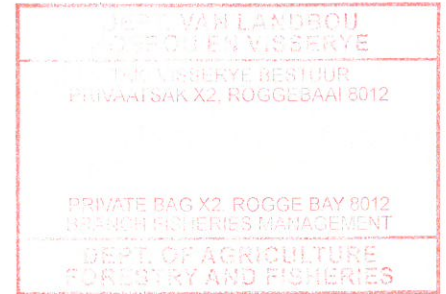




MINISTER
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Private Bag X250, Pretoria 0001. Tel: 012 319 7319. Fax: 012 321 8558
Private Bag X9087, Cape Town 8000. Tel: 021 402 3727. Email: FRAP2015appeals@daff.gov.za

MEDIA STATEMENT

16 OCTOBER 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MINISTER ZOKWANA RELEASES DECISIONS ON APPEALS FILED IN THE WEST COAST ROCK LOBSTER (NEARSHORE) FISHERY SECTOR: FISHING ZONE F

The Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Mr Senzeni Zokwana, MP, has today (16 October 2018) issued his decisions on the appeals filed by applicants for West Coast Rock Lobster (WCRL) Nearshore fishing rights in WCRL **Fishing Zone F**, which includes Kleinmond, Hawston, Hermanus and Gansbaai.

A total of 739 appeals in Zone F were filed against the initial decisions taken by the Deputy Director-General: Fisheries Management in her capacity as the Delegated Authority (the Delegated Authority) on 31 July 2017.

As is the case with the WCRL Offshore, nearshore commercial fishery remains a highly competitive fishery sector with substantially more demand for fishing rights than can be sustainably accommodated, particularly in fishing zones adjacent to large population centres. The Minister remains committed to ensuring that a sustainable and equitable sizable portion of the Total Allowable Catch (TAC) is available for allocation to the Small-Scale Fisheries sector. The decision on appeals had to consciously recognise the need to sustainably accommodate right holders in the nearshore commercial fishery for the next 15 years, while also ensuring an equitable proportion of the TAC remains available for allocation to the small-scale co-operative-based fishery.

The Minister's record of decision on the appeals comprises the following:

- The tabular decision sheet appended to this statement which records the Minister's decisions and his abbreviated reasons for each decision;
- The General Published Reasons for Decisions on Appeals in the Nearshore Commercial Sector (Appeals GPR), which sets out the appeals decision-making process and reasons for the decisions in greater detail. Each fishing zone has a separate Appeals GPR specific to the decisions for that fishing zone; and
- Individual notification letters which will be issued to each appellant.

These records are available on the Department's website at www.daff.gov.za. Each appellant will also be issued with the above documentation to their respective nominated postal and/or email addresses.

Please note that should you require the decisions for fishing zones other than your nominated zone, please feel free to download these from the Department's website.

The salient aspects of the Minister's decisions are as follows:

The Minister received, considered and determined a total of 739 appeals for fishing rights in the WCRL Nearshore Fishing Zone F.

The Minister decided to allocate a total of 84 additional fishing rights in Zone F. Of these 84 successful appellants, 6 were excluded for failing to disclose an admission of guilt of fine, 14 were refused rights purportedly for being "medically unfit", 22 were excluded because they were 65 years or older and 42 were initially refused rights on the basis of comparative score balancing.

Each right holder in Zone F will be entitled to a maximum of 0.23% of the WCRL Nearshore TAC determined in any one season for Zone F.

The appeals process in the West Coast rock lobster fishery has now been completed. Should any appellant require further reasons for the Minister's decision, they may

address these requests to FRAP2015appeals@daff.gov.za requesting reasons under section 5 of the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, 2000.

ISSUED BY THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES

For media enquiries:

Khaye Nkwanyana

Spokesperson: Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

MLO.Minister@daff.gov.za

083 952 9723

www.daff.gov.za

For all FRAP Enquiries

The Call Centre number is 021 402 3727 (FRAP)

An anonymous tip-off line telephone number to be provided in due course.