours and all shark (excluding elephantfish) must be released as per Rule 15.

You must not set or leave a commercial gillnet in State waters between one hour after sunset and one hour before sunrise unless you are attending your gillnets while they are
set. The exception is for holders of an unattended north coast night netting endorsement as described in Table 6 of Section 5.1 - Non-transferable Endorsements.

More information on soak times and setting of gillnets can be found in Rule 104.

Restrictions also apply on using nets in many rivers and sheltered waters. These areas are described in Rule 24 and Rule 28 and the waters are specified in Schedule 6.

A **graball net** is defined as a single-mesh net that –

(a) has a weighted bottom line; and
(b) is intended to be set with its bottom line on the seabed or riverbed; and
(c) has a mesh size of not less than 105 millimetres and not more than 140 millimetres.

A **small-mesh gillnet** is described in section 6.12 – Small Mesh Gillnet.

A **shark net** has a mesh size of not less than 150 millimetres and not more than 165 millimetres and can only be used in Tasmanian coastal waters by a fisher operating in the Commonwealth school and gummy shark fishery holding the appropriate permit. More information on shark nets can be found in Rule 106.

**Net depth** in relation to the number of meshes, is where the holder of a fishing licence (scalefish A) or (scalefish B) is permitted to use a gillnet that has a net depth of more than 50 meshes. However, if you do so then you must not possess or use this type of net at the same time as possessing or using more than half the amount of commercial gillnet authorised under the licence. That is, a net length of not more than 500 metres for the holder of a (scalefish A) licence or 250 metres for the holder of a (scalefish B) licence.

Refer to Rule 105 for legislation relevant to mesh depth.

### 6.9 HOOKS

In the scalefish rules a **hook** is described as a lure, a jig that is not a squid jig and a set of ganged hooks.

Only holders of a fishing licence (scalefish A), (scalefish B), (scalefish C) and fishing licence (rock lobster) are authorised to use up to 200 hooks. These can be configured on handlines, rod and reel, longlines, droplines and trotlines.

Restrictions also apply on using setlines in many rivers and sheltered waters. These areas are listed in Rule 20.

There are some situations where the number of hooks allowed to be used is limited, such as where the holder of a fishing licence (scalefish C) and a fishing licence (wrasse) is only permitted to use a maximum of 10 hooks if two fish traps are being used from that vessel.
6.10  OCTOPUS POTS

Only holders of a fishing licence (octopus) are authorised to use octopus pots. An octopus pot is a container that is used by octopus as a shelter and is not more than 5 litres in volume. Doors, flaps or any other device that would restrict an octopus from escaping from the octopus pot are not permitted in Tasmanian waters. Legislation relating to fishing for octopus can be found in Division 6 – Octopus.

6.11  SEINE NETS

There are three types of seine net utilised in the Scalefish Fishery—a beach seine, a purse seine and a lampara net.

Only holders of a fishing licence (beach seine A), (beach seine B) and fishing licence (Australian salmon) are authorised to use a beach seine. The only exception is an endorsement on a fishing licence (personal), which authorises the holder to use a beach seine with a maximum headline length of 50 metres without a fishing vessel.

A person who uses a seine net must empty the net of scalefish before the net is removed from the water, and must not draw the net ashore while any fish remain in it.

A beach seine net is an encircling net that—

(a) has a bag or bunt, including a panel that forms a bunt; and
(b) has a mesh size of not less than 30 millimetres; and
(c) is not pursed or drawn through rings into the shape of a bag; and
(d) is not designed to mesh fish.

The maximum headline length of the beach seine depends on licence type—up to 600 metres for a fishing licence (beach seine A) and up to 150 metres for a fishing licence (beach seine B).

A purse seine net is an encircling net with a headline length of not more than 600 metres that is used from a fishing vessel and is pursed or drawn through rings into the shape of a bag.

A lampara net is an encircling net with a headline length of not more than 600 metres that is used from a fishing vessel and is not pursed or drawn through rings into the shape of a bag.

Only holders of a fishing licence (purse seine net) and fishing licence (Australian salmon) are authorised to use a purse seine net and only a holder of a fishing licence (purse seine net) is authorised to use a lampara net.

Refer to Subdivision 5 – Seine Nets for legislation relevant to seine nets. Rule 27 and Rule 28 list the areas where a purse seine net or beach seine net must not be used.
6.12 SMALL MESH GILLNET

A **small-mesh gillnet** can only be used in waters north of Cape Grim on the west coast and Cape Naturaliste on the east coast. The main target species is snook.

A small mesh gillnet is a single-mesh net that –

(a) has a weighted bottom line; and

(b) is intended to be set with its bottom line on the seabed or riverbed; and

(c) has a mesh size of not less than 75 millimetres and not more than 100 millimetres.

Only holders of a fishing licence (small mesh gillnet), or if you are the holder a small mesh gillnet endorsement on your fishing licence (personal) in addition to a scalefish licence are authorised to use a small mesh gillnet.

A **small mesh gillnet** can only be used by the holder of a fishing licence (small mesh gillnet) or the holder of a fishing licence (personal) that is endorsed for the use of a small mesh gillnet.

Refer to [Rule 45](#) and [Rule 103](#) for legislation relevant to small mesh gillnet.

6.13 SPEARS

A spear is a spear gun or any other apparatus with a pointed end that is used to take fish. Spears must not be used to take bream or boarfish and cannot be used for commercial purposes in the Mersey River, the Leven River or the Inglis River. Refer to [Division 6 – Spears](#) for the relevant legislation.

Only holders of a fishing licence (scalefish A) and a fishing licence (scalefish B) are authorised to use spears, and spears must not be used for commercial purposes in the River Mersey, River Leven and Inglis River as per [Rule 29](#).

6.14 SQUID JIGS

Squid jigs can be used when operating under a fishing licence (scalefish A), fishing licence (scalefish B), fishing licence (scalefish C) or a fishing licence (rock lobster). A maximum of five (5) squid jigs can be used at any one time when on a fishing trip.

If you are using an auxiliary vessel then you cannot use squid jigs from the auxiliary vessel while you are using squid jigs from the main fishing vessel.

Unless the holder of a seine licence also holds a fishing licence (southern calamari), then the holder must not possess or use squid jigs in south east waters when a seine net is possessed or being used from that vessel.

Refer to [Rule 115](#) and [Rule 116](#) for legislation relevant to the use of squid jigs.
7. **Species limits**

The Scalefish Fishery is a multi-species fishery. Some species have size limits, but no catch limits, some have no size limits but catch limits apply and some have both catch limits and size limits.

Below are some of the limits listed in the rules. Limits for holders of a fishing licence (rock lobster) are detailed in **Section 8**. Limits of Tasmanian managed species for holders of a Commonwealth authority operating under that authority are listed in **Section 9.2**. A reminder that it is your responsibility to know the limits that apply to the species you catch. The DPIW recommends that all fishers read the *Fisheries (Scalefish) Rules 2015* in full before going fishing.

**Table 6**: Tasmanian managed species catch and minimum size limits for holders of a fishing licence (personal) and scalefish licence as defined in the *Fisheries (Scalefish) Rules 2015*. Note: All size limits are listed in **Schedule 3 – Size Limits**. Rock lobster licence limits are listed in **Section 8** and limits for holders of a Commonwealth authority are listed in **Section 9.2**.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Catch Limit</th>
<th>Size Limit</th>
<th>Rule No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atlantic salmon (marine farm escapees)</td>
<td>No limit and no restriction on sale. However, there is a <em>Declaration of Restricted Area</em> for Macquarie Harbour together with all connected bays and estuaries (published in the Tasmanian Government Gazette on 5 March 2003), which details certain conditions that must be met for marine farmed species to be moved from this restricted area.</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian anchovy</td>
<td>10 kilograms</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td><strong>90(a)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian salmon (Aust. Salmon licence holder)</td>
<td>No limit for holders of a fishing licence (Australian salmon)</td>
<td>200 mm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian salmon (not an Aust. Salmon licence holder)</td>
<td>500 kilograms per trip unless endorsed to take more.</td>
<td>200 mm</td>
<td><strong>62</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian sardine</td>
<td>10 kilograms</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td><strong>90(b)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian sprat</td>
<td>10 kilograms</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td><strong>90(c)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bastard trumpeter</td>
<td>200 kilograms for holders of a fishing licence (personal) except those that are holders of a <em>fishing licence (rock lobster)</em>.</td>
<td>380 mm</td>
<td><strong>88(5)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue groper</td>
<td>No take</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td><strong>17</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue sprat</td>
<td>10 kilograms</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td><strong>90(d)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Species</td>
<td>Catch Limit</td>
<td>Size Limit</td>
<td>Rule No.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue warehou</td>
<td>No limit</td>
<td>250 mm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boarfish</td>
<td>50 kilograms</td>
<td>450 mm</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bream (marine waters)</td>
<td>No take for commercial purposes — i.e., you can take, but not sell them.</td>
<td>250 mm</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flathead (tiger and sand)</td>
<td>No limit</td>
<td>320 mm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flathead (rock and bluespotted)</td>
<td>No limit</td>
<td>400 mm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flounder (all species)</td>
<td>No limit</td>
<td>250 mm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garfish</td>
<td>No limit, unless holder of [fishing licence (rock lobster)]:</td>
<td>250 mm</td>
<td>89(2)(vi)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gould’s squid</td>
<td>No limit unless holder of fishing licence (scalefish C):</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gould’s squid and Calamari</td>
<td>30 combined, for holders of fishing licence (scalefish C) unless also the holder of a seine licence, then no limit</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hardyhead</td>
<td>10 kilograms</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>90(e)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inshore crab</td>
<td>25 fish</td>
<td></td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackass morwong</td>
<td>No limit, unless holder of [fishing licence (rock lobster)]:</td>
<td>250 mm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>King gar</td>
<td>20 kilograms</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>90(f)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>King George whiting</td>
<td>No limit</td>
<td>350 mm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leatherjacket</td>
<td>No limit</td>
<td>200 mm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mackerel (blue mackerel, Jack mackerels, redbait and yellowtail scad)</td>
<td>No limit unless operating from a fishing vessel more than 20 metres in length, then limited to 100 kilograms</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marblefish</td>
<td>No take unless the holder of a fishing licence (banded morwong):</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mullet</td>
<td>No limit</td>
<td>250 mm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Octopus</td>
<td>No limit for holders of octopus licence. 100 kilograms for holders of fishing licence (personal) who are not the holder of an octopus licence.</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver trevally</td>
<td>No limit</td>
<td>200 mm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver warehou</td>
<td>No limit</td>
<td>200 mm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snapper</td>
<td>Combined trip limit of 250 kilograms with striped trumpeter and yellowtail kingfish for holders of a fishing licence (personal).</td>
<td>300 mm</td>
<td>88(4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Species</td>
<td>Catch Limit</td>
<td>Size Limit</td>
<td>Rule No.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern calamari (south east waters)</td>
<td>No limit if calamari licence holder. If holder of a fishing licence (personal) but not the holder of a seine licence or Danish seine licence then the limit is 10 fish in a 24 hour period.</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>86(1) 86(4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern calamari (outside SE waters)</td>
<td>No limit, unless holder of a fishing licence (scalefish C) then limited to 30. However, limit of 30 does not apply if holder of FLC is also the holder of a fishing licence of class seine.</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>86 93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Striped trumpeter</td>
<td>Combined trip limit of 250 kilograms with snapper and yellowtail kingfish for holders of a fishing licence (personal). Head, frame and tail of striped trumpeter must be landed with fillets.</td>
<td>550 mm</td>
<td>88(4) 143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wrasse (licence holder)</td>
<td>No limit. Can sell live.</td>
<td>300 mm</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wrasse (not a wrasse or rock lobster licence holder)</td>
<td>30 kilograms. Cannot sell live.</td>
<td>300 mm</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellowtail kingfish</td>
<td>Combined trip limit of 250 kilograms (with snapper and striped trumpeter) for holders of a fishing licence (personal)</td>
<td>450 mm</td>
<td>88(4)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Commonwealth manages the species listed in Tables 7a and 7b, and catch limits apply for holders of a fishing licence (personal) who is not operating under a Commonwealth authority.

**Table 7a:** List of catch limits for species managed by the Commonwealth for the holder of a fishing licence (personal) as defined in Rule 88(1)(a) and (b) of the Fisheries (Scalefish) Rules 2015.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Catch Limit</th>
<th>Size Limit</th>
<th>Rule No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Any species or type of scalefish</td>
<td>200 kilograms</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>88(1)(a)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>covered under the Commonwealth Act,</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>other than the species specified in</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rule 88(1)(c) [listed in Table 7b],</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or the following amounts of scalefish</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albacore tuna</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skipjack tuna</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Longtail tuna</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rays Bream</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bigeye tuna</td>
<td>2 fish</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>88(1)(b)(i)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellowfin tuna</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hapuku</td>
<td>50 kilograms</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>88(1)(b)(iii)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bass</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bass groper</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue-eye trevalla</td>
<td>50 kilograms</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>88(1)(b)(iv)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue grenadier</td>
<td>100 kilograms</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>88(1)(b)(v)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gemfish</td>
<td>50 kilograms</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>88(1)(b)(vi)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redfish</td>
<td>50 kilograms</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>88(1)(b)(vii)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following species are managed by the Commonwealth and are “no take” for holders of a fishing licence (personal).

**Table 7b:** List of “no take” species managed by the Commonwealth for the holder of a fishing licence (personal) as defined in Rule 88(1)(c) of the Fisheries (Scalefish) Rules 2015.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Rule No.</th>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Rule No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Billfish</td>
<td>88(1)(c)(i)</td>
<td>Ox-eye oreodory</td>
<td>88(1)(c)(vii)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black oreodory</td>
<td>88(1)(c)(ii)</td>
<td>Smooth oreodory</td>
<td>88(1)(c)(viii)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deepwater flathead</td>
<td>88(1)(c)(ii)</td>
<td>Southern bluefin tuna</td>
<td>88(1)(c)(ix)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>King dory</td>
<td>88(1)(c)(iv)</td>
<td>Spiky oreodory</td>
<td>88(1)(c)(x)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange roughy</td>
<td>88(1)(c)(vi)</td>
<td>Yelloweye redfish</td>
<td>88(1)(c)(xii)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
8. Limits specific to holders of a fishing licence (rock lobster)

Under the *Fisheries (Scalefish) Rules 2015* a fishing licence (rock lobster) is also considered a scalefish licence. This is due to the scalefish fishing gear component of the licence, which was established under the Offshore Constitutional Settlement (OCS) Agreement—made between the Commonwealth and the State of Tasmania in relation to the fishery for invertebrates and certain finfish to be managed under State Law in waters relevant to Tasmania (pp. 13-17, *Commonwealth Government Gazette, No. S 531, 31 December 1996*).

**Table 8:** Scalefish gear limits specific to holders of a fishing licence (rock lobster) as defined in Rule 89(1) of the *Fisheries (Scalefish) Rules 2015*. All size limits are listed in Schedule 3 – Size Limits.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gear Type</th>
<th>Limits</th>
<th>Rule No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gillnet</td>
<td>Total headline length not more than 150 metres</td>
<td>89(1)(a)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fish traps</td>
<td>2 only</td>
<td>89(1)(b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trolling lines</td>
<td></td>
<td>89(1)(c)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One of the following</td>
<td>One demersal longline not more than 1,000 metres in length with not more than 200 snoods and hooks are attached, or capable of being attached.</td>
<td>89(1)(d)(i)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Two droplines to which no more than 200 snoods and hooks are attached, or capable of being attached.</td>
<td>89(1)(d)(ii)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 9:** Species limits specific to holders of a fishing licence (rock lobster) as defined in Rule 89(2) of the *Fisheries (Scalefish) Rules 2015*. Note: Holders of a fishing licence (rock lobster) are permitted to take scalefish utilising the scalefish gear component of their licence in Tasmanian State waters outside Tasmanian coastal waters, as is the case for the take of rock lobster.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Catch Limit</th>
<th>Minimum Size Limit</th>
<th>Rule No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Albacore tuna, Skipjack tuna, Longtail tuna, Rays bream</td>
<td>A total 10 fish or 40 kilograms (species combined), whichever is greater in weight.</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>89(2)(a)(i)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian salmon</td>
<td>Must not land or unload more than 150 kilograms. No limit if frozen and packed in boxes for bait and holder has a receipt for purchase of that Australian salmon</td>
<td>200 mm TL</td>
<td>89(2)(c)(i) 62(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Species</td>
<td>Catch Limit</td>
<td>Minimum Size Limit</td>
<td>Rule No.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>-------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bastard trumpeter</td>
<td>30 fish</td>
<td>380 mm TL</td>
<td>89(2)(a)(ii)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue-eye trevalla</td>
<td>100 kilograms</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>89(2)(a)(iii)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue groper</td>
<td>No take</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue warehou</td>
<td>60 fish</td>
<td>250 mm TL</td>
<td>89(2)(a)(iv)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flathead (tiger &amp; sand)</td>
<td>30 fish (all species combined)</td>
<td>320 mm TL</td>
<td>89(2)(a)(v)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flathead (rock &amp; bluespotted)</td>
<td></td>
<td>400 mm TL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garfish</td>
<td>20 kilograms</td>
<td>250 mm</td>
<td>89(2)(a)(vi)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gemfish</td>
<td>50 kilograms</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>89(2)(a)(vii)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inshore crab</td>
<td>50 kilograms</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>89(2)(a)(vii i)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackass morwong</td>
<td>60 fish</td>
<td>250 mm TL</td>
<td>89(2)(a)(ix)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mackerel (blue mackerel, Jack mackerels, redbait and yellowtail scad)</td>
<td>No limit if using as bait for their rock lobster operation</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marblefish</td>
<td>No limit if using as bait for their rock lobster operation</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Octopus</td>
<td>100 kilograms in State waters (trip limit)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pink ling</td>
<td>200 kilograms</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>89(2)(a)(a)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snapper</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Striped trumpeter</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellowtail kingfish</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern calamari (south east waters)</td>
<td>10 fish in 24 hour period. No limit if also holder of a fishing licence (southern calamari).</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>86(4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern calamari (outside SE waters)</td>
<td>15 fish</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>89(2)(a)(xi)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wrasse</td>
<td>Must not land or unload more than 30 kilograms unless also the holder of a fishing licence (wrasse). Cannot sell live wrasse unless also holder of a fishing licence (wrasse). No limit if being used for bait.</td>
<td>300 mm TL</td>
<td>89(2)(c)(ii)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 10: List of “no take” species for holders of a fishing licence (rock lobster) as defined in Rule 89(2) of the Fisheries (Scalefish) Rules 2015.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Rule No.</th>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Rule No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blue groper</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Orange roughy</td>
<td>89(2)(b)(iv)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bigeye tuna</td>
<td>89(2)(b)(i)</td>
<td>Southern Bluefin tuna</td>
<td>89(2)(b)(v)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Billfish</td>
<td>89(2)(b)(ii)</td>
<td>Yellowfin tuna</td>
<td>89(2)(b)(vi)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Bluefin tuna</td>
<td>89(2)(b)(iii)</td>
<td>Yelloweye redfish</td>
<td>89(2)(b)(vii)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9. Shark

Management of commercial fishing for school and gummy shark in Tasmanian State waters transferred to the Commonwealth in the year 2000 and is now under the control of the Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA). As a result, all Tasmanian scalefish licence holders are bound by a trip limit of five (5) shark—all species combined.

This means that regardless of the species of shark, you can only take and possess a total of five (5) shark when on a fishing trip—irrespective of how many days your fishing trip goes on for.

The exception is elephantfish, where there is a trip limit of 100 kilograms per trip in State waters or five (5) elephantfish in a Shark Refuge Area.

9.1 SHARK FINNING AND SIZE LIMIT FOR SCHOOL AND GUMMY SHARK

Shark finning is prohibited in State waters and all shark must have their dorsal, pectoral and caudal fins attached—as per Rule 16.

![Shark Fin Removal Diagram]
There is a minimum size limit for school and gummy shark—whole 750 mm total length or head/tail off 450 mm total length as shown in image below.

750 mm (total length)

450 mm (head/tail off)

When completing your catch details in your logbook, it is important to record the species name—for example “gummy shark”—the total kilograms retained and the form (for example “trunked”). You must also record the total number of shark retained on that trip.

Examples of how to complete the Commercial Catch, Effort and Disposal Return is located in Section 11.

9.2 LIMITS SPECIFIC TO COMMONWEALTH OPERATORS

If you are a Commonwealth fisher operating under a Tasmanian Coastal Waters Permit (TCWP) catch limits of species other than school and gummy shark apply (Table 11). There are also some species which are not permitted to be taken—these are listed in Table 12. The limits listed in Tables 11 and 12 were the result of the Memorandum of Understanding and Offshore Constitutional Settlement Agreement made between Tasmania and the Commonwealth of Australia.

A condition of your permit is to hold a Tasmanian licence that allows you to use the type of gear authorised by your permit—i.e., gillnets or hooks. Your TCWP only permits you to take school and gummy shark subject to the amount of Commonwealth quota you hold. Commonwealth quota held for any other species does not apply in State waters.

If you possess or use more than 1,800 metres of shark net or 1,000 hooks then you must not be in possession of graball net. Refer to Division 3 – Commonwealth Authorities, &c for the relevant legislation.

More information on the management of the Commonwealth school and gummy shark fishery and your obligations in that fishery can be found in the Management Arrangements booklet for the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery (SESSF) on the AFMA website at https://www.afma.gov.au/fisheries-services/fisheries-management-plans

Please note that a condition of your Commonwealth Tasmanian Coastal Waters Permit is to hold a Tasmanian Scalefish licence. If you are on a Commonwealth shark trip you must record any bycatch taken—not school and gummy shark—in the Tasmanian Commercial
**Catch, Effort and Disposal Record** remembering to tick the “shark” box in the “Other Commercial Fishing” section in Part A. More information on how to complete this record is located in Section 11.1.

If you are the holder of a Commonwealth authority, but do not hold a Tasmanian Scalefish licence or you do hold a scalefish licence and possess or use more than 1,800 metres of shark net or 1,000 hooks the limits listed in Tables 11 and 12 apply.

**Table 11**: Limits for holders of a Commonwealth authority fishing in Tasmanian Coastal Waters if you do not hold a scalefish licence or if you do hold a scalefish licence and are in possession or are using more than 1,000 hooks or 1,800 metres of shark net. These limits are also described in the SESSF Management Arrangements booklet.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Catch Limit</th>
<th>Rule No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Any species other than those listed below or in Table 12.</td>
<td>200 kilograms in total, noting that any catch of bastard trumpeter and bight redfish is included within this total.</td>
<td>56(1)(a)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snapper</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Striped trumpeter</td>
<td>250 kilograms combined, of which only 150 kilograms is striped trumpeter.</td>
<td>56(1)(b) and (c)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellowtail kingfish</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bastard trumpeter</td>
<td>20 kilograms</td>
<td>56(1)(d)(i)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bight redfish</td>
<td>50 kilograms</td>
<td>56(1)(d)(ii)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The species listed in Table 12 must not be taken or possessed when operating in Tasmanian Coastal Waters—as per Rule 56(2) and Rule 57(2) of the Fisheries (Scalefish) Rules 2015.

**Table 12**: List of species that holders of a Commonwealth authority operating in Tasmanian Coastal Waters are not permitted to take and possess. These limits are also described in the SESSF Management Arrangements booklet.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>List of “No Take or Possess” Species</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australian anchovy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian salmon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian sardine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian sprat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banded morwong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black bream</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
10. Closed seasons

There are annual closed seasons in place for four species. The closures are described in table 13 below.

Table 13: Annual closed seasons for selected species of the Tasmanian Scalefish Fishery.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Closure Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Banded morwong</td>
<td>Closed to fishing Statewide from 1 March to 30 April (inclusive) each year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern calamari (east coast)</td>
<td><strong>Upper south east coast waters</strong> including Great Oyster Bay and Mercury Passage from 15 October to 14 November inclusive each year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garfish (south)</td>
<td>Closed to fishing from 15 November to 14 December inclusive in 2019, 2020 and 2021. Southern waters are below a line following the north coast of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tasmania, joined and bounded in the west by a line of latitude through Cape Grim and in the east by a line of latitude through Cape Naturaliste.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garfish (north)</td>
<td>Closed to fishing from 15 January to 14 February inclusive in 2020, 2021 and 2022. Northern waters are above a line following the north coast of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tasmania, joined and bounded in the west by a line of latitude through Cape Grim and in the east by a line of latitude through Cape Naturaliste.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Striped trumpeter</td>
<td>Closed to fishing Statewide from 1 September to 31 October inclusive each year.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. The commercial catch, effort and disposal record

In late 2013, the DPIPWE introduced a new scalefish fishery logbook called the Commercial Catch, Effort and Disposal Record Book. This logbook looked a little different to the previous Scalefish Fishing Record Book and essentially collects the same information. The reason for the redesign was to make it more logical to complete by fishers and for ease of data entry into our FILMS database. Other minor changes were made to the instructions. Version 2 of the Commercial Catch, Effort and Disposal Record Book was released in 2017—initially to banded morwong fishers—and is now used by all fishers except holders of a fishing licence (octopus).

Figure 7: F2803 Commercial Catch, Effort and Disposal Record.

The main change to the instructions related to the timing of sending in your returns. You will still need to complete Parts A and B within four hours of the end of each fishing trip—and banded morwong fishers are now required to send them in within 48 hours after the end of each trip along with the associated quota docket if banded morwong have been landed.

More information on operating in the Banded Morwong Fishery can be found in the Operational Guide for the Commercial Banded Morwong Fishery – 2020 edition, which is available for download on the DPIPWE website.
If you are targeting any other species in the Scalefish Fishery then your returns must be sent to the DPIPWE within 48 hours of the end of each month—including “Nil Returns”. For example, all returns for May must be sent to the DPIPWE by the 2nd June. Penalties apply if you do not follow the instructions in your logbook (Division 2 - Records of the Living Marine Resources Management Act 1995).

11.1 COMPLETING YOUR CATCH, EFFORT AND DISPOSAL RETURN ACCURATELY

The information provided below is in no way to be taken as a complete guide to requirements of licence holders/fishers. Licence holders/fishers are required to be familiar with the instructions contained within the F2803 Commercial Catch, Effort and Disposal Record Book in addition to the full information that has been summarised within this document.

It is your responsibility to read the instructions of any logbook and/or quota docket book carefully before you complete your returns. If you do not complete records in accordance with the instructions in your logbook you may incur a penalty. More information on what penalties apply can be found in Division 2 - Records of the Living Marine Resources Management Act 1995.

If—after reading the instructions — you are still unsure of what to do in a particular circumstance please contact the Fisheries Monitoring on (03) 6165 3000.

Recording your catch, effort and disposal data as accurately as possible is important for the following reasons.

- Your catch and effort information is used by IMAS to produce the annual fishery assessments. This information is used to determine whether a species is “sustainable”, “depleting”, “recovering” or “depleted”.
- The outcomes of the assessment and the catch and effort data itself is used by fishery managers to monitor how much catch and/or effort is happening in different areas and to determine if any management action is required.
- Your disposal information is used to verify how you are using your catch, whether you sell to a processor, restaurant or ex-vessel.

Recording information on your interactions with protected species, such as seals, are also important as researchers will be able to determine if interaction levels are changing over time—this is in addition to your legal obligation to report all physical interactions with a protected species.
Below are examples of how to complete each section of your F2803 Commercial Catch, Effort and Disposal Record. These records must be completed in accordance with Rule 39 where the holder of a commercial fishing licence must complete scalefish records –

(a) Within 4 hours immediately after landing the scalefish; and
(b) Before any of the scalefish so landed are moved outside the landing area; and
(c) Before any of the scalefish so landed are moved inside a temporary structure or a building; and
(d) If the fishing vessel is on a fishing trip that lasts longer than 24 hours, before the end of each day of that fishing trip.

Remember that you will need to start a new line if you are using different types of gear on the same day or fishing in different blocks on the same fishing trip as per the previous version of the logbook. Ensure you accurately record the type and amount of gear you are using per set and the number of sets (required for gillnets).

For example, over the years there has been a notable catch of calamari recorded as being taken by "hand line" in many returns when "squid jigs" are used. This distorts the type of gear used to target this species when reported in the Scalefish Fishery Assessment. It is important that you record the type of fishing gear you are using accurately. The fold out flap of your logbook has a Gear and Effort Table, which lists the gear codes and if recording the “number of sets” is required for a specific gear type.

A reminder to all commercial fishers—if you use "squid jigs" on your hand line when you are targeting calamari or other squid species then you must record the Gear Code as "SJ" and not "HL" and record the total number of squid jigs you have used in the "amount of gear per set" column.

![Figure 8](image.png)

**Figure 8:** Example of how to record your gear code correctly. If you are using squid jigs then you must write in “SJ” and record the number of squid jigs you used. If you also use hooks on the same day or the same fishing block then on a new line you must write in “HL” and record the number of lines you used.

If you used hooks then you would record “HL” and record the number of lines you used in the "amount of gear per set" column. Remember if you set or used a different gear type in the same fishing block or move to a different fishing block then you will need to complete a new line in your logbook.
Please ensure you complete your catch, effort and disposal information correctly. If you do not, then a Fisheries Monitoring Officer will need to contact you to verify and correct any errors—this wastes not only your time and that of DPIWP staff, but also slows down the data entry process.

Part A: Vessel Details

Enter the distinguishing mark of your vessel, your vessel name, the month and year you are fishing, your banded morwong entitlement number (if relevant), your name (as supervisor of the vessel at the time of fishing) and your mobile number.

![Figure 9: Section of the commercial catch, effort and disposal record where you complete your vessel details.](image)

Part B: Fishing Details

Next you enter your fishing details for each day of fishing. Remember, if you use different gear or fish in different fishing blocks then you will need to complete a new line for each change. Record all catch and effort details and include all details of interactions with protected species. If you retain any catch for use as bait it must be recorded in this section using the form code “B”.

It is important that you record the fish names correctly—for example “greenback flounder” not “flounder”, “gummy shark” not “shark”, “bastard trumpeter” not “trumpeter” etc. You must also record your interactions with protected species here. The species and interaction codes are located on the fold out flap of your logbook.

![Figure 10: Section of the commercial catch, effort and disposal record where you complete your effort, catch and protected species interaction records.](image)
Part C: Catch Disposal

Part C of the Commercial Catch, Effort and Disposal Record Book must be completed for all sales or transfers of scalefish species retained. You will also need to record any of your catch that you use for personal use in Part C. These figures should line up with your catch retained columns.

Before you sell anything ex-vessel you must ensure you have completed your catch and effort details in the Tasmanian Catch, Effort and Disposal Record within 4 hours of the end of your trip and before you transfer any catch. You are then covered if you are inspected by the Marine Police. There are step by step instructions on how to complete each part of the logbook in the logbook.

You can sell your catch to any member of the public, a restaurant, processor, seafood retailer etc. The only exception is banded morwong, which is a prescribed species and must be sold to a processor authorised to process this species.

You must retain the head, frame and tail of striped trumpeter when landing that species. You do not have to retain the frames of other species unless listed in the Scalefish Rules.

Note: the Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS) would like your striped trumpeter frames for biological analysis as this will help improve assessment of this species. If possible, store the frames in your freezer and contact IMAS on 03 6226 8228.

If you are inspected by the Marine Police and they suspect your fillets are from undersize fish then you will need to be able to demonstrate otherwise.

Figure 11: section of the commercial catch, effort and disposal record where you complete your catch disposal records. The columns in Part C line up with the species columns in Part B.
Fish Sales and Transfer Receipt Book

You must provide a receipt when you sell or transfer any catch. You can provide your own (ensuring you include the details described in Rule 16 of the Fisheries Rules 2009) or use the DPIPWE F1549 Fish Sales and Transfer Receipt book available (at no cost to you) from Licensing.

**Figure 12:** Example of the F1549 Fish Transfer or Sales Receipt book page. You do not send copies of these receipts to DPIPWE as they are for your records and your customer records only.

Record the receipt numbers and what you have sold (including the form—i.e., fillets, whole etc) in Part C of your Tasmanian Catch, Effort and Disposal Record.

**Part D: Declaration**

Once Parts A, B and C have been completed the supervisor of the vessel must sign and date the Declaration in Part D.

**Figure 13:** section of the commercial catch, effort and disposal record where you sign and date the declaration.
11.2 THE OCTOPUS CATCH, EFFORT AND DISPOSAL RECORD

If you are the holder of a fishing licence (octopus) or are authorised to take octopus using octopus pots by a permit then you must use the **F2621 Octopus Catch, Effort and Disposal Record** (Figure 14).

![F2621 Octopus Catch, Effort and Disposal Record](image)

**Figure 14:** F2621 Octopus Commercial Catch, Effort and Disposal Record.

The Octopus Pot Fishery operates in a different way to the rest of the Scalefish Fishery. Octopus pots generally have soak times of two to six weeks, which means pots may be set in one month and hauled in another. There is no closed season for octopus, therefore the fishery operates year round.

If octopus are taken as bycatch in another fishery, such as rock lobster, then any octopus retained must be recorded in the relevant logbook—currently rock lobster fishers are required to record their retained bycatch in the **F2617 Rock Lobster Catch Record**. If octopus are taken by the holder of a scalefish licence who is not operating under the authority of a fishing licence (rock lobster) or fishing licence (octopus), then any octopus catch must be recorded in the **F2803 Commercial Catch, Effort and Disposal Record** (Figure 7).

A reminder that all catch, effort and disposal records (both F2803 and F2621) must be sent to DPIPWE within 48 hours of the end of the month—unless you are a banded morwong fisher where you must send these records in with your quota dockets within 48 hours of the end of your landing event.
12. Interactions with protected species

An interaction with a protected species—such as a seal, seabird or cetacean (whale, dolphin etc)—is when you, your vessel and/or your fishing gear physically interacts with a protected species.

For example:

- If a seabird lands on your boat for a rest—this is not an interaction, however, if it lands on your boat and starts interfering with your catch then this is an interaction.
- If a seal is swimming around your boat—this is not an interaction, however, if the seal interferes with your nets and/or the catch in your nets then this is an interaction.
- If your vessel hits a whale or seal—this is an interaction.

All physical interactions between a fishing operation and protected species must (by law) be reported in your logbook. Please ensure you record the species code, number of animals and the interaction code—these codes are listed in the fold out flap of your catch and effort logbook. If you wish to comment about the interaction in more detail, then write this in the “comments” section of your logsheet. This information is primarily used by researchers to understand if fishing interactions with particular species are changing over time.

To report sightings and stranding of whales and dolphins please contact the 24 hour Whale hotline on 0427 942 537. More guidelines for viewing and approaching whales and dolphins are in the fold out flap of the Commercial Catch, Effort and Disposal Record Book.

In the event that a seal or a whale becomes entangled within your gear do not attempt to disentangle the animal yourself, but immediately ring the 24 hour Whale hotline on 0427 942 537 and seek professional advice. In the event that you are outside of phone range call TAS MARITIME RADIO on VHF Channel 16 and advise them of the entanglement. They will initiate procedures to collect information and notify the disentanglement team who will provide advice via VHF radio.

If you wish to use seal crackers or bean bags as a deterrent for seals in the area where you are fishing, you will need to contact the DPIPWE Wildlife Management Branch and complete a training program. On completion of this training program you may be issued with a permit for the use of seal crackers in accordance with the Wildlife (General) Regulations 2010. To obtain a permit to deter seals using crackers, you will need to obtain a written exemption from Tasmania Police (Firearm Services) under section 15C of the Police Offences Act 1935, authorising the possession, use and carriage of seal crackers in the course of conducting commercial fishing duties only. To use bean bags you will need a current firearms licence—issued under the appropriate purpose and conditions—in order to comply with the Firearms Act 1996 and the Firearms Regulations 2016.
Please contact the Wildlife Management Branch via email at wildlife.reception@dpipwe.tas.gov.au or by phone on 03 6165 4305 to arrange your training.

Seals, birds, dolphins and whales are protected wildlife under the Nature Conservation Act 2002 and/or the Threatened Species Protection Act 1995. It is illegal to kill any protected wildlife or threatened species. The penalty for killing protected wildlife is up to $16,300 and up to $102,500 and/or 12 months in prison for killing threatened species.

13. Infringements and penalties

There are penalties for breaching the Fisheries (Scalefish) Rules 2015. The penalty structure is set out in the Fisheries (Penalties) Regulations 2011.

The rules also have Infringement Notices that may be served by fisheries officers—subject to the level of the offence. These are located in Schedule 10 – Infringement Notice Offences and Penalties of the rules.
14. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Below are responses to frequently asked questions that may assist to answer your particular query. We welcome any suggestions of new questions for this section.

14.1 I HAVE A BOAT, WHAT LICENCES DO I NEED TO GO SCALEFISH FISHING?

This will depend on the length of your vessel and what you wish to target. At the very minimum you would need to hold the following:

- a fishing licence (personal), which will allow you to commercially take and sell fish; and
- a fishing licence (vessel) in the length category that suits your vessel with a gear licence as part of the licence package.
- A scalefish licence (see below)

More information on the scalefish licence types, and what they allow you to do, are listed in sections:

- 4.3 Fishing licence (personal);
- 4.4 Fishing licence (vessel);
- 4.5 Gear licences;
- 4.6 Species licences; and
- 4.7 Species and gear licences.

14.2 HOW MANY SUPERVISORS CAN I HAVE ON MY LICENCE?

There is no limit to how many supervisors you can have named on a scalefish licence with the following exceptions:

- Fishing licence (scalefish C)
- Fishing licence (Danish seine)
- Any scalefish fishing licence that has been endorsed as non-transferable.

These licences must be operated by the licence owner or by a supervisor that was listed on the licence at the time the licence was made non-transferable.
14.3 HOW MANY LICENCES OF THE SAME TYPE CAN I OWN ON ONE PACKAGE?

The vessel licence is the foundation of a licence package. All other licences are attached to the fishing licence (vessel) and only one of each licence type can be held in a licence package. There is no restriction on the number of licence packages you can own, except for banded morwong—where a person cannot hold more than two fishing licences (banded morwong) or benefit (financially or otherwise) from more two fishing licences (banded morwong).

14.4 CAN A VESSEL BE USED ON MORE THAN ONE LICENCE PACKAGE?

NO, it cannot. Only one unique vessel per licence package is allowed.

14.5 WHAT FISHING GEAR CAN I USE?

This will depend on what type of licences you have on your package. Refer to sections 4.5 Gear licences and 4.7 Species and gear licences for more information.

14.6 WHAT CAN I USE AS BAIT IN MY FISH TRAP OR AS BERLEY?

Rule 141 describes berley and what it cannot be used for and Rule 142 describes what fish species cannot be used as bait in fish traps or as berley other than in the form of heads and frames.

14.7 DOES AN AUXILLIARY VESSEL NEED A LICENCE OF ITS OWN?

NO, it does not. An auxiliary vessel is classed as an extension of the main licensed fishing vessel that it was surveyed with by the Australian Marine Safety Authority (AMSA).

14.8 IF MY DINGHY HAS ITS OWN LICENCE, CAN I USE IT AS AN AUXILLIARY VESSEL FOR ANOTHER FISHING VESSEL?

NO, you cannot. As it is a fishing vessel in its own right, this vessel cannot be used by another licence package.

14.9 HOW FAR FROM THE MAIN VESSEL CAN AN AUXILLIARY VESSEL BE USED?

The operating distance from the main vessel is whatever Australian Marine Safety Authority (AMSA) have classified the auxiliary vessel when it was surveyed with the main vessel. DPIPWE does not specify in the fisheries management legislation what that distance should be.
14.10 DOES THE MAIN VESSEL NEED TO LEAVE PORT IF I AM USING THE AUXILLIARY VESSEL ON MY FISHING TRIP?

YES it does. The auxiliary vessel is an extension of the main fishing vessel and not a licenced fishing vessel in its own right—therefore the main fishing vessel must be on any fishing trip.

14.11 WHAT AREAS ARE CLOSED TO COMMERCIAL FISHING?

Ansons Bay, Georges Bay and the D’Entrecasteaux Channel are the areas permanently closed to commercial fishing.

Only persons holding an endorsement can commercially fish in the Derwent River, Macquarie Harbour and Port Sorell. If you do not hold an endorsement then you must not fish in these areas.

Descriptions of all areas are available in Schedule 2 – Areas and Interpretation of the Fisheries (Scalefish) Rules 2015.

14.12 WHERE CAN I USE A GILLNET?

Use of gillnets is excluded from many areas in addition to Shark Refuge Areas (unless otherwise endorsed to do so). Please refer to Rule 24 and Schedule 6 – Regions of the Fisheries (Scalefish) Rules 2015 for the specific areas where gillnets cannot be used.

An exception is detailed in Schedule 7 – Persons permitted to use gillnet in Shark Refuge Areas. Number 1 of this schedule states that the holder of a fishing licence (personal), fishing licence (vessel) and a gear licence that allows the use of gillnets, can use gillnets in the waters of Great Oyster Bay (ES13 and ES 14) and East Coast Waters (ES15) if:

- none of those nets exceeds 200 metres in length;
- none of those nets are set within 50 metres of another net; and
- the total combined length of those nets does not exceed 800 metres.

Note: The total combined length is also subject to the type of gear licence you hold — i.e., a FLC or FLRL licence has a maximum of 150 metres of gillnet and an FLB has a maximum of 500 metres of gillnet.

Descriptions of all areas are available in Schedule 2 – Areas and Interpretation of the Fisheries (Scalefish) Rules 2015.
14.13 WHERE CAN I USE A SET LINE—I.E., A DROPLINE OR LONGLINE?

As per Rule 20 of the Fisheries (Scalefish) Rules 2015, a set line must not be used in the following areas:

- Any of the waters specified in Schedule 6.
- Any Shark Refuge Area
- Macquarie Harbour
- Southport Bay West.

Descriptions of all areas are available in Schedule 2 – Areas and Interpretation of the Fisheries (Scalefish) Rules 2015.

14.14 WHERE CAN I USE A SEINE NET?

You can use purse seine and beach seine nets in most waters except those listed in Schedule 6 and Rule 27—that states that seine nets must not be used in the following waters:

- Coles Bay from Hepburn Point to “The Fisheries”.
- Promise Bay (within Great Oyster Bay).
- Robbins Passage.

Rule 109 states that unless endorsed to do so, beach seine nets cannot be used in the following waters:

- Port Sorell.
- between Hawley near Devonport and North Point at Stanley.

14.15 THE ROCK LOBSTER SEASON IS CLOSED AND I WANT TO GO SCALEFISH FISHING, WHAT CAN I DO?

When you take scalefish under the authority of your rock lobster licence the following applies:

You cannot fish for scalefish using your scalefish gear component if your rock lobster licence has less than 15 units on it as per Rule 56 of the Fisheries (Rock Lobster) Rules 2011.

You can fish for scalefish when the rock lobster season is closed—noting that all rock lobster pots must be removed from your vessel during the Statewide closure, but can remain on the vessel for regional closures.

You will be bound by the catch limits that apply to the holder of a fishing licence (rock lobster) as described in Section 8, unless you are the holder of a specific species licence—i.e., wrasse, banded morwong or southern calamari.
You can attach a species licence to a package that has a rock lobster licence on it and not a scalefish A or B—however you will be bound by the scalefish fishing gear limits and configurations as described in Section 8.

You cannot target a scalefish species during that species closed season (if applicable).

All catch taken using the scalefish fishing gear—i.e., hooks, nets, fish traps, squid jigs—must be recorded in the Commercial Catch, Effort and Disposal Record book.

14.16 I HOLD A ROCK LOBSTER LICENCE AND A SCALEFISH A OR B—WHAT CATCH LIMITS APPLY WHERE?

If you are fishing inside coastal waters [three (3) nautical miles] and are utilising your Scalefish A or B fishing gear then you are fishing under the authority of that licence and the catch limits relevant to that licence apply.

However, if you are fishing outside coastal waters you are limited to using the scalefish gear allowed by your rock lobster licence and the catch limits relevant to the rock lobster licence listed in Section 8 of this booklet.

If you have a fishing licence (scalefish A) or (scalefish B) you must not possess on your fishing vessel any more gear than is authorised by the scalefish A or B—i.e., 1,000 metres of net for a scalefish A and 500 metres of net for a scalefish B. Refer to Rule 44(2) for the specifics.

A reminder that you are required to complete your Commercial Catch, Effort and Disposal Record when using any scalefish fishing gear. When completing the Commercial Catch, Effort and Disposal Record remember to tick the “rock lobster” box in the “Other Commercial Fishing” section located in the top right section of the logsheet.

Remember to record any retained scalefish catch taken in your rock lobster pots in your rock lobster logbook.

14.17 I HOLD A ROCK LOBSTER LICENCE AND A COMMONWEALTH AUTHORITY PLUS QUOTA FOR CERTAIN SPECIES—CAN I FISH IN BOTH JURISDICTIONS ON THE SAME TRIP?

YES. But, if you are fishing inside coastal waters [three (3) nautical miles] and are utilising your Commonwealth authority—i.e., a Tasmanian Coastal Waters Permit—to take school and gummy shark and you do not hold a fishing licence (scalefish A or B) then you will be bound by the scalefish catch limits relevant to the rock lobster licence listed in Section 8 of this booklet.

If you hold a fishing licence (scalefish A or B) on your licence package then the scalefish catch limits relevant to your Scalefish A or B listed in Section 7 would apply.

If you use more than 1,000 hooks or 1,800 metres of gillnet when operating under your Commonwealth authority then you will be bound by the scalefish limits listed in Section 9.3.
and the Commonwealth SESSF Management Arrangements Booklet—available for download on the AFMA website.

If you hold a Commonwealth authority to take certain species for which Commonwealth quota applies—noting only school and gummy shark can be taken under quota in Tasmanian Coastal Waters—you must not take or be in possession of any fish of that species other than in accordance with that authority. This means you cannot take shark under your Commonwealth authority and take shark in accordance with the Tasmanian shark trip limit—all shark will be considered taken under your Commonwealth authority as per Rule 58.

The same applies if you are fishing outside coastal waters and are using a Commonwealth authority to target Commonwealth managed species such as blue-eye trevalla, whilst also on a rock lobster trip—noting your Tasmanian scalefish gear allowance must be stowed when operating in both jurisdictions outside coastal waters.

A reminder that you are required to complete your Commercial Catch, Effort and Disposal Record when operating in Tasmanian Coastal Waters under a Commonwealth authority and retaining scalefish species other than school and gummy shark as per Rule 57(3). Do not record your shark catch in the Tasmanian logbook as this must be recorded in your Commonwealth logbook. When completing the Tasmanian logbook remember to tick the “shark” box in the “Other Commercial Fishing” section located in the top right section of the logsheet.

Remember to record any retained scalefish catch taken in your rock lobster pots in your rock lobster logbook.

14.18 CAN I FILLET FISH AND/OR SHARK AT SEA?

You must retain the head, frame and tail of striped trumpeter when landing that species as per Rule 143 of the Scalefish Rules. You do not have to retain the frames of other scalefish species unless listed in the Scalefish Rules. If you are inspected by the Marine Police and they suspect your fillets are from undersize fish then you would need to be able to demonstrate otherwise.

School and gummy shark are the only shark species that have a size limit. All shark must be kept whole or trunked until landed. Information on what fins can be cut on a shark to help bleed it can be found in Section 9 of this document.
14.19 WHEN DO I NEED TO COMPLETE AND SUBMIT MY CATCH AND EFFORT LOGSHEETS?

As per Rule 39 of the *Fisheries (Scalefish) Rules 2015*, you must fill out your logbook with your catch and effort information for every fishing trip.

This must be done:

- within 4 hours of completing a fishing trip; and
- before any fish are moved inside any (permanent or temporary) structure; and
- before any fish leave the landing area.

If the fishing trip lasts longer than 24 hours then your logbook must be completed before the end of each day of the trip.

You must start a new logsheet for each month and all returns for that month must be sent to DPIPWE within 48 hours of the end of that month—i.e., by the 2nd day of that month. For example, your April returns would need to be sent to DPIPWE by 2nd May.

If you did not fish in a particular month, then you are still required to submit a “Nil Return” for that month. You must send in the blue sheet of your completed catch and effort logsheet (for “Nil Returns”) within 48 hours of the end of that month—i.e., by the 2nd day of the following month. For example, your “Nil Return” logsheet for May will need to be sent to DPIPWE by the 2nd of June.

Refer to Section 11 of this document for more information on the Catch, Effort and Disposal Record.

14.20 WHO CAN I SELL MY CATCH TO?

If you are the holder of a fishing licence (personal) and commercially harvest scalefish under the authority of a scalefish licence then you can sell your catch to anyone — as long as you provide a receipt to the receiver. This type of sale is classed as “ex vessel”, regardless of whether your catch remains stored on your vessel or at your premises.

If you are storing your catch on your vessel (which is tied up to a wharf, moored or anchored) then this catch is technically still in State waters and the trip limits relevant to any species you have retained still apply. The trip limits are no longer relevant if you "land" your catch and store it in a fridge/freezer at home, as these limits apply to "State waters" only.

Refer to section 11, Part C: Catch Disposal for more information on what you need to do to sell your catch.

If you are fishing under a Commonwealth authority—i.e., a Tasmanian Coastal Waters Permit in the school and gummy shark fishery—then you will need to abide by the transfer processes relevant to that fishery—however, you must record any species (other than school and gummy shark) retained in your Tasmanian Commercial Catch, Effort and Disposal Record. Please refer to the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery.
Management Arrangements booklet, which is available for download on the AFMA website.

14.21 WHAT DO I NEED TO DO IF I INTERACT WITH A SEAL, SEABIRD OR OTHER PROTECTED SPECIES WHEN FISHING?

Refer to the information provided in Section 12 of this booklet. You must also record your interaction in Part B of your Catch, Effort and Disposal Record.

14.22 WHAT DO I DO IF I COME ACROSS A DEAD SEAL OR SEABIRD (OR OTHER PROTECTED MARINE SPECIES)?

Call the Wildlife Management Branch hotline on 0427 942 537 and report what you have found and where you found it, and they will advise you what to do next. Do not remove the carcass from the location you found it.
Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment
Wild Fisheries Management Branch

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