

Email from Tony Ham, 15th October 2019

RE: Jewel Fish processing at sea

Greetings all,

Following our recent conversation with you regarding the filleting of jewel fish at sea and the possession of fish swim bladders, we have developed the following proposal for feedback.

To enable fishers to continue to process jewel fish at sea, we propose that fishers would be able to retain swim bladders for all species except Black Jewfish, if the following requirements are met:

1. Swim Bladders are separated into species (i.e. no mixed species swim bladders); and
2. Swim Bladders are packaged in a manner that permits the individual inspection of each bladder by an fisheries inspector; and
3. Swim Bladders are landed with the fish fillets the bladders were sourced from (i.e. no returning to sea with swim bladders after unloading).

This would provide a balance between allowing fishers to continue to process at sea while ensuring fisheries inspectors can reasonable enforce fisheries legislation.

We have a small window of opportunity to make an adjustment to the legislation before next season commences on 1 February 2020. We would appreciate it if you could discuss this with others fishers and provide us feedback by Monday, 21 October 2019. If any buyers have any questions about the need for these packaging requirements we are happy to discuss this with them as well.

If you have any questions please contact me.



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