



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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PUBLIC NOTICE

THE DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT (DEPARTMENT) ANNOUNCES THE WEST COAST ROCK LOBSTER RECREATIONAL FISHING SEASON

The Deputy Director-General: Fisheries Management (DDG: FM), under authority delegated to her by the Minister in terms of section 79 of the Marine Living Resources Act, 1998 (Act No. 18 of 1998) (MLRA), has, in terms of section 14 of the MLRA determined the West Coast Rock Lobster (WCRL) total allowable catch (TAC) and total allowable effort (TAE) for the 2024/2025 fishing season. The exercise of the powers and duties stipulated in section 14 of the MLRA by the DDG: FM are guided by fundamental principles of environmental and fisheries management. Some of the most important principles are the following:

- 1) the need to achieve optimum utilisation and ecologically sustainable development of marine living resources;
- 2) determining TAC and TAE based on the best available science and information;
- 3) a precautionary approach must be applied in respect of the management and development of marine living resources;
- 4) the development, use and exploitation of renewable resources and the ecosystems of which they are part do not exceed the level beyond which their integrity is jeopardised; and
- 5) intergenerational equity: marine living resources must be conserved for the benefit of present and future generations.

The WCRL Recreational TAC/TAE for the 2024/2025 fishing season was determined at 18.18 metric tonnes and the 2024/2025 WCRL recreational fishing effort is limited to 12 days between 16 December 2024 and 30 March 2025. Fishing will be allowed as follows:



Batho pele- putting people first



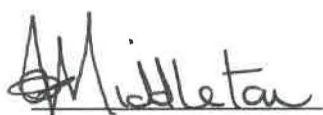
The processing of personal information by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment is done lawfully and not excessive to the purpose of processing in compliance with the POPI Act, any codes of conduct issued by the Information Regulator in terms of the POPI Act and / or relevant legislation providing appropriate security safeguards for the processing of personal information of others.

Number of days	Month	Date	Day	Approx. Low Tide time between 08h00 and 16h00
1	Dec 2024	16 th	Monday (public holiday)	09:50
2	Dec 2024	29 th	Sunday	08:17
3	Dec 2024	30 th	Monday	08:56
4	Dec 2024	31 st	Tuesday	09:35
5	Jan 2025	1 st	Wednesday (public holiday)	10:14
6	Jan 2025	4 th	Saturday	12:26
7	Jan 2025	5 th	Sunday	13:19
8	Jan 2025	12 th	Sunday	08:24
9	March 2025	21 st	Friday (public holiday)	13:03
10	March 2025	22	Saturday	14:17
11	March 2025	29	Saturday	09:23
12	March 2025	30	Sunday	10:01

It should be noted that only persons over the age of twelve (12) may obtain a recreational fishing permit allowing the fishing, collecting, keeping, controlling, landing, transporting of, or possession of not more than four (4) WCRL per day. A seasonal WCRL recreational fishing permit costs R94 and can be purchased at the Post Office or online via the website link <https://www.fishing.dffe.gov.za>. A recreational fishing permit is valid for the entire season.

WCRL may be caught between 08h00 and 16h00 on the specified days. The bag limit is four (4) per person per day and the size restriction is eighty (80) millimetres carapace length. No person catching WCRL with a recreational fishing permit shall sell their catch. Any WCRL caught, collected, or transported must be kept in a whole state.

Further details regarding recreational fishing is contained in the "Marine Recreational Fishing Information Brochure", which will be made available on the above mentioned website link. Fishers are reminded to comply with all Regulations published in terms of the Marine Living Resources Act, 1998 including in GNR. 1111 of 2 September 1998 and the conditions of the recreational permit.



MS SUE MIDDLETON
DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL: FISHERIES MANAGEMENT
 DATE: 04/12/2024



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