

Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries gives update on fishing rights allocation process 2015/16

On 11 February 2015, the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Mr Senzeni Zokwana, exempted, in terms of section 81 of the Marine Living Resources Act (Act No. 18 of 1998), all right holders whose rights expired or are due to expire in 2015 until the 29 February 2016.



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The extension was granted to allow the department to fully prepare for the FRAP 2015/16 and would also help to establish a well-managed and transparent process that will foster efficiency and accountability.

The department is currently preparing for the FRAP 2015/16 by developing and reviewing policies and application forms and determining application and grant of right fees.

The sectors for which rights will be reallocated are abalone, hake inshore trawl, horse mackerel, KwaZulu-Natal beach seine, large pelagic, net fish, Patagonian toothfish, seaweed, West Coast rock lobster (nearshore), West Coast rock lobster (offshore) and fish processing establishments ("FPE").

To this end, the department will be publishing the draft policies, draft application forms and draft fees in the Government Gazette on 12 June 2015. This will be followed by the public consultation process where departmental officials will be engaging with prospective right applicants countrywide. The dates, times and venues will be announced soon.

An independent service provider has been appointed to manage an anonymous tip-off line to report suspected fraudulent activities relating to the rights allocations. The tip-off line will also be operational from 22 June 2015 and further details on its operation will be published as the day draws closer.

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