



Australian Government

Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities

Ref: 2013/02232

Ms Alice Fistr  
Manager, Fisheries Policy and Management Unit  
Department of Primary Industries and Regions South Australia  
GPO Box 1625  
ADELAIDE SA 5001

Dear Ms Fistr

I am writing to you on behalf of the Delegate of the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Water in relation to the accreditation of the management arrangements for the South Australian Marine Scalefish Fishery under Part 13 (protected species provisions) of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

As you are aware, on 30 January 2012, the then Delegate of the Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (DSEWPaC) accredited the Marine Scalefish Fishery under Part 13 of the EPBC Act. This accreditation was subject to a condition requiring the Department of Primary Industries and Regions South Australia (PIRSA), in consultation with marine mammal experts and DSEWPaC, to develop and implement a management strategy to protect sea lions.

In your email of 26 July 2013 you advised that although development of the management strategy had begun, it was unlikely that the strategy would be implemented prior to 1 August 2013 when the condition expires. As a consequence, you have requested an extension to the Part 13 condition timeframe to allow additional time to implement the management strategy. The Delegate has considered your request as well as the progress to date made by PIRSA in meeting the condition and understands it is expected that the management strategy will be implemented within six months.

Given that the EPBC Act listed pinniped species with which the Marine Scalefish Fishery has historically interacted with are protected under the *SA National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972* and the progress made towards the development and implementation of an Australian sea lion management strategy, the Delegate has agreed to vary the condition to which the current accreditation of the management arrangements for the fishery is subject. The amended condition (**Attachment A**) requires PIRSA to develop and implement a management strategy to protect Australian sea lions by 1 February 2014.

Please note that EPBC Act decisions relate to the management arrangements in force at the time of the decision. To ensure that decisions remain valid, it is important that conditions to which accreditation of the management arrangements for the fishery under the EPBC Act is subject are implemented. In addition, DSEWPaC needs to be advised of any intended changes to the management regime that may affect the assessment of the fishery against the criteria on which EPBC Act decisions are based. This includes both legislated amendments and operational changes.

Yours sincerely



Nathan Hanna

Director, Sustainable Fisheries

21 July 2013

**Condition on the Part 13 accreditation for the SA Marine Scalefish Fishery – July 2013**

1. The Department of Primary Industries and Regions South Australia, in consultation with relevant experts and the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities, to develop and implement a management strategy to mitigate the risk of fishery interactions with Australian sea lions by 1 February 2014.

