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**GOVERNMENT NOTICES • GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWINGS**

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**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES**

NO. 660

13 MAY 2019

**Marine Living Resources Act, 1998 (Act No. 18 of 1998)****INVITATION FOR COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED RESOURCE SPLIT IN THE TRADITIONAL LINEFISH AND SQUID FISHING SECTORS AND INVITATION FOR COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSAL TO CLASSIFY WHITE MUSSEL, OYSTERS AND HAKE HANDLINE FISHING AS SMALL-SCALE FISHING SPECIES.**

I, Senzeni Zokwana, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries has in terms of section 14 of the Marine Living Resources Act, 18 of 1998 (MLRA) the powers to determine the allowable catches and applied effort.

I, hereby inform and invite written comments from interested and/or affected parties on the proposed resource split for fishing sectors that is eligible for the proposed inclusion to Small-Scale Fisheries and due for re-allocation during the 2020 Fishing Rights Allocation Process ("FRAP2020").

The Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Branch: Fisheries Management ("the Department") has identified five (5) fishing sectors eligible for Small-Scale Fisheries and therefore proposed the resource split between Commercial and Small-Scale Fishing Sectors to be apportioned as follows:

- a). White Mussel, Oysters and Hake Handline to be classified as small-scale fishing species . Therefore no commercial fishing rights will be allocated in these 3 (three) fishing sectors during FRAP2020;
- b). Squid fishing will be split between Commercial and Small-Scale Fishing sectors on a 75% (commercial) and 25% (small scale), respectively; and

- c). Traditional Linefish will be split between Commercial and Small-Scale Fishing sectors on 50% (commercial) and 50% (small scale) , respectively.

The current Commercial Right Holders in these mentioned fishing sectors will be allowed to continue harvesting their allocations until expiry of their rights on 31 December 2020. The current individual Commercial Right Holders in the White Mussel, Oysters, Hake Handline and Traditional Linefish fishing sectors may operate in the Small-Scale Fisheries sector and may be declared members of the Small-Scale Fisheries Cooperatives as per the Small-Scale Fisheries Regulations as published in Government Gazette No. 229 dated 8 March 2016 ("Small Scale Fishing Regulations"). Alternatively, the current individual Commercial Right Holders may register a Small-Scale Fisheries Cooperative which shall be declared by the Minister as a Small-Scale Fisheries Cooperative once the registration process commences in the near future as per the Small- Scale Fishing Regulations..

The proposed resource split in the Traditional Linefish and Squid as well as the proposed classification of White Mussels, Oysters and Hake Handline fishing as small scale fishing species will take effect from 1 January 2021 unless circumstances dictates otherwise.

Furthermore, interested and/or affected parties are not precluded to submit written comments on resource split between Commercial and Small-Scale fishing sectors in other sectors that do not involve the exclusive use of bottom trawl, mid-water trawl, purse seine and longline due for re-allocation during FRAP2020.

Interested and/or affected parties may submit written representations on the proposed resource split to the Department on/or before Friday, 28 June 2019 by mail, by hand, e-mail, or telefax transmission. Please note that written comments received after Friday, 28 June 2019 will be disregarded.

<b>Written comments on Resource Split between Commercial and Small-Scale fishing sectors should be directed to:</b>		
<b><u>By mail</u></b>	<b><u>By Hand</u></b>	<b><u>By e-mail</u></b>

<p>Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Private Bag 2 VLAEBERG 8018</p> <p>For attention: Mr Msimelelo Mdledle Deputy Director: Administration (FRAP).</p>	<p>Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries No 3 Martin Hammerschlag Way Customer Service Centre Ground Floor, Foretrust Building FORESHORE</p> <p>For attention: Mr Msimelelo Mdledle Deputy Director: Administration (FRAP).</p>	<p><a href="mailto:FRAP2020resourcesplit@daff.gov.za">FRAP2020resourcesplit@daff.gov.za</a></p> <p><b><u>By Telefax</u></b> 021 421 5151</p> <p><b><u>Enquiries (telephone)</u></b> Mr Msimelelo Mdledle 021 402 3422/3727/3238</p>
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**Mr Senzeni Zokwana, MP**

**Minister: Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries**