

Director's notice - Coastal Line Fishery

Pursuant to Section 34 of the *Fisheries Act 1988* (the Act), it is a requirement that the holder of a commercial fishing licence submits accurate catch and market returns within twenty-eight (28) days from the end of the month in which fishing takes place. The manner and form for the required return(s) is outlined on the following pages to assist you with meeting your legal requirements.

Fisheries uses the information to monitor stocks and assist in the sustainable management of the fishery. The accuracy of data is very important. The return forms request the minimum information necessary, and include all products from fish taken in the fishery, including swim bladders. Any additional information, such as fish size or condition that you may wish to add will be very useful.

If a fish is taken in the CLF Western Zone, in addition to catch and market returns, Catch Disposal Record (CDR) forms are required to be filled out and signed by the licence holder. The CDR, once completed by the licence holder is to be sent to Fisheries (note: via postage paid envelopes /fax details below) within one (1) day of unloading fish. Catch Disposal Records are to be marked ATTENTION: Licensing Officer.

The information you provide is confidential to Fisheries, subject to Section 36 of the *Fisheries Act 1988* and the *Information Act 2002*. Information Privacy Principles apply to the information collected through catch and market returns.

Returns are to be lodged with the:

Director of Fisheries
Department of Primary Industry and Resources
GPO Box 3000
DARWIN NT 0801
ATTENTION: Returns Officer

Alternatively, returns can be deposited in the 'Returns' box located at the reception desk of Fisheries, Goff Letts Building, Berrimah Farm, Makagon Road, Berrimah or by fax (08) 8999 2057. Business reply postage paid envelopes have been provided for your convenience, no postage stamps are required for the envelopes, if they are posted in Australia.

If you believe that your returns may be late in reaching Fisheries it is your responsibility to notify the Returns Officer and inform them of when the returns can be expected to arrive. All correspondence relating to your licence and returns will be directed to the address stated on your licence application. If this address is no longer correct please notify Fisheries of any changes.

Any direct interactions with Threatened, Endangered and Protected Species (TEPS) must be recorded in the appropriate section within the logbook. In addition, any interactions with TEPS within **Territory waters** must be reported to the NT Marine WildWatch Hotline number 1800 453 941. Any interactions that occurs within **Commonwealth waters** must be reported to the Department of the Environment within 7 days on telephone 1800 641 806 or email protected.species@environment.gov.au. Please note that as long as operators are fishing in accordance with fisheries legislation, it is not an offence to unintentionally interact with TEPS. It is however an offence not to report these interactions.

Any further information on the completion of returns can be obtained from Returns Officer, phone (08) 8999 2189 or by email logbookreturns@nt.gov.au.

Your co-operation and contribution to the monitoring of our fisheries is greatly appreciated.

Glenn Schipp
Director Fisheries and Aquaculture