ESTUARY GENERAL – CATEGORY 2 HAULING

Profile

Total no. of Fishing Businesses (FBs) with shares	Total no. of shares	Reported annual catch (avg.)	No. of FBs accounting for 80% of the catch value
123	16,825	49 tonnes	10

Draft share linkage recommendation

All of the linkages in the table below are proposed.

- The first change, from July 2016, is to enforce the current minimum shareholding.
- From July 2018, an effort quota based on the number of days fishing will start. Days will be allocated in proportion to the number of existing category two shares held by each shareholder. A ‘day’ is a unit of fishing effort and will be a 24 hour period from the time a fisher starts their fishing activity.

<table>
<tr><th>Linkage</th><th>July 2016</th><th>July 2018</th><th>2020 onwards</th></tr>
<tr><td>MINIMUM SHAREHOLDINGS</td><td colspan="3">Enforce the minimum shareholding of 125 shares.</td></tr>
<tr><td>EFFORT QUOTA
Days</td><td>-</td><td>Days effort quota commences.

Effort quota (days) issued in proportion to the number of category two hauling shares held at the time based on a total effort limit (ITCAL) of 656 days.

<table>
<tr><th>Region</th><th>Days per Cat 2 share</th><th>Days per 125 Cat 2 shares</th></tr>
<tr><td>1</td><td>0.03</td><td>4</td></tr>
<tr><td>2</td><td>0.05</td><td>6</td></tr>
<tr><td>3</td><td>0.03</td><td>4</td></tr>
<tr><td>4</td><td>0.03</td><td>4</td></tr>
<tr><td>5</td><td>0.03</td><td>4</td></tr>
<tr><td>6</td><td>0.08</td><td>10</td></tr>
<tr><td>7</td><td>0.03</td><td>4</td></tr>
</table>
Quota transfers (leasing) not permitted.</td><td>Total allowable Commercial Effort is set following TAC Committee advice.

Quota transfers (leasing) permitted within regions.</td></tr>
</table>

Other proposed measures

- Remove requirement for boats under 10m to be licenced (from July 2016).
- Remove requirement for hauling nets to be registered (from July 2016).
- Provide for unendorsed assistance (from July 2018).

What does the recommendation deliver for fishers?

- Applying the current minimum shareholding will reduce a small proportion of the excess fishing capacity that exists in the fishery.
- Effort quotas will:
    - provide a stronger form of access right and improve security for operators
    - allow shareholders to secure their portion of access to that sector to suit their preferred level of effort through time
    - improve the ability to fish to the market and to tailor fishing operations to quota allocation
    - provide more certainty that the management arrangements can address any future resource sharing or sustainability issues (which is crucial for a long term viable fishery) and help to improve community support for this sector of the fishery.
- Commencing the effort quota from July 2018 provides time for fishers to adjust their businesses to prepare for that change.
- Removing the need to use licensed boats and registered nets will take away an unnecessary and ongoing burden for fishers.

Things to consider

- By July 2016: If you currently have less than the minimum shareholding and wish to remain endorsed to fish, you will need to get hold of enough shares to get up to the minimum. You can buy shares from someone else or put in a bid to buy shares in the exit grant program. If you already hold the minimum, you may consider buying more shares, if needed, in preparation for the changes to come in 2018 and 2020.
- By July 2018: you will need to hold enough shares to cover your desired level of fishing activity.
- If you no longer want to be endorsed to fish in this share class, you can put in an offer to sell shares in the exit grant program or you can sell shares to someone else at any time.
- The exit grant program offers a good opportunity to buy or sell shares at a subsidised rate, without having to find buyers or sellers yourself.
- By July 2020: A Total Allowable Commercial Effort will be set. At this time, you will need to hold enough shares to cover your desired level of fishing activity.