

Fish Resources Management Act 1994**Section 7****INSTRUMENT OF EXEMPTION**

I, Joanne Kennedy, Manager Aquatic Resource Management, as delegate of the Minister for Fisheries, pursuant to section 7(1) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*, HEREBY EXEMPT the class of persons specified in **Schedule 1** from Clause 26A(2)(e)(i) of the *West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery Management Plan 2012* that would otherwise prevent those persons from carrying out the activities specified in **Schedule 2**, for the period specified in **Schedule 3** for the purpose specified in **Schedule 4**, subject to the conditions specified in **Schedule 5**.

**Schedule 1
Persons**

The Master of an authorised boat operating under the authority of a West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery Licence.

**Schedule 2
Activity**

Using a float rig with up to three surface floats attached in waters greater than 45.7 metres in depth when fishing for rock lobster under the authority of a West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery Licence.

**Schedule 3
Period**

This Exemption is valid from 1 April until 30 June 2025.

**Schedule 4
Purpose**

This exemption is granted pursuant to Section 7(2)(e) of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* to trial alternative float rig arrangements when commercially fishing for rock lobster during the whale migration period in the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery.

**Schedule 5
Conditions**

- 1) The Master of an authorised boat must not use a float rig with more than two surface floats attached in waters less than or equal to 45.7 metres in depth.
- 2) When the Master of an authorised boat has finished setting and pulling rock lobster pots on a trip and is intending to steam to an approved landing area, the Master of an authorised boat must provide the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development with a record of whale sightings by sending an sms text message to whale.tag@dpird.wa.gov.au that includes:
 - a. prior to commencing steaming:
 - i. the current latitude and longitude of the authorised boat; and
 - ii. the Licensed Fishing Boat number; and
 - iii. the approved landing area where catch will be consigned.

- b. during steaming to report a whale sighting:
 - i. the current latitude and longitude of the authorised boat; and
 - ii. the number of whales sighted.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Kennedy', with a stylized, cursive script.

Joanne Kennedy
MANAGER AQUATIC RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
as delegate of the MINISTER FOR FISHERIES

Dated this 31 day of March 2025