

Factsheet

Additional pot usage for the start of the new season

27 June 2023

An Instrument of Exemption has been issued to allow operators awaiting applications for the transfer of entitlement to be processed, to fish in the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery with up to the number of pots in which they have submitted transfer applications, **to a maximum of 150 pots** from 1 July 2023 to 1 August 2023.

(Please note that this exemption does not apply to licences authorised to operate with 150 or more pots during this period)

This Exemption has been progressed at the request of licensing, so fishermen can keep their pots in the water while transfer applications are being considered for approval.

An example scenario is provided below:

- A licence holder operating in zone C has 300 units of usual entitlements (30 pots), and has lodged an application for a temporary transfer of an additional 500 units (50 pots). While awaiting for the transfer to be completed, the license holder may use 40 pots after applying whale mitigation rules (50% reduction in pots).
- A licence holder operating in zone C has 1,000 units of usual entitlements (100 pots), and has lodged an application for a temporary transfer of an additional 3,000 units (300 pots). While awaiting for the transfer to be completed, 150 pots may be used (this accounts for the 50% reduction in pots during whale season and 150 pot limit of the exemption). Once the transfer is complete, 200 pots may be used.

Notes

- You must have a current (i.e. renewed) Managed Fishery Licence in order to fish.
- The exemption is in place until 1 August 2023, after which time you must wait for entitlement transfers to be completed before using additional pots.
- Whale mitigation measures, including reduced pot usage ('50% pot usage'), are still in place during the exemption.
- You must have submitted a temporary transfer application in order to use the additional pots. **Once the temporary transfer is finalised the exemption no longer applies.**
- While an application is pending, **no more than 150 pots may be operated** from an authorised boat.
- **The exemption relates to pot usage only, it does not allow for additional kilograms of lobster to be landed. Any additional kilos transferred onto your licence may only be fished when the temporary transfer is complete.**

Contact

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