

*Fish Resources Management Act 1994*

PROHIBITION ON FISHING FOR DEMERSAL FINFISH FROM CHARTER BOATS  
(WEST COAST REGION) ORDER 2023

Order No.1 of 2023

[A4455]

Made by the Minister under section 43.

**1. Citation**

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

**2. Commencement**

This order commences operation on 1 July 2023.

**3. Interpretation**

In this order -

*charter boat* has the same meaning as in the regulations;

*demersal finfish* has the same meaning as in the regulations;

*quota tag* means a lockable plastic tag issued by the CEO for a quota period;

*quota period* means the 12-month period ending on 30 June in each year;

*quota species* means a demersal finfish of a species listed in Schedule 1 to this Order;

*securely attached* means that a quota tag has been inserted through the mouth and gill slit of a quota species and with the locking mechanism of the tag engaged.

**4. Prohibition on fishing for demersal finfish**

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

**5. Exception**

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

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

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## 6. Operational requirements for excepted persons

- (1) The master of a charter boat conducting a fishing tour must ensure that, where a quota species is taken on a fishing tour, the quota species is either -
  - (a) retained, and with a quota tag being immediately and securely attached to the quota species; or
  - (b) immediately returned to its natural environment in a way that causes the least possible injury, and by the use of a release weight where necessary.
  
- (2) Where a quota species is retained, the master must -
  - (a) ensure the quota tag remains securely attached until -
    - (i) the quota species has been landed; or
    - (ii) the quota species has been filleted, in which case the quota tag must be removed and stored with the fillets until they have been landed or consumed, and
  - (b) write the serial number of -
    - (i) each securely attached quota tag; and
    - (ii) each quota tag removed from a filleted quota species, in the comments field of the approved daily statutory return -
      - (I) prior to the quota species being landed, where the trip is a day trip; or
      - (II) prior to midnight of the day the quota species was taken, where the trip involves an overnight stay.

### SCHEDULE 1

#### Quota species

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

Dated 19<sup>th</sup> of June 2023

Minister for Fisheries

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