



Australian Government
Department of the Environment

Professor Mehdi Doroudi
Executive Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture
Department of Primary Industries and Regions South Australia
GPO Box 1625
ADELAIDE SA 5001

Dear Professor,

I am writing to you as Delegate of the Minister for the Environment in relation to approvals of the management arrangements for the South Australian Lakes and Coorong Fishery under Part 13A of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

Product derived from the Lakes and Coorong Fishery is currently included in the list of exempt native specimens under the EPBC Act until 21 May 2014. On 24 March 2014, you wrote to the Department requesting a 12 month extension of the export approval under the EPBC Act for the Lakes and Coorong Fishery. In your letter you indicated that a new management plan for the fishery is currently being drafted and is anticipated to come into force at the end of 2014.

On the basis of your request and given the management arrangements currently in place for the fishery, I have decided to amend the list of exempt native specimens to allow ongoing export of product from the Lakes and Coorong Fishery for an additional period of 12 months, until 21 May 2015. You will be able to find a copy of my decision at <http://www.environment.gov.au/topics/marine/fisheries/sa-coorong>

I note, however, that this extension covers a period during which management arrangements for Murray cod, a species listed as threatened under the EPBC Act, may change. I am aware that a total ban on the take of Murray cod by commercial and recreational fishers in South Australia is due to lapse on 31 December 2014 and that the South Australian Research and Development Institute is in the process of providing the Department of Primary Industries and Regions South Australia (PIRSA) with a stock status report for Murray cod that may allow management arrangements to be altered for the 2015 season. Given the status of Murray cod as a listed threatened species under the EPBC Act, changes to management that could affect the recovery or conservation status of this species may affect decisions under the EPBC Act. Should the ban on take of Murray cod be proposed to be lifted, PIRSA should notify this Department as soon as possible.

I look forward to receiving updates on progress towards finalisation of the new management plan. If you have any further queries regarding the export approval for this fishery, please contact Nathan Hanna on 02 6274 1917 or by emailing nathan.hanna@environment.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Paul Murphy

Delegate of the Minister for the Environment

15 May 2014