



PUBLIC NOTICE

31 May 2018

UPDATE ON FISHING RIGHTS ALLOCATION PROCESS (FRAP2015/16): ABALONE FISHING SECTOR

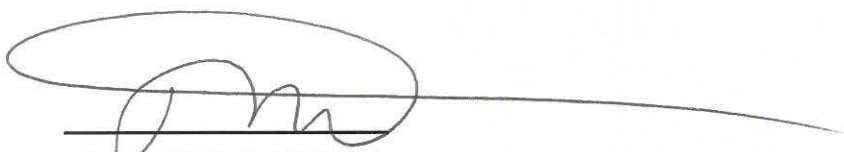
Cape Town, Thursday; 31 May 2018: On 8 August 2017, the Deputy Director General: Fisheries Management in her capacity as the Delegated Authority ("the Delegated Authority") granted exemptions to those individuals and/or entities who held long-term Abalone fishing rights and whose fishing rights had terminated under section 18 of the Marine Living Resources Act, 1998 (Act No18 of 1998) as amended ("the MLRA"). The decision to grant exemptions was taken, *inter alia*, to allow Departmental officials and other experts to advise the Delegated Authority on future sustainable management and recovery of Abalone Fishery in South Africa.

It is common cause that the illicit trade in Abalone has crippled management of the fishery. The Minister of the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, ("the Minister"), recently confirmed that as an immediate measure, confiscated Abalone will not be sold and nor will these fish products be stored by the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Branch: Fisheries Management ("the Department"). Further measures are being developed to severely curtail the illegal trade of the Abalone resource.

For these reasons, the Delegated Authority in consultation with the Minister, hereby grants further exemptions in terms section 81 of the MLRA to all current Abalone Exemption Holders to harvest Abalone for the 2018/2019 fishing season in the Abalone fishing sector. The 2018/2019 fishing season in the Abalone fishing sector will commence on 1 November 2018 and terminates on 31 July 2019.

The Department herewith assures the fishing industry and/or interested and/or affected parties that long-term rights allocation in the Abalone fishing sector will

commence together with the allocation of fishing rights in other fishing sectors that are due for reallocation on/or before 31 December 2020.



SIPHOKAZI NDUDANE

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

Designation: Delegated Authority: Abalone Fishery

Date: 31 May 2018

For all FRAP Enquiries

**The Call Centre number is
021 402 3727 (FRAP)**

