

**31 January 2023**

The Hon. Clare Scriven MLC  
Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development  
GPO Box 1671  
Adelaide SA 5001  
[Minister.Scriven@sa.gov.au](mailto:Minister.Scriven@sa.gov.au)

Dear Minister,

I am writing on behalf of the Boating Industry Association (BIA) regarding the three-year extension of the ban on the catching of snapper in South Australia.

The BIA is the peak industry body which represents the interests of the boating industry businesses and is an advocate for boaters' interests.

The industry contributes over \$9.55 billion directly to the Australian economy and directly employs 26,000 people. Seventy-five per cent are in small businesses, employing local workers and supporting local communities. The indirect effect of the industry's activity through tourism and associated effects is estimated to drive additional billions of dollars in activity and employment of an additional 10s of thousands of people.

Boating however is more than numbers, it is a way of life for many Australians and that includes almost 290,000 powerboat licence holders and owners of 59,000 registered boats in South Australia.

It is estimated that 80 per cent of the recreational boating public in South Australia use their craft for boat-based fishing.

The State Government snapper ban extension is unfair on the recreational boat-based fishing public who are paying the price for the Government's failure over many years to appropriately manage the fishery and commercial quota systems, particularly through professional long lines. The impact on the recreational sector will put downward pressure on boat and equipment sales, boat manufacture, jobs and the associated general economic benefits boating brings to regional, metro and state economies.

The BIA believe there are alternatives to such a ban on recreational boat-based fishing which would ensure boating continues to deliver social and economic benefits to your State.

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We ask the Government to reconsider the three-year ban and to apply, for example, a one-year extension with a system to monitor and review, a tighter bag limit with an appropriate quota that enables recreational boat-based people to fish whilst helping to repair stock levels and supporting the economy.

Please do not hesitate to contact Neil Patchett, General Manager Government and Public Relations on [neil@bia.org.au](mailto:neil@bia.org.au) or 0418 279 465.

Yours sincerely,



**Andrew Scott**

Chief Executive Officer

Boating Industry Association Ltd

cc.

Premier Peter Malinauskas MP, [Premier@sa.gov.au](mailto:Premier@sa.gov.au)

Minister for Transport, the Hon., Tom Koutsantonis MP, [Minister.Koutsantonis@sa.gov.au](mailto:Minister.Koutsantonis@sa.gov.au)