

Marine House 6 Mary Street, Hindmarsh SA 5007 T: (08) 8340 0777, E: <u>oa@recfishsa.org.au</u> ABN 68 697 409 693

Mr. Sean Sloan Executive Director Fisheries and Aquaculture GPO Box 1625 Adelaide SA 5001

23 April 2018

Dear Sean

RE: Management options for Black bream

Thank you for your letter of 22 March 2018, advising us of the proposed management arrangements for Black bream in the Coorong fishery.

RecFish SA supports the broad intent of the proposed management arrangements for the Coorong Black bream fishery but believe that they are somewhat inequitable as they aim to totally remove recreational mortality but do not fully account for all commercial fishing mortality.

The primary concern relates to the continued non-targeted mortality of Black bream in large mesh nets by the commercial sector, while targeting mulloway outside of the proposed 300m netting exclusion zone and outside of the period between 1 September and 30 November each year. It is noted that October and November are periods of high large-mesh net activity in areas 6,7 and 8 of the Coorong which are adjacent to the Goolwa weir and barrages and that large mesh net activity throughout the Coorong peaks in December and January.

Consequently, RecFish SA cannot support the proposed management arrangements for Black bream in the Coorong.

As it is clearly the position of PIRSA to prevent fishing mortality of Black bream, the continued use of large-mesh nets in the Coorong must be considered a significant threat to achieving this goal.

I look forward to your response to this matter.

Yours sincerely

Danny Simpson

Executive Director