

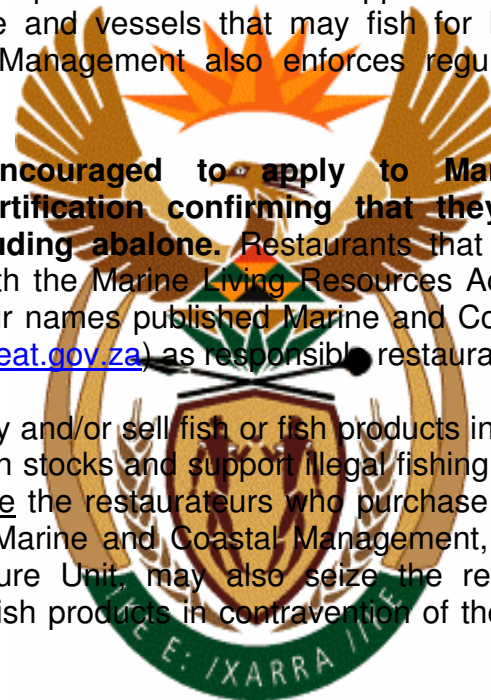
GUIDE FOR RESTAURANTS INTENDING TO SELL FISH

This is a guide for restaurants intending to sell fish and/or fish products. The sale of fish, particularly linefish stocks, including hake and tunas, by restaurants has unfortunately been abused by a few restaurateurs across South Africa. Linefish stocks in South Africa are under severe pressure due to years of poor regulation and consequential overfishing.

Marine and Coastal Management is responsible for managing our linefish stocks. We are beginning to see a recovery in some stocks due to effective management and the imposition of strict total applied effort controls (we limit the number of people and vessels that may fish for linefish) since 2002. Marine and Coastal Management also enforces regulations pertaining to linefish stocks.

Restaurants are encouraged to apply to Marine and Coastal Management for certification confirming that they sell only legally harvested fish, including abalone. Restaurants that operate responsibly and in accordance with the Marine Living Resources Act (“the MLRA”) may also elect to have their names published Marine and Coastal Management’s web-site (www.mcm-deat.gov.za) as responsible restaurants/restaurateurs.

Restaurateurs who buy and/or sell fish or fish products in contravention of the MLRA threaten our fish stocks and support illegal fishing. Marine and Coastal Management will name the restaurateurs who purchase fish or fish products illegally its web site. Marine and Coastal Management, together with South Africa’s Asset Forfeiture Unit, may also seize the restaurant involved in buying/selling fish or fish products in contravention of the MLRA and seek to close it down.



The fish in [Table 1](#) may not be sold or purchased by any person as these fish stocks are considered to have collapsed and are subject to various recovery strategies.

Table 1

PROHIBITED SPECIES LIST	
COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME
Baardman (bellman, tasselfish)	<i>Umbrina</i> spp.
Banded galjoen	<i>Dichistius multifasciatus</i>
Basking shark	<i>Cetorhinus maximus</i>
Billfishes (marlin, sailfish)	Family Istiophoridae
Blacktail (dassie)	<i>Diplodus sargus capensis</i>
Brindle bass	<i>Promicrops lanceolatus</i>
Bronze bream (bluefish)	<i>Pachymetopon grande</i>
Cape knifejaw	<i>Oplegnathus conwayi</i>
Cape stumpnose	<i>Rhabdosargus holubi</i>
Galjoen	<i>Dichistius capensis</i>
Garrick (leervis)	<i>Lichia amia</i>
Coelacanth	<i>Latimeria chalumnae</i>
Great white shark	<i>Carcharodon carcharias</i>
John Brown	<i>Gymnocrotaphus curvidens</i>
Kingfishes	<i>Caranx</i> spp and <i>Carangoides</i> spp
Large-spot pompano (moony, wave garrick)	<i>Trachinotus botla</i>
Leopard cat shark	<i>Poroderma pantherinum</i>
Natal knifejaw (cuckoo bass)	<i>Oplegnathus robinsoni</i>
Natal stumpnose (yellowfin bream)	<i>Rhabdosargus sarba</i>
Natal wrasse	<i>Anchichoerops natalensis</i>
Pipefish & seahorses	Family Syngnathidae
Potato bass	<i>Epinephelus tukula</i>
Ragged tooth shark	<i>Carcharias taurus</i>
River bream (perch)	<i>Acanthopagrus berda</i>
River snapper (rock salmon)	<i>Lutjanus argentimaculatus</i>
Sawfishes	Family Pristidae
Seventy-four	<i>Polysteganus undulosus</i>
Southern pompano	<i>Trachinotus africanus</i>
Spotted grunter (tiger)	<i>Pomadasyds commersonii</i>
Spotted gully shark	<i>Triakis megalopterus</i>
Springer (ten pounder)	<i>Elops machnata</i>
Stonebream	<i>Neoscorpis lithophilus</i>
Striped cat shark	<i>Poroderma africanum</i>
Swordfish	<i>Xiphias gladius</i>
West coast steenbras	<i>Lithognathus aureti</i>
Whale shark	<i>Rhinocodon typus</i>
White musselcracker (brusher, cracker)	<i>Sparodon durbanensis</i>
White steenbras (pignose grunter)	<i>Lithognathus lithognathus</i>
Zebra (wildeperd)	<i>Diplodus cervinus hottentotus</i>

The fish in [Table 2](#) may be purchased from a traditional linefisher authorised to fish for these fish. The authorisation is in either in the form of a permit issued under section 14 of the Marine Living Resources Act, or an exemption granted under section 81 of the [Marine Living Resources Act](#). Restaurateurs must ensure that the seller has a permit or an exemption and **must** record the seller's details and the quantum and species purchased.

Table 2

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	MINIMUM SIZE/ MASS	BAG LIMITS	CLOSED SEASON	AREA RESTRICTIONS
Carpenter (silverfish)	<i>Argyrozona argyrozona</i>	35 cm	Unlimited		
Catface (brown spotted) rockcod	<i>Epinephelus andersoni</i>	50 cm	5		
Dageraad	<i>Chrysoblephus cristiceps</i>	40 cm	1		
Elf (shad)	<i>Pomatomus saltatrix</i>	30 cm	Unlimited	1 October to 30 November in any year	No elf to be landed or sold in KZN
Englishman	<i>Chrysoblephus anglicus</i>	40 cm	Unlimited		
Geelbek (Cape salmon)	<i>Atractoscion aequidens</i>	60 cm	Unlimited		
Hake (stockfish)	<i>Merluccius capensis</i> & <i>M. paradoxus</i>		5		
Hottentot	<i>Pachymetopon blochii</i>	22 cm	Unlimited		
Kingklip	<i>Genypterus capensis</i>		1		
Kob	<i>Argyrosomus</i> spp.	50 cm	Unlimited		West of Cape Agulhas only
Kob	<i>Argyrosomus</i> spp.	50 cm	Unlimited, but may only land or be in possession of one kob > 110 cm per day		Cape Agulhas to Umtamvuna River
Kob	<i>Argyrosomus</i> spp.	40 cm			The Province of KwaZulu-Natal
Pinky (piggy)	<i>Pomadasys olivaceum</i>	75 mm	Unlimited		
Poenskop (black steenbras or musselcracker)	<i>Cymatoceps nasutus</i>	50 cm	1		
Red steenbras (copper steenbras)	<i>Petrus rupestris</i>	60 cm	1	1 September to 30 November in any year	
Red stumpnose (Miss Lucy)	<i>Chrysoblephus gibbiceps</i>	30 cm	Unlimited		
Roman	<i>Chrysoblephus laticeps</i>	30 cm	Unlimited		
Santer (soldier)	<i>Cheimerius nufar</i>	30 cm	Unlimited		
Scotsman	<i>Polysteganus praeorbitalis</i>	40 cm	1		
Slinger	<i>Chrysoblephus puniceus</i>	25 cm	Unlimited		
Snoek (Cape snoek)	<i>Thyrsites atun</i>	60 cm	Unlimited		
Strepie (karanteen)	<i>Sarpa salpa</i>	45 cm	Unlimited		
Squid (Chokka)	<i>Loligo vulgaris reynoldii</i>		20	25 October to 22 November in any year	
Tunas (tunny)	<i>Thunnus</i> spp		10 in total for all <i>Thunnus</i> species		
Albacore	<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>				
Bigeye tuna	<i>Thunnus obesus</i>	3.2 kg			
Bluefin tuna	<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>	6.4 kg			
Yellowfin tuna	<i>Thunnus albacares</i>	3.2 kg			
White edged (Captain Fine) rockcod	<i>Epinephelus albomarginatus</i>	40 cm	Unlimited		
White stumpnose	<i>Rhabdosargus globiceps</i>	25 cm	Unlimited		
Yellowbelly rockcod	<i>Epinephelus marginatus</i>	60 cm	1		

The fish in Table 3 may be purchased from a hake handline fisher authorised to fish for these fish. The authorisation is only in the form of a permit issued under section 14 of the Marine Living Resources Act. Restaurateurs must ensure that the seller has a permit and **must** record the seller's details and the quantum and species purchased.

Table 3

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	MINIMUM SIZE/ MASS	BAG LIMITS	CLOSED SEASON
Anchovies	Family Engraulidae	None	Unlimited	
Carpenter (silverfish)	<i>Argyrozona argyrozona</i>	35 cm	4	
Chub mackerel	<i>Scomber japonicus</i>	None	Unlimited	
Garfishes	Family Belonidae	None	Unlimited	
Hake (stockfish)	<i>Merluccius capensis</i> & <i>M. paradoxus</i>	None	Unlimited	
Halfbeaks	Family Hemiramphidae	None	Unlimited	
Horse mackerel / maasbanker	<i>Trachurus trachurus capensis</i>	None	Unlimited	
Kingklip	<i>Genypterus capensis</i>	None	1	
Kob	<i>Argyrosomus</i> spp.	50 cm	5 but may only land or be in possession of one kob > 110 cm per day	
Mullets / harders	Family Mugilidae	None	50	
Sardines (pilchard & red- eye)	Family Clupeidae	None	Unlimited	
Sauries	Family Scomberesocidae	None	Unlimited	
Scads	<i>Decapterus</i> spp.	None	Unlimited	
Snoek (Cape snoek)	<i>Thyrsites atun</i>	60 cm	Unlimited	
Squid (Chokka)	<i>Loligo vulgaris reynaudii</i>	None	20	25 October to 22 November in any year



The fish in Table 4 may be purchased from a tuna handline (pole) fisher authorised to fish for these fish. The authorisation is only in the form of a permit issued under section 14 of the Marine Living Resources Act. Restaurateurs must ensure that the seller has a permit and **must** record the seller's details and the quantum and species purchased.

The following fish, although listed in Table 4, may not be purchased. These fish are only to be used as bait:

- Anchovies
- Chub mackerel
- Garfish
- Halfbeaks
- Horse mackerel
- Mullet
- Sauries
- Scads
- Sardines
- Squid



Table 4

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	MINIMUM SIZE/ MASS	BAG LIMITS	CLOSED SEASON
Anchovies	Family Engraulidae	None	none	
Angelfish	<i>Brama brama</i>	none	Unlimited	
Bonito (Katonkel)	<i>Sarda sarda</i>	none	Unlimited	
Chub mackerel	<i>Scomber japonicus</i>	None	none	
Garfishes	Family Belontiidae	None	none	
Halfbeaks	Family Hemiramphidae	None	none	
Horse mackerel / maasbanker	<i>Trachurus trachurus capensis</i>	None	none	
Mullet / harders	Family Mugilidae	None	50	
Sardines (pilchard & red-eye)	Family Clupeidae	none	none	
Sauries	Family Scomberesocidae	none	none	
Scads	<i>Decapterus spp.</i>	none	none	
Skipjack	<i>Euthynnus pelamis</i>	none	Unlimited	
Snoek (Cape snoek)	<i>Thyrsites atun</i>	60 cm	Unlimited	
Yellowtail	<i>Seriola lalandi</i>	none	10	
Squid (Chokka)	<i>Loligo vulgaris reynaudii</i>		20	25 October to 22 November in any year
Tunas (tunny)	<i>Thunnus spp</i>		Unlimited	
Albacore	<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>		Unlimited	
Bigeye tuna	<i>Thunnus obesus</i>	3.2 kg	Unlimited	
Bluefin tuna	<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>	6.4 kg	Unlimited	
Yellowfin tuna	<i>Thunnus albacares</i>	3.2 kg	Unlimited	

Note: Where a fish species is listed on one or more of the above tables (Table 2, Table 3, Table 4) (**except Table 1**), the seller may have either a linefish, hake handline or tuna permit/exemption.

