



Hon. Mike Rann MP
Premier of South Australia

Mr Philip Hall
President
Marine Life Society of South Australia Inc
120 Wakefield Street
ADELAIDE SA 5000

Dear Mr Hall

Thank you for your letter of 1 August 2007 regarding Western blue groper and Harlequin fish. I remain committed to protecting our state's threatened marine species, and appreciate your raising the issue.

On 13 June 2007 the Minister for Agriculture, Food and Fisheries wrote to your Society stating that following proclamation of the *Fisheries Management Act 2007*, recreational fishing management arrangements would be reviewed. This Act was proclaimed on 1 September 2007.

Primary Industries and Resources SA (PIRSA) Fisheries has commenced a state-wide Recreational Fishing Survey. This survey is a significant piece of work which will provide a representative, up-to-date picture of fishing in our state. Its results will inform a review of the management arrangements for all recreationally caught fish species. Without wishing to pre-empt the outcome of the survey, a review might consider measures such as restrictions and education about threatened species.

Results of this survey should be available in December 2008. The Western blue groper has already been included for consideration in this review. Based on your comments and concerns, I have also asked PIRSA Fisheries to include Harlequin fish.

More information about the survey is available on the following website: www.pir.sa.gov.au/fisheries/home. You may also wish to contact Mr Martin Smallridge, General Manager, Fisheries Policy, PIRSA on telephone 8226 0398, for further details.

Thank you for again bringing this matter to my attention.

Yours sincerely

MIKE RANN
Premier

30/10/2007